We must understand what we can and learn to dwell richly in the mystery of what we cannot.

~ Philip Simmons

## GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- Call to Community

Gathering in Our Own Spaces by Jeff May

Prelude/Candles of Community

Voices in my Head by Kevin Keith

Chalice Lighting

Chalice Lighting
by V. Elaine Strawn \*\*\*

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

The Great Turning adapted by Christine Fry

• Song - 119

Once to Every Soul and Nation performed by 1st Unitarian Church of Baltimore, MD\*

# **EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS**

Practices - with words, stillness, music

Words: Spirit of All Blessing

by Maureen Killoran \*\*

Stillness: Quiet Sitting for a Moment Musical response: *Sound of Silence* by Paul Simon & Art Garfunkel, performed by Cascade

Reading

from Choosing to Connect by Priscilla Shumway

• Song - 123

Spirit of Life Carolyn McDade, by Carolyn McDade, performed by Jen Nicolosi

#### DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES

Discourse

Wise Choices by the Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn\*\*

## CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

Giving

Those who wish may bring your gifts to the bowl Offertory: Unchained Melody by Righteous Brothers, performed by Cascade

Song - 1051

We Are

by Ysaye M. Barnwell, Performed by General Assembly 2020 Virtual Choir

Closing Thought

And the People Looked Up

by Elaine Strawn\*\*

Extinguishing the 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

A Short Beautiful Piano Peace Improv by Jervy Hou

\*a Unitarian Universalist

\*\* a Unitarian Universalist minister

#### PROGRAM NOTES

**RedRiverUU** Rainbow Team holds their regular monthly meeting today following Con versations & Calories. 1-2 pm

**Board Games** On the second Sunday every month, after Rainbow Team's meeting, we play board games. We have several to choose from, and often additional offerings people bring with them. Nerds and noobs are all welcome!

#### WHO'S DOING WHAT THIS MORNING

- February board representative: Carole Harner
- Greeting us at the door: Sherilyn Bolerjack
- Guest minister: Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn
- ♦ AV crew: Carole Harner, Jim Holmes, Liz Rapp
- RE leader: Jack Bolerjack
- Caring Circle: Susie Norris, Paula Jennings, David Dyer

#### 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, FEBRUARY 16, 2024**

10 am - Adult Forum **Skeptics and Believers** 

now to March 10th

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

#### Reflections on our Shared Values: Equity

The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies, leading

Equity — We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

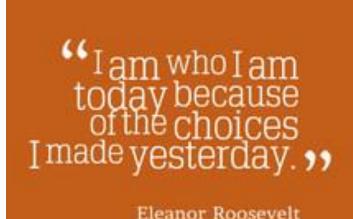
Red River Unitarian Universalists 515 North Burnett Ave mail: PO BOX 1806 Denison, TX 75020 903.231.3232 ◆ redriveruu.org



QR to our mobile app

# THE MORNING PROGRAM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025



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