

## **Soul Matters Theme: The Gift of Transformation**

“Choosing to live one’s life guided by what love asks of us cannot help but drive us to work together in community until everyone is free.”

—Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, Unitarian Universalist Association President

## **Order of Service March 3, 2024**

### **Love at the Center**

Officiating: Rev. Diana McLean

Worship Associate: Diane Dobitz

Pianist: Shay MacKay

Storyteller: Director of Children’s Faith Development Macey Forsyth (video)

Greeters:

Worship Tech: Kat Clements

Sound Assistant:

Hearing Assist:

Nursery: Staff member Alex Cienciwa

Children’s Chapel: Deb Fitzloff and Barb Franchino

Hospitality:

**Opening Slideshow:** To “Put a Little Love in Your Heart” by Jackie De Shannon

<https://youtu.be/CZ8K1sRibCY?si=F2yN2MwcfzlpEByx>

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Singing Bowl**

### **Chalice Lighting**

If you are viewing through Zoom, please type into the Chat that a chalice is lit on [your street]:

*We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the spirit, broaden the mind, nurture the earth, and build community. May this flame we kindle remind us to strive, today and every day, to love beyond belief.*

### **Call to Worship**

“Blessed is the Fire that Burns Deep in the Soul” by Eric A. Heller-Wagner

**Opening Hymn #1003, “Where Do We Come From”** (words by Brian Tate and Paul Gauguin, and music by Brian Tate)

### **Story**

*I Am Love* by Susan Verde and Peter H. Reynolds

### **Singing the Children Out**

### **Joys and Sorrows**

**Singing Prayer:** To the tune of **#1002** (teal hymnal) by Mimi Borstein.

### **Offertory**

**Reading** from the Charge to the Article II Study Commission by the Board of the Unitarian Universalist Association

**Hymn #1017 “Building a New Way”** (by Martha Sandefer)

**Sermon** “Love at the Center”

**Hymn #1008, “When Our Heart is in a Holy Place”** (by Joyce Poley)

### **Chalice Extinguishing**

*We extinguish this flame, 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. (Elizabeth Selle Jones)*

### **Benediction**

**Singing Benediction:** “Longtime Sun” the final three minutes of “A Very Cellular Song” written by Mike Heron and performed by The Incredible String Band on their 1968 album *The Hangman’s Beautiful Daughter*.

*May the longtime sun shine upon you  
All love surround you  
And the pure pure light that’s within you  
Guide your way home.*

**Zoom participants:** Please feel free to stay online for a time of gathering to meet, talk, and connect. (If the group online is large enough, we will invite you to join breakout rooms for small group connection.)

**In-person participants:** Please stay for the refreshments and conversation in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level following the worship service.