

Worship Service

Tibetan Bowl

Greetings and Opening Words

GOOD MORNING!

Let us gather together to enjoy the beauty and majesty of Nature and the glory of being together.

(OR select your own opening words.)

Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover. We are a lay-led congregation this year. We remind ourselves that the three key tasks of this spiritual community are:

- helping each other to find the truths in our lives and in the world;
- helping each other through the hard times and celebrating the good times;
- trying to leave this community and the world a better place for our having been here.

Prelude

Played by Brett Hinkel

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

(Ask a child to light the chalice and say to the Congregation) Please read together from your bulletin:

We light this chalice for the light of Truth, the warmth of Love, and the energy of Action.

OPENING HYMN: Please stand as you are able and join in singing our opening Hymn #

SHARING OF JOYS AND SORROWS

As is our tradition, all present are welcome to share a joy or a concern with the congregation as a pebble is dropped in the communal water while standing, or sitting, where you are seated.

May we take a moment to silently contemplate, meditate, or give a prayer for the joys and sorrows among all gathered, both spoken and unspoken. (Pause for a moment of silent contemplation.) May we find peace, wisdom, joy, and compassion along the way in our journeys. So may it be.

OR

At this time in our service we take a few moments to share what is in our hearts and on our minds. If there is an event in your life which moves you this morning to joy or sorrow, hope or gratitude, I invite you to come forward and share a few words with us while a pebble is dropped into the water .

(After sharing)

Let us remember to hold in our hearts the joys and sorrows of the whole company of humanity, whether they are spoken and shared or silent and solitary.

Moment of silence.

Story for All Ages or a Reading for All

_____ will read us a story for all ages. All who want to come forward for the reading should come up now.

OR

Please listen to the reading for all ages given by _____.

Sing Out the Children (Music from Hymn #301) Verse 2 sung twice

Now let us sing:

(Children leave to go to their classes.)

Touch the earth, reach the sky!
Children ask the reasons why.
In our lives the answers show,
And by our love they learn and grow.

ANTHEM

The choir will now sing: _____

READING/RESPONSIVE READING (optional)

OFFERTORY

Let there be an offering to help sustain our community and this place that both challenges and supports us and brings comfort and spiritual renewal to so many.

(Collection and Response)

From you I receive,
To you I give.
Together we share.
And from this we live.

SERMON/TALK

Today _____(include description if a visitor) will deliver a talk entitled _____.

FINAL HYMN: Please stand as you are able and join in singing Hymn # ____.

CLOSING WORDS

Now is the time for our community sending forth. We do not just leave this place. We are sent forth with the spirit of community within us to share with the world.

(OR select your own closing words)

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Announcements have been posted in the bulletin. Are there any additional short church announcements that need to be made now?

Welcoming Visitors

Are there any visitors who would like to introduce themselves at this time?

Please join us for coffee, refreshments and conversation served in this room.