

*Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right. ~ Oprah Winfrey*

## Ring the Tibetan Bowl

### Call to Community

by Rebecca Crystal  
with quotes from the UUA

### Chalice Lighting

*A Flame to Light Our Path*  
by Debra Burrell \*

### 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

### Opening Thought

from *A Ritual of Letting Go, Cleansing, Intention, and Hope*  
by Lois Van Leer\*\* adapted; and  
*Equinox Seed Ritual* by Diana Smith\*\*, adapted

### Song

*The Four Directions*

by Gay Holcomb | Music: *Beech Spring* a sacred harp song from 1844 arranged by Tull Glazener | performed by Red River UU Choir

### Practices

With Words

*As a New Year Begins*

by Kate Lore

with Stillness for a Time

with a Musical Response

*One Minute Giving* | written & performed by Dan Althoff\*

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*A Ritual of Letting Go, Cleansing, Intention, and Hope*  
by Lois Van Leer adapted

## SOUTH: Fire – Release

*The Abundant Mystic*

by Edward Mills

### Background Music:

*Relaxing with Candles*

written & performed by Relaxing with Jeff

## WEST: Water – Cleansing & Renewing

*Water* by Lau Tzu

### Background Music

*You and Me*

Written & Performed by Peder B. Helland

## NORTH – Intention

*Ring Out, Wild Bells*

from *A Poem For Every Day of the Year*

adapted by Lord Alfred Tennyson

### Background Music

*Healing Hearts from Seeds of Peace*

Dean Evenson, flute; Volodymyr Solianyk, piano

## EAST: Candle – New Beginnings

*For a New Beginning*

by John O'Donohue

### Background Music

*Relaxing Music with Candle Flame*

by Asha Lightbearer Music

## EARTH:

*Equinox Seed Ritual*

by Diana Smith, adapted

### Background Music

*Ancient Mother*

by Robert Gass; from *Discovering Spirit in Sound Chanting*.

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## Giving

*Carolyn's Interlude* written & performed by Dan Althoff

## Song 331

*Life is the Greatest Gift of All*

Katy Taylor, vocal | Sheila Harwood, piano

## Benediction

by Rebecca Crystal

## Postlude

*A Short Beautiful Piano Piece*

Improv by Jervy Hou

\*a Unitarian Universalist | \*\*a Unitarian Universalist minister

## Program Notes

- ♦ The Worship Team created today's morning assembly.
- ♦ The Board of Trustees meets today following the Morning Assembly.
- ♦ Moveable Feast is looking for the best date to have lunch together. If you've never been at the Moveable Feast and wish to join in the January gathering, speak with Susie Norris.
- ♦ On the cover: *Images of the various traditions – worldwide – in which people celebrate the new year.*

## Whose making things happen today

- ♦ January board representative: *Cristin Mackey*
- ♦ Greeting you at the door: *Amy Hoffman-Shehan*
- ♦ Leading today: *Rebecca Crystal and Marla Loturco*
- ♦ Av team: *Jim Holmes, Carole Harner, Liz Rap*
- ♦ 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 focusing on what really matters - love, justice, integrity, and hope.*

*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, January 25, 2026

10 am - Adult Forum

### Emerson, Thoreau and the Transcendentalist Movement

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly  
**Who Are UU's?**

The Worship Team, *leading*

Curious about Unitarian Universalism? Join us this Sunday for a special look at Unitarian Universalism. We'll explore the values that guide us—like justice, equity, and a deep respect for the earth—and discuss how we live those out in the real world. Newcomers, old friends, and the simply curious are all welcome. Come explore with us

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SUNDAY, January 18, 2026



We Are ...



Spiritually Alive  
Joyfully Inclusive  
Justice Centered

QR codes to ...  
our worship survey



our mobile app

