



May 23, 2021

## **Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva**

### **Today's Worship Team**

**Special Guest in the Pulpit:** Rev. Misha Sanders, Senior Minister at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Sandy Springs, Georgia

**Worship Associate:** Gail Tattersfield

**Musicians:** Michael Mackey, Linda O'Neill, Angela Salvaggione; Doria, Sophia & Cynthia Spiegel; Tom Zimmerman

**Technical Directors:** Jeff Stibal, Cari Gesiakowski, Jamie Carroll

### **Upcoming Services:**

**Sunday, May 30:** Guest-in-the-Pulpit: Julia Jones, "Diversity is Not the Point: Lessons from Tulsa"

**Sunday, June 6:** Rev. Scot Hull, **Pride** Sunday

*Come as you are.*

# Order of Worship

**Ringing the Bell** Elaina Hruby

## Call to Worship

**Prelude** "Fire, Fire, Fire," Cynthia R. Crossen

## Welcoming Words

**Opening Hymn** # 193 "Our Faith Is but a Single Gem," arr.  
Michael Mackey

Our faith is but a single gem upon a rosary of beads;  
the thread of truth which runs through them supports our varied  
human needs.

Confucian wisdom, Christian care, the Buddhist way of self-  
control,  
the Muslim's daily call to prayer are proven pathways to the goal.  
From many lips, in every age, the truth eternal is proclaimed  
by Western saint, and Eastern sage, and all the good, however  
named.

Beside the noblest of our race our lives as yet cannot compare:  
may we at length their truth embrace and in their sacred mission  
share.

**Chalice Lighting** Sam Gesiakowski & Elaina Hruby

## Song of Praise

Praise God, the Love we all may share;  
Praise God, the Beauty everywhere;  
Praise God, the Hope of Good to be;  
Praise God, the Truth that makes us free.

**Our Covenant** (written in 1842) Will Sapet

Being desirous of promoting practical goodness in the world,  
And of aiding each other in our moral and religious improvement,  
We have associated ourselves together -  
Not as agreeing in opinion,  
Not as having attained universal truth in belief  
Or perfection in character -  
But as seekers after truth and goodness.

## **Doxology**

From all that dwell below the skies  
Let faith and hope with love arise;  
Let beauty, truth, and good be sung  
Through every land by every tongue.

## **Passing the Peace**

### **Joys & Sorrows**

#### **Hymn # 123 "Spirit of Life"**

Spirit of Life, come unto me.  
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.  
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;  
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.  
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;  
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

**For All Ages Introduction:** Tom Lichtenheld

**For All Ages** "Du Iz Tak?"

### **Offertory**

### **Gratitude for the Offering**

### **Reading**

**Musical Response** "Yomma Mwel El Hawa" (Oh Mother, What Is With the Wind?), Palestinian folk song, arr. Wajdi Abou Diab

**Sermon** "Tongues of Fire! A Pentecost Sunday Sermon"

#### **Closing Hymn # 1028 "The Fire of Commitment"**

From the light of days remembered burns a beacon bright and clear  
Guiding hands and hearts and spirits Into faith set free from fear.

#### **Chorus:**

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul a blaze  
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way  
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within,  
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free,  
Calling pilgrims still to witness to the life of liberty.

Chorus

From the dreams of youthful vision comes a new, prophetic voice,  
Which demands a deeper justice built by our courageous choice

Chorus

### **Chalice Extinguishing and Unison Closing**

### **Benediction**

**Postlude** "Every Time I Feel the Spirit," African American Spiritual, arr.  
Angela Salvaggione

### **Community Announcements**

### **Talk Back and Coffee Hour Breakouts**

### **Contact Information**

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# Today & This Week at UUSG

[uusg.org/calendar](https://uusg.org/calendar)

## Sunday, May 23

- 9:00 am RE Class K-2
- 10:00 am Online Worship Service
- 11:15 am RE Class 3-5
- 11:15 am RE Class 6-8
- 11:15 am RE Class 9-12
- 2:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons Group
- 2:00 pm Social Justice Meeting

## Monday, May 24

- 9:00 am Pioneer Newsletter Deadline

## Tuesday, May 25

- 7:00 pm One Book One UUSG
- 7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting

## Wednesday, May 26

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am The Luncheonettes
- 7:00 pm The Shared Pulpit: Sermon Seminar
- 7:00 pm Facilities Team Meeting

## Thursday, May 27

- 1:00 pm Memoir Writing Group
- 7:00 pm Wine Down Thursday

## Friday, May 28

## Saturday, May 29

## Sunday, May 30

- 10:00 am Online Worship Service

**Can't find something? Need a little more information?** Check out our website at [uusg.org](https://uusg.org) and our calendar at [uusg.org/calendar](https://uusg.org/calendar).

**Our Congregational Administrator, Christine Imielski**, will be on vacation through Tuesday, June 1. Please send any Mini-Pioneer or Pioneer information to Lisa Rittenberry at [admin.assistant@uusg.org](mailto:admin.assistant@uusg.org).

# Announcements

**Summer Care and Conversation with Julia Jones** A joyful announcement! We are delighted to share that this summer we will have pastoral care and chaplaincy support from Julia Jones, Meadville Lombard Seminarian and spouse to Reverend Scot. Julia will be completing her Clinical Pastoral Education this summer and every hour that we make use of her compassionate ear will count towards the fulfillment of her educational requirements. For details or if you would like to schedule time with Julia, please reach out to her at [jjones@meadville.edu](mailto:jjones@meadville.edu).

**The For All Ages book today is "Du Iz Tak?,"** written and illustrated by Carson Ellis, published by Candlewick Press. Today's story reflects that of Pentecost, in that it is about language and comprehension. Just as the Holy Spirit filled the Apostles and gave them the ability to make sense of nonsense, "Du Iz Tak?" invites you to listen carefully, discerning inflection and visual information to understand what, on the surface, seems unintelligible. Using a story about the cycle of life, this book inventively reminds us to listen carefully so that everyone can be heard and to imagine the dramatic possibilities of two immense sources: communication and nature. Thanks to Candlewick Press for their permission to share the book today. When shopping for books, please patronize our local independent bookshops: Harvey's Tales, Townhouse Books, and Anderson's Bookshop. If you prefer to shop online, [Bookshop.org](http://Bookshop.org) allows your purchase to support the independent bookshop of your choice.

**May "Beyond Our Walls"** This month's BOW offering is for Lazarus House Homeless Shelter, which is both an **Emergency Shelter** and a **Center for Transitional Living** located in St. Charles. Serving as an Emergency shelter involves being open 24 hours on Monday through Saturday and 16 hours on Sunday. They make available 3 meals a day, shower and laundry facilities, and personal hygiene items. The Center for Transitional Living provides individual rooms as well as space for families to stay together. The staff creates case management plans with the goal of helping their guests attain permanent independence. In addition, Lazarus House has arranged for health care, tutoring, haircuts, credit counseling, employment services, and more. Please contact [socialjusticeleader@uusg.org](mailto:socialjusticeleader@uusg.org) to find out how you can volunteer to prepare meals or stay overnight to assist their staff. This month's donations will be split evenly, one-half goes to UUSG's fund for reimbursing our meal providers and one-half goes directly to Lazarus House programs.

**Announcing...Summer (In-Person) Events!** Please join us for Summer 2021 Family Ministry Events. Open to all, we hope you will join us. It would be great to see actual faces, and not just faces in Zoom boxes! We miss you and hope you can take advantage of one or more of these opportunities. Questions? Email Becky Hruby at [DRE@uusg.org](mailto:DRE@uusg.org).

**Sundays, 1-3pm, Dates and locations are:**

**June 13, Batavia Riverwalk, Batavia:** Meet at the playground. We can explore the Depot museum (if open), hang out at the playground, go for a stroll along the Fox River trail. We will end with a walk to the Batavia Creamery. UUSG will treat all members and friends to a cone. Nothing says summer like ice cream!

**July 18, Wheeler Park, Geneva:** Meet at the pavilion/playground area. Bring your frisbees for the free disc golf course if that's your thing. All youth will be treated by UUSG to a free round of mini golf. Bring money for the snack bar if desired. Enjoy the amenities: playground, trails, pavilion, shade and bathrooms.

**August 15, Pottawatomie Park, St. Charles:** Meet at the small playground across from the mini golf course, between the bathrooms and parking lot. While there, enjoy two shaded playgrounds, the Fox River Trail, pavilion, mini golf and snack bar. UUSG will pick up the tab on an ice cream at the snack bar.

**UUSG Group Gatherings on Third Street** We are thrilled to raise the tent once again. Our outdoor gathering place is up and available for use. Please keep in mind that some restrictions still apply and please adhere to those listed on the sign-up (required). [Please utilize the sign up](#) and let the safe gatherings begin. One small step for all of us...one giant step towards resuming some sense of normalcy!

**Time at Last! Our Walk in a Shakespeare Garden** Let's get together to talk about what goes into a Shakespeare garden. We'll meet for around an hour or so on **Monday, June 14, at 7pm** through [Zoom](#). Because this is our first meeting together, this is an opportunity to introduce each other and tell about what you would like to learn. Then as time permits, I'll provide a brief presentation about Shakespeare gardens, and include a discussion on the topic. To help us get started, I'll provide a list of online resources for you. For more information or questions: contact Rose Doreen Mace at [shakespeare@uusg.org](mailto:shakespeare@uusg.org).

**Wine Down Thursday** You are invited every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7pm, to Happy Hour. Next date is **May 27**. Bring your favorite beverage and enjoy the company of other UUs as we talk about anything and everything.

[Zoom Meeting](#) ID: 842 4179 6675.

**The Bible, and other sacred texts, can be challenging.** We'll be using the [Massachusetts Bible Society's What is the Bible?](#) as our study guide (purchase is not required). For a Bible, Rev. Scot recommends the "[Harper Collins Study Bible](#)" or the "[The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha.](#)" **We will meet on the 3rd Mondays of the month at 7pm, [the next meeting is June 21, on Zoom.](#)** Meeting ID: 881 0159 3697, Passcode: 215873. To be added to our email list, send a note to [office@uusg.org](mailto:office@uusg.org).

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Resources #5** "The beauty of antiracism is that you don't have to pretend to be free of racism to be an anti-racist. Anti-racism is the commitment to fight racism wherever you find it, including in yourself. And it's the only way forward." — Ijeoma Oluo. Where are you on the path to becoming antiracist? Have you actively taken advantage of the resources that the DEI has provided? If so, please let us know at [DEI@UUSG.org](mailto:DEI@UUSG.org). [More resources here.](#)

**Vaccinated? Let us know!** In the spirit of optimism and hope in our community we are keeping a running tally of how many of our members and friends have received the COVID-19 vaccine. So far, **we have 111 members vaccinated**, we are so looking forward to being together again! Please let us know at [admin.assistant@uusg.org](mailto:admin.assistant@uusg.org).

**The church building will remain closed through June** The re-opening task force is meeting on a more regular basis to determine a safe opening strategy. More news will be coming.

**June 5: Lazarus House** [Sign up here](#) to prepare lunches for 17, Dinner for 12. Contact [socialjusticeleader@uusg.org](mailto:socialjusticeleader@uusg.org) to find out more about staying overnight to assist staff in an emergency.

**HR40 Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act** Urge your Congressional Representative to vote for HR40. [Find contact information here.](#) This bill establishes the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans. The commission shall examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies.

The commission shall identify (1) the role of the federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery, (2) forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants, and (3) lingering negative effects of slavery on living African Americans and society. [Click here for text and actions.](#)