

Sunday, February 4, 2024
***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***; Facebook: ***Unitarian Universalist Church of Medford***; email: ***office@uumedford.org***; or telephone (781) 396-4549.

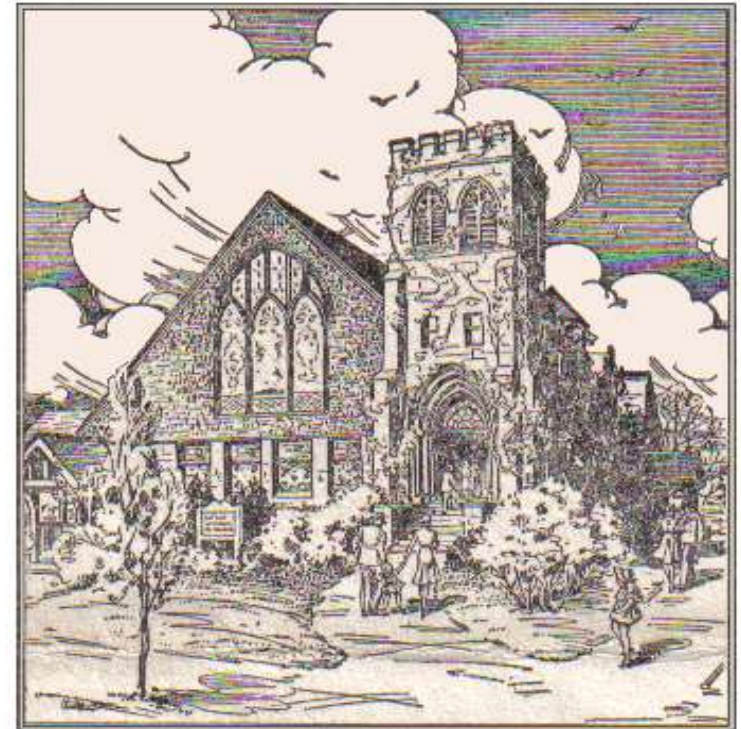
UU Church of Medford welcomes everyone and is recognized by the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Welcoming Congregation. This means that we are a church that is inclusive and expressive of the concerns of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons at every level of congregational life.

Church Staff Ministries:

Rev. Bruce Taylor, Minister: minister@uumedford.org
Mimi Olivier, Director of Religious Education: dre@uumedford.org
Jim Costello, Sexton
The Caring Team: uucm-caring@groups.io

Sharing Their Ministry in Today's Service:

Minister: Rev. Bruce Taylor
Music: Russell Tripp
Hymn/Morning Song Leader: Susan Jhirad
Tech Volunteers: Loretta Hubley, Paul Marcucilli, Mary MacNamee



Engaging Our Pluralism

We are glad you are among us today.

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

“Pluralism isn't just diversity; it's something we create out of this diversity.” ~Diana L. Eck

Morning Songs

***Hymn #108 My Life Flows On in Endless Song**
Words: early Quaker song; music: American gospel tune

***Hymn #181 No Matter If You Live Now Far or Near**
Words: Sutta Nopata; music: old Indian song

***Hymn #300 With Heart and Mind**
Words: Alicia S. Carpenter; music: Johann Hermann Schein

The Bell Sounds and Candles Are Lit

Prelude Voluntary Caleb Simper

Call to Worship Responsive Reading #443 Kenneth L. Patton

Welcome and Greeting

Chalice Lighting Leslie Takahashi

***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 #188 Come, Come, Whoever You Are**
Words: from Jalaluddin Rumi; music: Lynn Adair Unger

A Time for All Ages Celebrating Braille 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

Organ Piece

Vincent Novello

Offering response:

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

Music

Interlude

Christian Heinrich Rinck

Candles of Joys, Sorrows and Milestones

Meditation Cathedral of the World Forrest Church

Silent Meditation

***Hymn #194 Faith Is a Forest**
Words: Shelley Jackson Denham; music: Chinese folk song

Sermon

Engaging Our Pluralism

***Hymn #118 This Little Light of Mine**
Words & music: unknown enslaved African American composer

***Community Closing and Benediction**
Barbara Hamilton-Holway

Postlude Sound Over All Waters
Music: Welsh melody; Words: John Greenleaf Whittier

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