

Order of Service

May 25, 2025

"After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music." ~ Aldous Huxley

Prelude

*Norwegian Dances, Op.35 — Edvard Grieg
2. Allegretto tranquillo e grazioso
Mary Louise Hallauer & Jared Gibbs, piano*

Welcome & Greeting One Another

Kindling the Flame of Community

We light this chalice for the warmth of welcome, the light of hope, and the fire of service.

Opening Words

Rev. Michelle Collins

Opening Hymn

#298, Wake Now, My Senses

Time for All Ages

*"Conversations of Beauty and the Beast" — Maurice Ravel
Mary Louise Hallauer & Jared Gibbs, piano*

Receiving the Offering

*½ Plate Recipient: [Blacksburg Community Band](#)
[Donate online](#), Text "Fund" to 844-909-2617, or use the Vanco Mobile App*

Offertory

Bruyères — Claude Debussy

Accepting the Offering

#402, From You I Receive

Sharing Our Joys & Sorrows

submit your joy or sorrow to be read aloud [here](#)

Candles of Hope and Remembrance

Meditation

*"Imagine" — John Lennon (suggested by lots of people)
The Breakfast Club*

Special Music

*"Pure Imagination" — Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley
(suggested by Cassy Kost)
Gena Chandler, soprano; Jared Gibbs, piano*

Reflection

The World of Imagination

Hymn

#311, Let It Be a Dance

Special Music

*"Sonata in B ♭" — Jerome Besozzi
III. Presto
Caroline Gibbs, bassoon; Jared Gibbs, piano*

Reflection

Special Music

*"Blue Skies" — Irving Berlin
Gena Chandler, soprano; Jared Gibbs, piano*

Closing Hymn

#318, We Would Be One

Benediction and Extinguishing Chalice

Postlude

*"Here Comes the Sun" — George Harrison
The Breakfast Club*

Minister: Rev. Pam Philips; Worship Associate: Denise Martin
Director of Lifespan Faith Development: Rachel Craine; Music Director: Jared Gibbs
Pianist: Mary Louise Hallauer; Vocalist: Gena Chandler; Songleader & Flowers: Mary Ann Hansen; A/V Team
Sanctuary Greeters: Rami Steinruck, Cynthia Luke, Janet Sawyers, Lisa Evanylo, Bobbie Littlefield
Zoom Greeters: Gail Dutchess & Bruce Turner

Our Mission

Inspire spiritual and ethical growth.

Create compassionate community.

Transform our community and the world through courageous love.

Guest Vocalist: Gena E. Chandler, PhD is the Associate Chair and an Associate Professor of English at Virginia Tech where she teaches courses in African American literature, American literature, Postcolonial literature, and literary theory. She is a university award-winning teacher earning the 2022 William E. Wine Award for Teaching Excellence, the 2022 & 2015 Virginia Tech Certificate of Teaching Excellence Award, the 2015 College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Carroll B. Shannon Excellence in Teaching Award, and the 2007 Diggs Teaching Scholar Award for teaching excellence. Her recent publications include an article in the journal Pedagogy ("Threat Assessment: Women of Color Teaching Ideological Critique in the Neoliberal Classroom," 2020) and her book, *The Wanderer in African American Literature*, published in 2020 by The University of Tennessee Press. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her daughter, Nyala (12), singing, reading, and playing the piano.

UUC Covenant

We covenant to create a place of respect and kindness, and to build a spiritual community based on reason and courageous love.

We will listen to one another respectfully, assume good intentions, use the power of our words with care, express gratitude, honor our differences, help one another, and welcome all.

We will communicate directly, honestly, and compassionately. When we hurt one another, we will forgive, make amends, and re-connect.

While we celebrate the words of our Mission Statement, and of this covenant, we affirm that our mission lives through our actions.

Opportunities this Week

- Men's Breakfast, Monday at 7:00 am & Women's Breakfast, Monday at 7:30 am (UUC)
- Surviving Spouses, Tuesday at 2:00 pm (Library)
- Inspired Elders, Tuesday 3:00pm - 4:30pm (Room 3)
- Meditation, Tuesday at 5:00 pm ([Zoom](#))
- UUYA's - UU Young Adults, Tuesday at 7:00 pm (Elarth)
- Conversations on our Faith, Wednesday at noon ([Zoom](#))
- Yoga, Wednesday at 5:30 pm (UUC)
- Writer's Group, Thursday at 7:00 pm ([Zoom](#))
- Women's Lunch, Friday at noon (contact [Cynthia Luke](#))
- Piecemakers, Saturday at 9:30 (library)
- Congregational Information Session, NEXT Sunday after the service (sanctuary)