

Sunday, May 7, 2022  
***Unitarian Universalist Church  
of Medford***

**A Warm Welcome to Our Guests**

Thank you for joining us this morning! We recognize that you have many choices and we are grateful you chose to be with us. We invite you to sign the guest book in the vestibule, and to learn more about our church community, please visit our website: [www.uumedford.org](http://www.uumedford.org); Facebook: ***Unitarian Universalist Church of Medford***; email: [office@uumedford.org](mailto:office@uumedford.org); or telephone (781) 396-4549.

UU Church of Medford welcomes everyone and is recognized by the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Welcoming Congregation. This means that we are a church that is inclusive and expressive of the concerns of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons at every level of congregational life.

**Church Staff Ministries:**

Rev. Bruce Taylor, Minister: [minister@uumedford.org](mailto:minister@uumedford.org)

Molly Ruggles, Music Director: [music@uumedford.org](mailto:music@uumedford.org)

Mimi Olivier, Director of Religious Education: [dre@uumedford.org](mailto:dre@uumedford.org)

Brenda Bonetti, Church Office Admin.: [uumedford@uumedford.org](mailto:uumedford@uumedford.org)

Jim Costello, Sexton

The Caring Team: [uucm-caring@groups.io](mailto:uucm-caring@groups.io)

**Sharing Their Ministry in Today's Service:**

Worship Leader: Rev. Bruce Taylor

Music: Russell Tripp

Tech Volunteers: Loretta Hubley, Ann & Robert Heintz



***Censorship and Freedom***

*We are glad you are among us today.*

To honor and be present to this sacred space and time,  
please silence your cell phones.

*“When truth is replaced by silence, the silence is a lie.”  
~Yevgeny Yevtushenko*

## Morning Songs

**\*Hymn #30 Over My Head**  
*Words & music: unknown enslaved African American composer*

**\*Hymn #290 Bring, O Past, Your Honor**  
*Words: Charles H. Lytle; music: John Bacchus Dykes*

**\*Hymn #40 The Morning Hangs a Signal**  
*Words: William Channing Gannett; music: William Lloyd*

## The Bell Sounds and Candles Are Lit

**Prelude Meditation** *Flor Peeters*

**Call to Worship (Responsive Reading #592) The Free Mind**  
*William Ellery Channing*

## Welcome and Greeting

**Chalice Lighting** *Gary Kowalski*

## \*Covenant

Love is the heart of this church. We commit to:  
Being a diverse, welcoming community of mutual care and respect;  
Supporting each other's spiritual journey and search for truth and meaning;  
Promoting justice and serving the wider community.  
We hold ourselves to this promise with compassion and understanding.

**\*Hymn #289 Creative Love, Our Thanks We Give**  
*Words: William DeWitt Hyde; music: English melody*

**A Time for All Ages Banned Books** *Mimi Olivier*

**Children's Parting Song: Go in Peace**  
*Words: Li Kynvi; music: Andey Amata and Molly Ruggles*

Our beloveds, we are with you; go in peace.  
May the spirit of love surround you; go in peace.  
(repeat)

## Opportunity for Generosity:

**Music Interlude** *Flor Peeters*

## Offering response:

We are grateful for these gifts we have received,  
that sustain us and affirm the ministries of our church community.

**Music Interlude** *Flor Peeters*

## Candles of Joys, Sorrows and Milestones

**Meditation** *Sophia Fahs*

## Silent Meditation

**\*Hymn #401 Kum ba Yah**  
*Words & music: unknown enslaved African American composer*

**Sermon** *Censorship and Freedom*

**\*Hymn #1019 Everything Possible**  
*Words & music: Fred Small*

**\*Community Closing and Benediction** *Matt Meyer*

**Postlude O Star of Trust**  
*Music: Finnish melody, adpt. by David Evans*

\*You are invited to rise as you are able.