



December 27, 2020

## **Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva**

### **Today's Worship Team**

**In the Pulpit:** Rev. Charles Earp

**Worship Associate:** Deb Brod

**Musician:** Geoff Pynn

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

### **Upcoming Services:**

**Sunday, January 3:** Rev. Scot Hull

**Sunday, January 10:** Rev. Scot Hull

*Come as you are.*

# Order of Worship

**Ringing the Bell** Owen & Maggie Schlipp

## Call to Worship

### Prelude

### Welcoming Words

#### Opening Hymn # 352 "Find a Stillness"

Find a stillness, hold a stillness, let the stillness carry me.  
Find the silence, hold the silence, let the silence carry me.  
In the spirit, by the spirit, with the spirit giving power,  
I will find true harmony.

Seek the essence, hold the essence, let the essence carry me.  
Let me flower, help me flower, watch me flower, carry me.  
In the spirit, by the spirit, with the spirit giving power,  
I will find true harmony.

#### Chalice Lighting Elaina Hruby

#### Song of Praise

Praise God, the Love we all may share;  
Praise God, the Beauty everywhere;  
Praise God, the Hope of Good 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

#### 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**

## **Musical Response**

**Reading** "Winter Solstice," Rebecca Parker

**Sermon** "Music in the Stillness"

## **Closing Hymn # 55 "Dark of Winter"**

Dark of winter, soft and still, your quiet calm surrounds me.

Let my thoughts go where they will; ease my mind profoundly.

And then my soul will sing a song, a blessed song of love eternal.

Gentle darkness, soft and still, bring your quiet to me.

Darkness, soothe my weary eyes, that I may see more clearly.

When my heart with sorrow cries, comfort and caress me.

And then my soul may hear a voice, a still, small voice of love eternal.

Darkness, when my fears arise, let your peace flow through me.

## **Chalice Extinguishing and Unison Closing**

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

## **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, December 27 Office Closed Through January 3**

- 10:00 am Online Worship Service

## **Monday, December 28**

## **Tuesday, December 29**

## **Wednesday, December 30**

## **Thursday, December 31**

## **Friday, January 1**

## **Saturday, January 2**

## **Sunday, January 3**

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 10:00 am Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 11:15 am RE Class 6-8
- 11:15 am RE Class 9-12
- 1:00 pm New UU? Q&A with the New Guy!

### **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

# Announcements

**Stewardship Team News** Greetings from the Stewardship Team - we send best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe holiday season! By now, you have received a letter from our board president, Molly Zacker, inviting you to include UUSG as you plan your year-end philanthropic giving. Many of us are making decisions in the next few weeks about which of our favorite not-for-profits to support as the tax year draws to a close. Please take a few minutes to read Molly's letter and add UUSG to your year-end giving to whatever extent you can. All additional support from our members and friends strengthens our connectedness and enables us to bring that powerful UUSG practical goodness to the world.

**Wine Down Thursday** You are invited every second and fourth Thursday at 7pm to Happy Hour. Our first happy hour will be on January 14. Bring your favorite beverage and enjoy the company of other UUs as we talk about anything and everything. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84241796675>, Meeting ID: 842 4179 6675

**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 **January 31**.

**BYOL (Lunch) with Rev. Scot: Tuesdays at Noon** Rev. Scot will be hosting an open meeting on Zoom each Tuesday at noon. **Please note: we will skip December 29, and we will resume in 2021 on January 5.** 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).

**Navigating the Year Ahead: Board Statement on UUSG's COVID-19 Reopening Strategy.** The Board of Directors has re-visited the June 2020 Board Statement and our plans for moving forward. Please visit our website to read the letter and learn more about UUSG's plan for the future, or read it here: [Updated "Navigating the Year Ahead: Board Statement on UUSG's COVID-19 Reopening Strategy."](#)

## **Conversations with Rev. Scot, Sundays at 1pm**

Rev Scot wants to connect with you! Join him in January for the following discussions:

### **January 3:** New UU? Q&A with the New Guy!

Are you new to Unitarian Universalism? New to UUSG? Want to know more? Join our new minister, Rev. Scot, for a monthly drop-in on the first Sunday of the month, at 1pm--after the service, coffee break-outs, and the talk-back. Bring your questions, your curiosity, and a cup of coffee, and we'll chat!  
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85446292800>

### **January 10:** Parents Circle

Got kids? These are impossible times, and impossible times calls for coffee and community. If you can take an hour, come chat with Rev. Scot and other UUSG parents about what's on your head & heart.  
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84033914938>

### **January 17:** Minister Coffee

Open Forum! For those of you that think those talk-back sessions are just a tad too short, this is for you. Bring your questions, your curiosity, and a cup of coffee, and we'll chat!  
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87896751773>

## **Social Justice News**

**December Beyond Our Walls: Mutual Ground Shelter** The vision of Mutual Ground Shelter in Aurora is to create a society free of domestic and sexual violence by providing education, awareness, and life-changing services that empower individuals, families, and communities to end the cycles of domestic and sexual violence in Kane and Kendall Counties. They provide counseling, advocacy, education, and shelter, as well as a 24/7 hotline. Their work is threatened by deep budget cuts from the State of Illinois. Your contribution will provide personal items needed by the individuals whom they shelter.

**Calendar: January 2:** Celebrate the New Year by preparing a casserole or lunches for residents of Lazarus House Homeless shelter. Sign up [here](#).  
Questions? Contact [socialjustice@uusg.org](mailto:socialjustice@uusg.org).

**Beware the Scam Emails:** There is another round of scam emails hitting hundreds of UU congregations. The most important warning we can give you is that UUSG Staff will never ask you to send money directly to any of us. Any email, text, or phone call making such a request is fake.

For more information, [view this website](#) the UUA put together about how to avoid phishing scams and other fake email gambits.

In addition, please [consider adding two-factor authentication](#) to your accounts if you haven't already.

More broadly, see "[Secure Your Digital Life in 7 \(Easy\) Days.](#)"

Unfortunately, these steps can't fully stop bad actors from creating fake email accounts using email relationships that can be grabbed from various sources regardless of how secure we keep our accounts. Hackers are getting more sophisticated every day. The best defense is to pause and look for warning signs before responding to any unsolicited email, especially if something feels "off" or "weird" about the message.