# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION *in the Assabet Valley*



November 15, 2026

*Covenant: Being Earthlings*

*Our Ministers:*

**The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**
Minister

**Yaakov Trek Reef**
Intern Minister

*Our Board Officers:*

**Brendon Chetwynd**
President

**Trisha Guditz**
Vice President

**Lee Cooprider**
Treasurer

**Elizabeth Michaud**
Clerk

*Our Program Staff:*

**Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson**
Director of Religious Education

**Chris Hossfeld**
Music Director

**Cynthia Menard**
Spiritual Growth & Community Center Director

*Our Administrative Staff:*

**Meg Rivers-Wright**
Parish Administrator

**Christine Towle**
Publicity Coordinator

*Our Program Support Staff:*

**Trevor Berens**
Accompanist

**Justin Marble**
Nursery Care Coordinator

*Our Administrative Support Staff:*

**Mike Silkonis**
Sexton

**Tech Assistant**
Tanner Metevier

**UUCAV is a UUA Welcoming Congregation. We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people into our community.**

Small portable radios are available to use throughout our building and grounds to listen to the service on **107.7 FM**, and are also our Assisted Listening Devices. Large print orders of service and hymnals are available from an usher.

UUCAV has a masks-optional policy throughout the church. Several back rows in the sanctuary & those with accessible seating are “mask-required.”

UUCAV is on the web at uucav.org and on Facebook, Instagram, & YouTube.

**November 15, 2026: 10:00 a.m.**
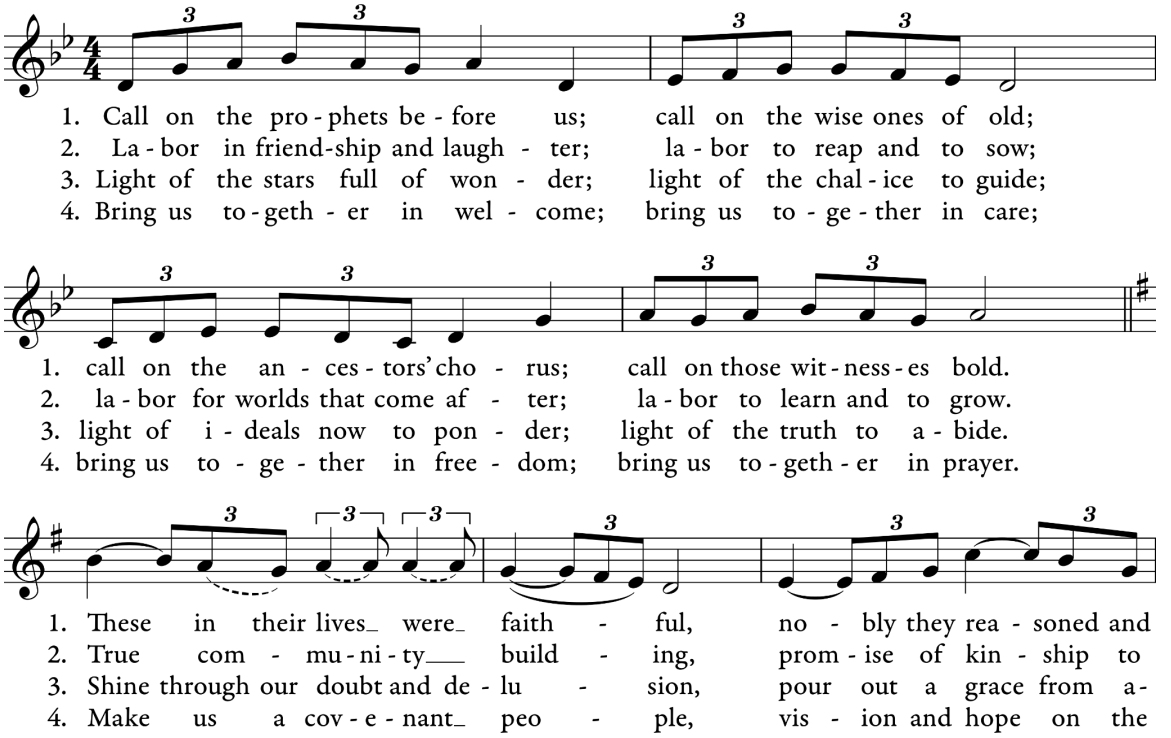
## Gathering

**Prelude** "The Aspen" Trevor Berens
Jean Sibelius Accompanist
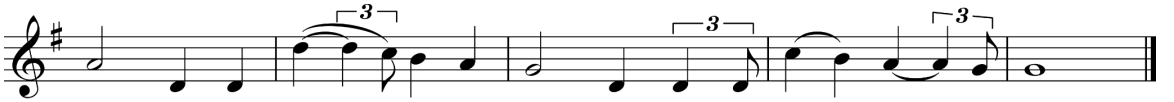
**Welcome & Land Acknowledgement** Sharon Brownfield, Internship Committee & Fundraising Chair

**Opening Words & Chalice Lighting**
from "Journey of the Universe" Yaakov Trek Reef
Mary Evelyn Tucker & Brian Thomas Swimme Intern Minister

*** Hymn** "Servants of Love" *Sing Out Love*




** Please rise in body or in spirit*




Words © 2022 Kendyl Gibbons. Music © 2022 Carson Cooman.
Sing Out Love expiration October 2028.

## Centering

*** Covenant and Affirmation**

*(Spoken in unison)*
Love is the heart of our church,
the quest for truth is our calling,
and service is our prayer.
This is our covenant:
to live together in peace,
seek the truth in love,
and help one another to grow
in harmony with the divine.
– *submitted by Jennifer Rambridge*

*(Sung in unison)*
From all that dwell below the skies
Let words of love and peace arise
Let joyful songs of praise be sung,
through every land, by every tongue.

*submit your covenant idea*
*at uucav.org/mycovenant2*
*and other covenant thoughts at*
*uucav.org/mycovenant*

**Greet Your Neighbor**

During this time we invite children, parents, & teachers to come forward for the *Time for All Ages*.

**A Time for All Ages** Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Director of Religious Education

**Going Forth With the Light** "Our Love Surrounds You" *Sing Out Love*
Chris Hossfeld

Our love surrounds you. Here joy has found you.
Let hope abound freely. Go in Peace!

**Joys and Sorrows** Ann Wickham, Lay Minister

Joys and Sorrows is a time for the things on our hearts and minds to be heard by the gathered community. If you would like a follow-up call by a lay minister or the minister, email caring@uucav.org.

**Prayer or Meditation** Yaakov Trek Reef, Intern Minister

**In Words** Prophetic Voices *Rachel Carson, Joanna Macy, H.D. Thoreau, Aldo Leopold, R.W. Kimmerer, T.T. Williams, Wangari Maathai*

**In Silence**

**In Music** Improvisation Trevor Berens, Accompanist

## Exploring

**Reading** *Bereishit*/Genesis 9:12–17 Yaakov Trek Reef

**Sharing Our Gifts**

This month we share our offering with the **United Native American Cultural Center**. You may donate by cash, check, online at uucav.org/donate, or text (978) 310-3309.

**Anthem** "Benediction of the Trees" UUCAV Choir
Derek Dibbern Chris Hossfeld,
Arr. C. Hossfeld Music Director

From the Heart to the Heavens
Rooted in the Earth
Branching out above us
Healing what was hurt

Reaching down to lift us
Swing us in the breeze
The air we breathe She gives us
Benediction of the Trees

Home before our houses
Cornered us inside
Gentle arms around us
Above the rising tide

Can you hear them calling?
Like music in a dream
The leaves are always falling
A Benediction from the Trees

A shout becomes a whisper
A Sermon into Song
It's useless to resist her
She's where we all belong

In our Sanctuary Forest
Beneath the Pleiades
Cicadas in the chorus
Benediction to the Trees

As the moon reflects the sunlight
From a million miles away
I'll try to get the words right
So you can hear her say

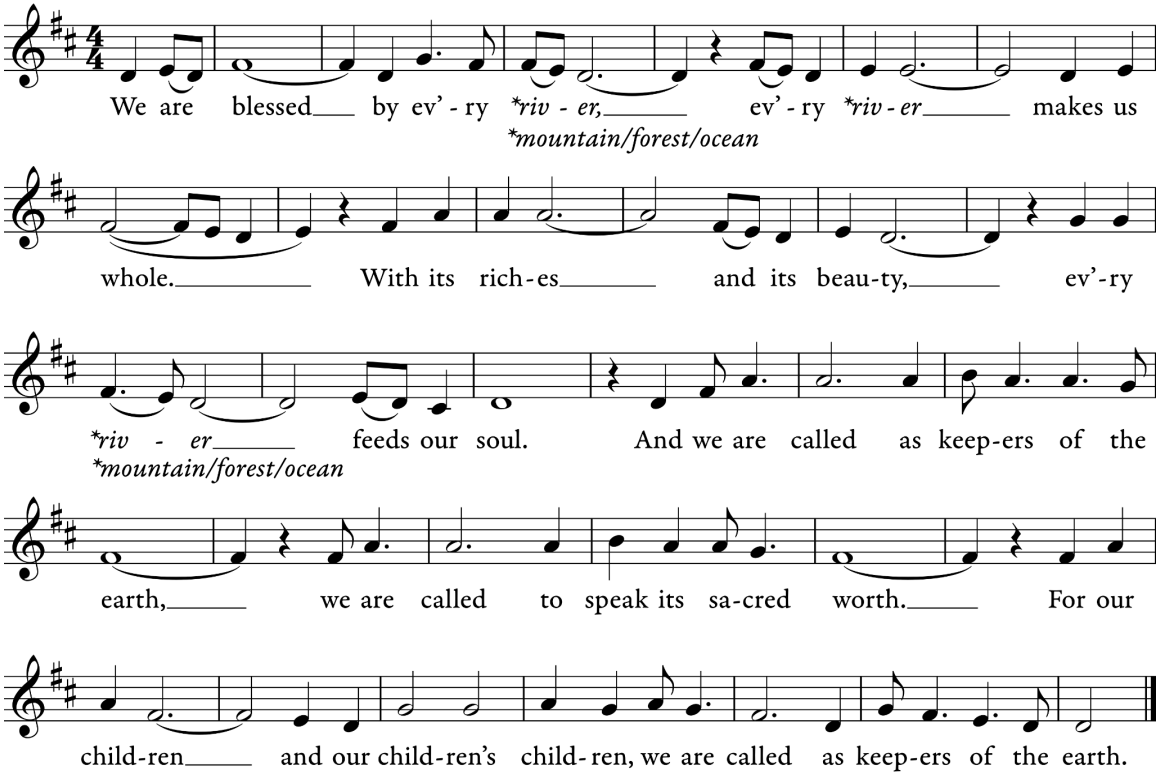
In a melody familiar
That brings us to our knees
In Liturgy peculiar
Benediction to the Trees

**Sermon** "Covenant: Being Earthlings" Yaakov Trek Reef, Intern Minister

* *Please rise in body or in spirit*

## Returning

*** Hymn** "Keepers of the Earth" *Sing Out Love*




© 2014 Joyce Poley. Sing Out Love expiration April 2029.

*** Benediction** Yaakov Trek Reef, Intern Minister

*** Chalice Extinguishing Song**

Peace be with you 'til we meet again! As life lays its task before you,
Keep love's banner floating o'er you. Peace be with you 'til we meet again!

**Postlude** "To Autumn" Trevor Berens
Edward MacDowell

**Announcements** June McKnight, Worship Committee Chair

* * *

*Thank you to:*
Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
Lisa Rydin & Rick Lent, Ushers
Jeff Brown, Jennifer Rambridge, Coffee Hosts
Our staff and leadership

## To our visitors…Thank you for coming! ♥

Here's how to keep connecting with our people and programs:

- ➢ Fill out a VISITOR CARD in your pew or online
- ➢ Check out OUR WEBSITE, www.uucav.org - There is so much happening! Our homepage and the "Church Life" tab detail our events and programs.
- ➢ Subscribe to our E-NEWSLETTERS & EMAIL GROUPS

VISITOR CARD

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTERS

## ⩾ Today at UUCAV⩽

**Religious Education -** *Time for All Ages* followed by our K-5 class, and we are inviting you all to bring your friends for some fun activities. Youth Group will also meet.

**Coffee Hour Committee Fair -** After the service, representatives from UUCAV's committees and task forces will gather in Fellowship Hall to greet and field your questions about their committees. It's a great opportunity for new and longtime members and friends to learn more about all the programs UUCAV offers. Coffee and snacks will be served.

## ⩾ Announcements ⩽

**November Plate Share: United Native American Cultural Center**

The UNACC's mission is committed to supporting and promoting Native American cultural heritage. Through educational programs, community events, and cultural workshops, we strive to foster understanding and appreciation of the diverse traditions and histories of Native American peoples. You can support us by participating in our events, volunteering, or donating to help further our mission. We offer a variety of resources including literature, workshops, and online materials to help everyone learn about our heritage. www.unacc.org
*- UUCAV Liaison Aimeé Ledwell*



**Annual Holiday Gift Drive**


Scan to donate a gift

The Annual Gift Drive for two domestic violence shelters is up and running. So far we only have the gift list from *Voices Against Violence* and you can click on this link to go directly to the SignUp Genius (QR Code). The gifts for *Renewal House* will be added when we receive the list of gift requests. Please shop, shop, shop and help us make the holidays special for the guests of these shelters who are working to get back on their feet.

# ⩾ This Week at UUCAV⩽

➤**TUE 11/17, 1:30-2:30pm - Chair Yoga with Corina (SGCC) - *Community Room***
(beginner-friendly) Experience all the benefits of yoga in this supported chair class, even if you struggle to get on and off the floor or are dealing with injury, pain, or illness that limits movement and range of motion. Please register in advance: uucav.org/yogareg

➤**TUE 11/17, 5:30-7pm - Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) Review and Reflect - *Community Room*** - We'll gather as the RJTF to view a video and reflect.

➤**TUE 11/17, 7-9pm - Open Creativity Studio (SGCC) - *Vestry***
Bring your own project in progress or start something new! Give yourself the gift of dedicated time to work on your project in the company of fellow creatives. Suitable for adults and mature teens. https://uucav.org/sgcc-programs#creativity

➤**WED, 11/18, by 5pm - December *Chronicle* Submissions Due - *office@uucav.org***

➤**WED, 11/18, 7-9pm - Ukulele Meetup - *Community Room***
Pat Sorn and Sue Stewart, Coordinators - Uke lovers of all levels (including beginners!) are welcome to come and play, sing, and share music with the group. We have extra ukes for anyone who'd like to try them out. If not, you can just come and sing along!

➤**FRI, 11/20, 6:30-8:30pm: Friday Friends - *Vestry, Youth Room, Hall***
Young people in kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us for a night of activities, games, snacks, and fun. Drop-off and pick-up are in the Vestry.

➤**FRI, 11/20, 7-9pm: Transgender Day of Remembrance Event - *Sanctuary* (1:26 R.T.)**
UUCAV will be showing the documentary, *What Will I Become?* in honor of the Transgender Day of Remembrance. Please join us! Discussion after the screening. Suggested donation: $5 per person. Light refreshments will be served.

➤**SAT, 11/22, 10am-3pm: Holiday Gift Bag Assembly for CPO - *Fellowship Hall***
Please join us as we once again support Concord Prison Outreach's Holiday Gift Bag distribution to incarcerated men and women in 4 facilities in Massachusetts. For some of the recipients, this is the only gift they receive, and they are extremely grateful for it. Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/CPO-GiftBags

➤**SAT, 11/22, 11:30am-1:30pm: <u>Shamanic Journey & Drumming Group</u> -** ***Comnity. Rm.*** A drop-in event and no experience with shamanism, journeying, or drumming is required - just a curious and open heart! Come by for an opportunity to connect deeply with spirit.

➤**SUN, 11/ 22, 10am: "Guest at Your Table: Next Door, Across Borders, and Worldwide!"** ***Sanctuary and online*** **- An Intergenerational Service - No R.E. classes - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister -** At this time of year when many families gather together over a meal and give thanks, in Unitarian Universalism we often take time to think about a metaphorical guest at our table – a justice partner – and bringing resources and hope to that guest. The UU Service Committee's *Guest at Your Table* program says, "What does it mean to be a neighbor? Justice movements are born out of and sustained by community connection. When human rights and international aid are under attack, we must show up for all our neighbors, both locally and globally. UUSC's partners demonstrate what neighboring means in action, showing how community care transcends borders."

➤**SUN, 11/ 22, 2-4pm: <u>Intermediate Zentangle: Breaking the Rules</u> -** ***Community Room*** **<u>NEW DATE!</u>** This class is for anyone who has learned the basics of Zentangle. Now that we have those down, we're going to change it up and break the rules! Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum is the minister of UUCAV, but she's also a Certified Zentangle Teacher. For this workshop, she'll bring you some of the latest ideas from Zentangle learned at the "ZenAgain" conference and other places. This workshop requires registration, is limited to 12 people, and has a materials fee. Go to https://tinyurl.com/Zentangle201 for a registration link!



## ⩾ Upcoming ⩽

➤**<u>Congregational Potluck Thanksgiving</u> Thu Nov 26 at noon,** ***Fellowship Hall***
Contact Ellen Anthony with your willingness to help set up or clean up, what you'd like to bring, other details: ellenanthony@gmail.com This is not a public event.

➤**<u>Playing with Tarot! (SGCC)</u> - Fri, Nov 27, 7-9 pm,** ***Community Room***
Our gatherings combine discussions on tarot topics, reading introspectively for ourselves and each other, playing with our decks in unconventional ways, and group readings. Our gatherings focus on intuitive reading, not learning each card in the tarot. Telling ourselves that we're playing rather than learning puts us in a more relaxed mindset, which makes it easier to access our intuition. Bring your favorite tarot deck and see how fun tarot can be without the rules! No tarot experience required - extra decks are available for those without.