

Sunday, December 14th, 2025
**Unitarian Universalist
Church of Medford**

Welcoming Winter
Nitai Wilson & Lindsey Greene



In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy

William Blake

Morning Song:

Hymn #21: For the Beauty of the Earth

Words: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint; Music: Conrad Kocher

Hymn #50: When Darkness Nears

Words: Philip A. Porter; Music: David Hurd

The Bell Sounds and Candles Are Lit

Prelude: For the Earth Forever Turning

Kim Oler, arr. by Nick Page

Call to Worship: Celebration of the Winter Solstice

Stephanie Noble

Welcome and Greeting

Chalice Lighting: To Know The Dark

Wendell Berry

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 163: For The Earth Forever Turning

Words: Kim Oler

A Time for All Ages: Building A Solstice Altar

Opportunity for Generosity: All Beautiful the March of Days

English melody, arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams

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

Homily One

Wreath Lighting Ritual

Hymn #389: Gathered Here

Philip A. Porter

Silent Meditation

Hymn # 55: Dark of Winter

Shelly Jackson Denham

Homily Two

Hymn 58: Ring Out, Wild Bells

Words: Alfred Lord Tennyson; Music: Percy Carter Buck

Community Closing & Extinguishing the Chalice:

The Shortest Day Susan Cooper

Postlude: Lady of the Seasons' Laughter

Music: David Hurd

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

Church Office: office@uumedford.org

Sharing Their Ministry in Today's Service

Service Leaders: **Lindsey Greene & Nitai Wilson**

Music: **Russell Tripp**

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

Next Week: Children's Program: Yay! It's Cold!