

Please silence cell phones as we enter into our worship time.

If you are new to First Unitarian Church - Following the service, please join us for Coffee Hour. If you would like to learn more about our congregation, Unitarian Universalism, or membership, we encourage you to say "hi" to an usher, grab a "How to Get Involved" Handbook, check out our website (www.philauu.org), or contact the Member Ministry Team at membership@philauu.org.

Accessibility: We have an integrated hearing loop system in the Sanctuary, which provides a magnetic, wireless signal that is picked up by hearing aids and helps those with hearing impairment enjoy the services and music better. To use the hearing loop, you don't need to change any settings, just sit in the center aisle of the Sanctuary and make sure your hearing aid is turned on. We also have large print Orders of Service at the Usher table.

Prayers of Our Hearts: All are invited forward before the service to light a candle of prayer at the altar. If you or a loved one is going through something hard and you wish to be lifted in congregational prayer, you are invited to email caring@philauu.org or call the church office at 215-563-3980 during the week.

Donating Flowers on a Sunday is a wonderful way to celebrate an occasion or remember a loved one and beautify the Parish. A tax-deductible donation of \$35 is asked. To reserve a date, contact info@philauu.org. Your donation can be recognized in the Order of Service or done anonymously.

Feedback: We welcome your thoughts about the worship service! Feel free to contact the Worship Team at worship@philauu.org.

Recentering our Light

August 16, 2026

*One room schoolhouse style childcare will be offered starting at 10am
in the Olympia Room (3rd floor).*



Prayer Candles

*All are invited forward to light a candle
of prayer at the altar before the service begins*

Prelude

Laura Gibson

Call to Worship

Luke Horton

Hymn

This Joy

This joy that I have,
The world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

Kindling the Chalice Flame

Siamac Yamin-Afshar

*May the light we now kindle inspire us to use our power
to heal with love, to help with compassion, to bless with joy,
to serve the spirit of freedom in the fullness of community.*

Welcome & Greeting

Jeanne Smith

Anthem

*We Shall Be Known
(MaMuse)*

Members of the
First Unitarian Choir

Announcements

Siamac Yamin-Afshar

*For all of what is happening in our community
this week, check out our E-Beacon newsletter:*



Prayers of our Hearts

Luke Horton

Hymn

Hold On, Dear Ones

Hold on, hold on
My dear ones, Here comes the dawn.

Silent Meditation

Reading

Jeanne Smith

Sermon

Luke Horton

Offering Reflection

Siamac Yamin-Afshar

To contribute to today's offering, you can put cash or check in the plate as it passes, or text (215) 709-5095 to give with a credit card. We are grateful for your generosity!



Offertory

Shine
(Collective Soul)

UJ Panday

Closing Invitation

Luke Horton

Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

#118

Extinguishing the Chalice

*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.*

Benediction

Luke Horton

Postlude

Laura Gibson

First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia

Congregational Covenant



As part of our commitment to loving kindness and justice, we seek to build and sustain a community that nurtures our physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Recognizing that the growth of this community requires intentional dedication, we covenant together to:

- Act in ways that acknowledge the inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Honor the differences that each of us brings, recognizing that our individual paths collectively shape our community and the wider world;
- Communicate with generosity, attentiveness, respect, and honesty, knowing that listening leads to learning;
- Respect each person's boundaries of mind, body, and spirit;
- Commit to a culture of loving accountability, where we work together for restoration when harm has taken place;
- Contribute to the growth of our community with our participation, our words, our public commitment, our gifts, and our money, as we are able.

Affirmed by the congregation, January 23, 2022