

Sunday, April 7, 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.

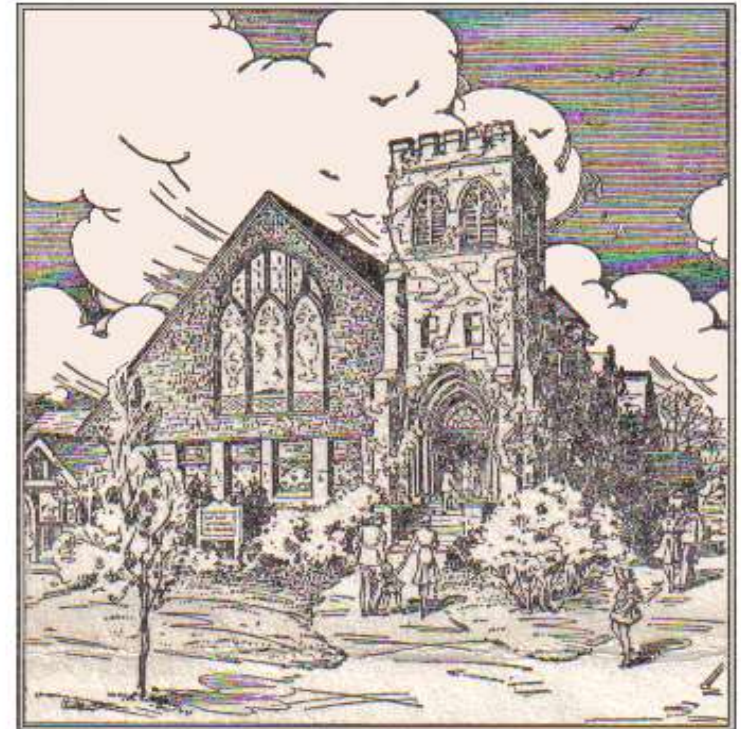
UU Church of Medford welcomes everyone and is recognized by the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Welcoming Congregation. This means that we are a church that is inclusive and expressive of the concerns of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons at every level of congregational life.

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: Carole Bundy
Tech: Loretta Hubley, Paul Marcucilli, Ann & Robert Heintz



Rumi: Poetry as a Way In

We are glad you are among us today.

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

*“Where a poem belongs is here, in the warmth of the chest.”
~Jalāl al-Dīn Rumi*

Morning Songs

***Hymn #126** **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**
Words: R. Robinson, Eugene B. Navias; music: John Wyeth

***Hymn #89** **Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life**
Words: George Herbert; music: Ralph Vaughan Williams

***Hymn #188** **Come, Come, Whoever You Are**
Words: Rumi; music: Lynn Adair Ungar

The Bell Sounds and Candles Are Lit

Prelude **Sarabande** *Carl Bohm*

Call to Worship **The Guest House** *Rumi*

Welcome and Greeting

Chalice Lighting **With Us** *Rumi*

*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 #361** **Enter, Rejoice, and Come In**
Words & music: Louise Ruspini

Pledge Drive Testimonial and Update
Lily MacNamee, Liz Ammons and Steve Schmidt

A Time for All Ages
Robert Louis Stevenson, Children's Poet *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 **Voluntary** *Caleb Simper*

Offering response:

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

Candles of Joys, Sorrows and Milestones

Meditation **Water and Wine** *Rumi*

Silent Meditation

***Hymn #123** **Spirit of Life** *Carolyn McDade*

Sermon **Rumi: Poetry as a Way In**

***Hymn #311** **Let It Be a Dance** *Ric Masten*

***Community Closing and Benediction** **The Torrent Leaves**
Rumi

Postlude **Here on the Paths of Every Day**
William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835

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