



November 22, 2020

**Unitarian Universalist  
Society of Geneva**

**Today's Worship Team**

**In the Pulpit:** Rev. Dr. John Buehrens

**Worship Associate:** Pat Vary

**Musician:** Sandra Anderson

**Technical Directors:** Jeff Stibal, Cari Gesiakowski

**Upcoming Services:**

**Sunday, November 29:** Rev. Scot Hull

**Sunday, December 6:** Rev. Scot Hull; "Holy Envy"

*Come as you are.*

# Order of Worship

## Ringing the Bell

## Call to Worship

**Prelude** "Harvest Song," Robert Schumann

## Welcoming Words

### **Opening Hymn** # 128 "For All That Is Our Life"

For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise;  
for all life is a gift which we are called to use  
to build the common good and make our own days glad.

For needs which others serve, for services we give,  
for work and its rewards, for hours of rest and love;  
we come with praise and thanks for all that is our life.

For sorrow we must bear, for failures, pain, and loss,  
for each new thing we learn, for fearful hours that pass:  
we come with praise and thanks for all that is our life.

For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise;  
for all life is a gift which we are called to use  
to build the common good and make our own days glad.

## Chalice Lighting

### **Song of Praise**

Praise God, the Love we all may share;  
Praise God, the Beauty everywhere;  
Praise God, the Hope of God to be;  
Praise God, the Truth that makes us free.

### **Our Covenant** (written in 1842)

Being desirous of promoting practical goodness in the world,  
And of aiding each other in our moral and religious improvement,  
We have associated ourselves together -  
Not as agreeing in opinion,  
Not as having attained universal truth in belief  
Or perfection in character -  
But as seekers after truth and goodness.

## **Doxology**

From all that dwell below the skies  
Let faith and hope with love arise;  
Let beauty, truth, and good be sung  
Through every land by every tongue.

## **Passing the Peace**

**For All Ages** “Cyril and Pat,” Emily Gravett,  
Presented by Kerry & Will Sapet

## **Joys & Sorrows**

### **Hymn # 123** “Spirit of Life”

Spirit of Life, come unto me.  
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.  
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;  
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.  
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;  
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

## **Offertory**

### **Gratitude for the Offering**

**Reading** “Finite Freedom,” adapted from “If Yes Is the Answer,  
What Is the Question?” George K. Beach

**Reading** “Otherwise,” Jane Kenyon

**Musical Response** “Andante con moto,” Mendelssohn

**Sermon** “On Being Otherwise”

**Responsive Reading** “Yes,” compiled from the words of Dag  
Hammarskjöld

**Leader:** I don’t know who or what put the question. I don’t know  
when it was put. I don’t even remember answering.

**Congregation:** But, at some moment I did answer “Yes” to  
someone, or something.

**Leader:** You dare your Yes, and experience a meaning. You repeat  
your Yes, and all things acquire a meaning.

**Congregation:** Beyond Fear – Openness to life. And beyond that –  
Love.

**Leader:** Thou, Whom I do not know, But Whose I am, Thou who art over us, Thou who art - Also within us,

**Congregation:** May all see you – in me also, may I prepare the way.

**Leader:** May I thank you for all that shall fall to my lot, May I also not forget the needs of others, Keep us in your love.

**Congregation:** Give us a pure heart – that we all may see thee, a humble heart – that we may hear thee, a heart of love – that we may serve thee, a heart of love – that we may serve thee, a heart of faith – that we may live thee.

**Closing Hymn # 6 “Just as Long as I Have Breath”**

Just as long as I have breath, I must answer, “Yes,” to life;  
though with pain I made my way, still with hope I meet each day.  
If they ask what I did well, tell them I said, “Yes,” to life.

Just as long as vision lasts, I must answer, “Yes,” to truth;  
in my dream and in my dark, always that elusive spark.  
If they ask what I did well, tell them I said, “Yes,” to truth.

Just as long as my heart beats, I must answer, “Yes,” to love;  
disappointment pierced me through, still I kept on loving you.  
If they ask what I did best, tell them I said, “Yes,” to love.

**Chalice Extinguishing and Unison Closing**

**Benediction**

**Postlude** “In Autumn,” Edward MacDowell

**Community Announcements**

**Talk Back and Coffee Hour Breakouts**

# Today & This Week at UUSG

[uusg.org/calendar](https://uusg.org/calendar)

(All activities meet via Zoom. Contact your group leader for links.)

## Sunday, November 22

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 10:00 am Online Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 11:15 am RE Class 6-8
- 11:15 am RE Class 9-12

## Monday, November 23

- 9:00 am Pioneer Newsletter Deadline

## Tuesday, November 24

- 12:00 pm BYO Lunch with Rev. Scot
- 1:00 pm The Help Desk with Christine
- 7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting

## Wednesday, November 25

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am The Luncheonettes

## Thursday, November 26

- 5:00 pm Thanksgiving Day Social Hour

## Friday, November 27

## Saturday, November 28

## Sunday, November 29

- 10:00 am Online Worship Service

# Announcements

**The For All Ages book today is "Cyril and Pat," by Emily Gravett,** published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. "Cyril and Pat" is a story of an unlikely friendship. It reminds us to trust our hearts and not follow the biased opinions of others. It also shows what true friends will do to support one another. Thanks to Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers for their permission to share the book today. [If you loved this story and crave more, check out the author's character Q&A, activities and more here.](#) When shopping for books, please patronize our local independent bookshops: Harvey's Tales, Townhouse Books, and Anderson's Bookshop. If you prefer to shop online, [Bookshop.org](http://Bookshop.org) allows your purchase to support the independent bookshop of your choice.

**Beyond Our Walls Transitional Living Services for Veterans** Our Veterans identified the Beyond Our Walls recipient for November: Transitional Living Services for Veterans. Many veterans experience unexpected barriers to success. Our goal is to provide them with hope, health and happiness by helping them gain access to: Housing, Community Connections, Employment, Other Necessary Support, Nutrition. Their mission is to provide veterans in need and their families the services necessary to experience hope and achieve success. They do this through our four main values of RESPECT, INTEGRITY, COMPASSION and ADVOCACY.

**Share some holiday cheer!** Households of all ages are cordially invited to sing one refrain of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" outside of UUSG, at a park, your front door...whatever is convenient. Our Music Director, Cynthia Spiegel, will record video from a safe distance and compile the joy into a postlude for Dec. 20th. Cynthia will provide clear and simple instructions, and reminds us perfect singing is NOT required! Whether you live alone, as a couple, with pets or with children of any ages - all are welcome!! Contact Cynthia at [music@uusg.org](mailto:music@uusg.org) to participate. Bonus points if you can rope another family into volunteering as well. The more videos, the merrier!

**BYOL (Lunch) with Rev. Scot: Tuesdays at Noon** Rev. Scot will be hosting an open meeting on Zoom each Tuesday at noon. No agenda. No requirements. Come if you can, when you can. Just bring yourself, your concerns, your questions, your stories, your jokes--and your lunch--and join him (and your congregational friends!) in our virtual courtyard for an hour of conversation, connection, and community. Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5832903665>. Meeting ID: 583 290 3665, Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago).

**Sermons and For All Ages Stories Now on YouTube!** Would you like to watch past sermons and FAA presentations and share them with friends and family? Visit our YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9oupYz5jh08iZ3u1m-J-kw>.

**UUSG's Thanksgiving Day Social Hour!** Many folks will be celebrating Thanksgiving at home and on a much smaller scale than previous years. Join your UUSG friends via Zoom, 5-6:30pm. Bring your dinner, or dessert, or holiday beverage of choice, and visit with others who would enjoy the company. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85026450629>

**For All Ages Opportunity** Are you interested in an opportunity to read a "For All Ages" story during a Zoom Sunday service? Please let the newly formed "For All Ages Team" of Rhonda Robinson, Tom Lichtenheld and Becky Hruby know! Whether you want to read alone or with a loved one, there will be stories to tell. Please let us know if you would like your name on the list of potential readers. There will be many opportunities throughout the year. Also note whether you prefer a solo gig or have other voices in your home that would like to join you. Please contact Becky Hruby at [DRE@uusg.org](mailto:DRE@uusg.org).

**The Board of Directors** has extended our current stay-at-home practice including a continuation of virtual services, group meetings and other functions until at least **November 30**. Ongoing assessments are being monitored and further updates will be posted at [uusg.org](http://uusg.org) as relevant.

**After Andrew DeCoriolis' Ethical Eating program** last August, many expressed the desire to start sharing vegetarian recipes. Deb Brod has stepped up and is willing to coordinate this activity. Please send recipes, favorite websites, stories or information requests to Deb at: [dcbrod44@icloud.com](mailto:dcbrod44@icloud.com). Additional references: [facebook.com/UUVeg](https://www.facebook.com/UUVeg). Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry: [uuam.org/wp/](http://uuam.org/wp/).

**For UUs who simply want to learn more about the history of the Bible** as literature, as well as early Christianity, "Bible Study for UUs" is on the third Monday of each month, 7-8:30pm. Our next meeting will be on December 21. We'll be discussing the movie "[The Last Temptation of Christ](#)." Also, I mention "[Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal](#)" a lot. We'll meet using Zoom. For more info, please contact Jim Frazier [biblestudy@uusg.org](mailto:biblestudy@uusg.org).

## Social Justice News

**The Social Justice Team sincerely appreciates the efforts of folks** who packed food in September and October at the Northern IL Food Bank: Jaime Andersen, Jamie & James Carroll, Mike & Don Clements, Aaron, Lucas, & Noah Fogleman, Vera Lind, Cari & Samantha Gesiakowski, Chung, Leo, & Simon Liang, Connor, Devin, and Steven Loughheed, Aaron Miller, Diane Rodi, Jane Willard.

### **On the Social Justice Calendar:**

**December 5:** [Prepare dinner for 12 at Lazarus House Homeless Shelter here.](#)

**Recycling Campaign Signs:** Campaign signs are a recycling challenge because they are made from multiple materials such as paper, plastic, and metal. Disposing of them requires taking them apart and disposing of each portion based on its material. Here's what you can do:

- Breakdown the sign by detaching the metal wire stand from the sign. The metal wire is made of steel. Steel wire isn't recycled curbside, but it can be recycled with other scrap metal.
- If the sign is paper, it can be recycled curbside.
- If the sign is sturdy corrugated plastic, that means it is made from plastic #5. Plastic #5 can be recycled curbside.
- If the sign is a thin flexible plastic, it is made from plastic #2 or #4. This can't be recycled curbside, but can be recycled with plastic bags.

Before tossing your campaign sign, consider saving it for future use. You could attach a new message to the board and use it to promote a special event. A local non-profit organization or school may be able to use the sign, too.

**How do we combat the injustices in our country?** Stand up for others? Use our voices to speak for those unable to do so? In the words of Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." To that end, Religious Education has collected [several antiracism books for the UUSG library](#). From child and teen to adult audiences, the UUSG library has a nice selection of new titles to share. Books are available in a bin on the front porch of the Pioneer House. Please sign out the books you borrow on the log on the clipboard. Try to return the books within a month to give others the chance to read as well. May you find inspiration and hope throughout the pages.



**How to Be an Anti-Racist in our Community:** “Antiracist: One who is expressing the idea that racial groups are equals and none needs developing, and is supporting policy that reduces racial inequity.” Ibram Kendi. Members and Friends of UUSG have been participating in discussions of books that challenge people to understand how their words and deeds have played a role in perpetuating racism in our society. Contact Bill Koehl through [socialjustice@uusg.org](mailto:socialjustice@uusg.org) to become part of the equity and diversity conversations. At the same time, there are a variety of opportunities for us to engage in antiracist actions. [Click here to find out what is available – how we all can make a difference to change our society.](#)

### **Contact Information**

Rev. Scot Hull, Minister

minister@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 103

Christine Imielski, Congregational Administrator

office@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 100

Lisa Rittenberry, Administrative Assistant

admin.assistant@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 101

Becky Hruby, Director of Religious Education

DRE@uusg.org; 630-232-2350, ext. 104

Molly MacKay Zacker, Board President

boardpresident@uusg.org

Cynthia Spiegel, Music Director

music@uusg.org

Jeff Stibal, Technical Director

techdirector@uusg.org