

Sunday, December 28th, 2025

Unitarian Universalist Church of Medford

The Golden Rule: Can It Be Improved? Rev. Lilia Cuervo



The nicest gifts people have given me have been enabling, confirming gifts, bestowing understanding and self-esteem, help in time of trouble and delight for ordinary days. May I suggest that you, too, draw up your list of the nicest gifts you ever received. I think it will give some perspective to the kind of gifts we really want to give to others, this Christmas or anytime.

Clarke Dewey Wells, From Sunshine and Rain At Once

Morning Song:

Hymn #404 What Gift Can We Bring

Words & music: Jane Marshall

Hymn #402 From You I Receive

Words & music: Joseph and Nathan Segal

Hymn #355 We Lift Our Hearts in Thanks

Words: Percival Chubb; Music: Scholae Gorlicensis, 1599

The Bell Sounds and Candles Are Lit

Prelude: Voluntary

Caleb Simper

Call to Worship: Prayer of Confession and Longing

Lilia Cuervo & Victoria Safford

Welcome and Greeting

Chalice Lighting

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 # 346: Come, Sing a Song with Me

Words and Music: Carolyn McDade

A Time for All Ages: Perro Grande...Perro Pequeño. Big Dog... Little Dog

P.D. Eastman

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: Pastorale

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

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Meditation

Reading: The Nicest Gifts I Ever Got

Clark Dewey Wells

Hymn # 34: Though May I Speak with Bravest Fire

Words and Music: Hal Hopson

Sermon: The Golden Rule. Can It Be Improved?

Hymn 1008: When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place

Words and Music: Joyce Poley

Community Closing

Postlude: Ring Out, Wild Bells

Music: Percy Carter Buck

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 Leader: **Rev. Lilia Cuervo**

Worship Associate: **Susan Jhirad**

Music: **Sage Fogle**

Next Week: Rev. Hank Peirce