

Sunday October 19, 2025
Unitarian Universalist
Church of Medford
In Defense of Hope
Rev. Fred Small



*O you who come after, help us remember: we are your ancestors. Fill us with gladness
for the work that must be done.*

Joanna Macy

Morning Song:

Hymn #295: Sing Out Praises for the Journey

Words: Mark DeWolfe, Music: Henry Purcell

Hymn: Last Day on This Earth

Words and Music: David Roth

The Bell Sounds and Candles Are Lit

Prelude: The Road Home

Stephen Paulus

Call to Worship: The Growing Edge

Howard Thurman

Welcome and Greeting

Chalice Lighting: Hope is a Song in a Weary Throat

Pauli Murray

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: Adapted from Rumi Music: Lynn Adair Ungar

A Time for All Ages

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)

Our Story: CPA

Opportunity for Generosity: Chorale #94

JS Bach

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

Prayer: I Need to Breathe Deeply

Ted Loder

Silent Meditation

Responsive Reading #648: Beginners

Denise Levertov

Choir Special: Fight Song

Words and Music by Rachel Platten

Sermon: In Defense of Hope

Hymn Thanksgiving Eve

Words and Music: Bob Franke

Community Closing: Let This Darkness be a Bell Tower

Rainer Maria Rilke

Postlude: Fight Song

Rachel Platten

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.

For more information about the church:

Website: **www.uumedford.org**

Facebook: **Unitarian Universalist Church of Medford**

Email: **office@uumedford.org**

Telephone: **(781) 396-4549**

Welcoming Congregation

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Medford 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

Nitai Wilson: Children's Program Director: dcp@uumedford.org

Sage Fogle: Music Director: music@uumedford.org

Lindsey Greene: Coordinator of Worship and Community Life:
coordinator@uumedford.org

Cathy Collins: Office Manager: office@uumedford.org

Jason Brown: Sexton

Sharing Their Ministry in Today's Service

Service Leader: **Rev. Fred Small**

Worship Associate: **Joan Trdell**

Music: **Sage Fogle**

Tech Volunteers: **April Evans, Andey Amata, Nate Douglas**

Next Week: Anne Goodwin: Dancing with the Ancestors