

*When we light the chalice in worship, we illuminate a world that we feel called upon to serve with love and a sense of justice ~Susan J. Ritchie***

GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- Call to Community
When Times are Dark
by Fred LaMotte**
- Prelude/Candles of Community
Morning Has Broken
(song 38) Cat Stevens, singing | video by Rachel Reyes
- Chalice Lighting
In Memory of All the Flames
by Amarette Callaway**
- Spoken Affirmation
*Love is the spirit of this church and service is its law
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,
To seek truth in freedom and to help one another.*
- Lighting the Peace Candle

EXPANDING OUR UNDERSTANDING

- Opening Thought
from *The Flaming Chalice*
by Susan J. Ritchie**
- Song #318
This Little Light of Mine
performed by the UU Society of Grafton & Upton, MA children's choir
- The First Reading
Flaming Chalice: Symbol of Unitarian Universalism
by the Unitarian Universalist Association*

EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS

- Practices - with words, stillness, music
words: *The Chalice of Our Being*
by Richard S. Gilbert**
stillness: *Quiet Sitting for a Time*
musical response: *One Minute Giving Music*
composed and performed by Dan Althoff*
- The Second Reading
from *The Flaming Chalice*
by Susan J. Ritchie**
- Song
Light at The End of the Tunnel | by Andrew Lloyd Webber
Performed by Gregory Porter

DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES

- Discourse
The Light of Our Chalice
by the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies

CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

- Giving
Bringing our gifts to the table
Offertory: *Carolyn's Interlude*
composed & performed by Dan Althoff*
- Song #6
Just as Long as I Have Breath
lyrics by Alicia S. Carpenter* | music by Johann G. Ebeling | performed by Michael Tacy*

CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

KINDLY REMAIN SEATED UNTIL THE POSTLUDE CONCLUDES

- Benediction
Keep the Chalice Flame Burning
by Adam Slate**
- Extinguishing our Chalice
*We extinguish these flames but not the light of truth,
the warmth of community or the fire of commitment.
These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.*
- Postlude
Stand by Me
Written by Ben E. King, Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller | Performed
by Playing For Change, Artists from Around the World

*a Unitarian Universalist | **a Unitarian Universalist minister

PROGRAM NOTES

Next Sunday the worship team takes a break in order for us to continue a long-standing tradition in which we, the congregation, create the morning assembly. Read the details on the next page of this program to share something of interest/importance/hope/concern under the umbrella of "Beginning-sand/or Endings". What beginnings? What endings? What will you add to this, the last Sunday of 2025?? Be serious, be funny, be happy, be sad. Be yourself and it will be wonderful.

WHO'S DOING WHAT THIS MORNING

- December board representative: *Jana Norris*
- Greeting us at the door: *Susie Norris*
- Leading this morning: *The Rev Dr Mark Y. A. Davies*
- AV team: *Carole Harner, Jim Holmes, Liz Rapp*
- R.E. leader: *Jack*
- Caring Circle: *Susie Norris*

WELCOME VISITORS

We are Unitarian Universalists. We are brave, curious, and compassionate thinkers and doers. We are people from many backgrounds who have different beliefs, but shared values.

Grounded in more than two hundred years of thoughtful, spiritual communities, we are people of many generations, ethnicities, genders and sexualities, and spiritual backgrounds. People engaged in making the world a better place. People focus on what really matters - love, justice, integrity, and hope.

We are a lay-led congregation. Lay-led congregations have no minister which means members of the congregation manage various aspects of our church life. Unitarian Universalism has a proud tradition of lay-led churches. We have different beliefs, but shared values.

We are Unitarian Universalists, and at the same time we may be Muslim, pagan, atheist, believers in God, and those who just let the great mystery be. The diversity of beliefs you'll find in our church community is one of our strengths - we're always learning how to see the world from a distinct perspective.

Learn more about us at your leisure by downloading our mobile app 'Red River UU' from Google Play or the Apps Store (or use the QR code below.) This is who we are. We are glad you joined us today because all of who you are is welcome here.

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

10 am - Adult Forum

Not meeting in December

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

Beginnings and/or Endings

The Congregation

For this morning assembly, we invite you to bring something meaningful to share—stories, poems, songs, dances, or any expression that speaks to beginnings, endings, or the space in between. If you have a short YouTube video you'd like to include as your sharing, please send the link to Marla by December 23.

Let's create a rich and reflective experience together through the many ways we express transition and transformation.

12:15 pm - Conversations & Calories

Red River Unitarian Universalists
515 North Burnett Ave - Mail: PO BOX 1806
Denison, TX 7502

QR to our worship survey



QR to our mobile app



The Morning Program

Sunday, December 21, 2025



We are ...



Spiritually Alive
Joyfully Inclusive
Justice Centered