



# Honoring the Beauty and Complexity of Mother's Day

**Sunday, May 12th, 2024**

**Led by Rev. Jason Lydon**

*We seek to create a vibrant, inclusive faith community.  
We envision a place of sanctuary and spiritual growth.  
Together, we aspire to build a just and compassionate world.*



# SUNDAY, May 12th, 2024

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>The Mother</i> by Brandi Carlile
<b>Welcome &amp; Announcements</b>	Carla Tebbe
<b>Call to Worship</b>	Ben
<b>Introit</b>	<i>Sending You Light</i> by Melanie DeMore
<b>Chalice Lighting</b>	Rev. Jason Lydon & Lumi
<b>Opening Hymn*</b>	<i>#91 Mother of All</i> by Alexander Pope, recast by Michael Young
<b>Words of Covenant*</b>	Ben

“We covenant to build a community that challenges us to grow and empowers us to honor the truth within ourselves. We will be generous with our gifts and honest in our communication, holding faithful to a love that embraces both diversity and conflict. Called by our living tradition, we will nurture spirituality within a vision of the eternal, living out our inner convictions through struggles for justice and acts of compassion.”

**Response\*** *#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.

**Time for All Ages** Brittany Morse & Rev. Jason Lydon

## **Singing the Children Out**

Go now in peace.

Go now in peace.

May the spirit of Love surround you

Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

**Invitation to Giving**                      Rev. Jason Lydon

**Offertory Words**                              Ben

“This church is the community of ourselves. Its energy and resources are our energy and resources. Its wealth is what we share. As we contribute to the life of this community, we affirm it and enable its participation in the larger world around us.”

**Offertory**    Improvisation

**Pastoral Prayer  
& Meditation**                                      Rev. Jason Lydon

**Candles of  
Joys & Concerns**                              *Leaning On the Everlasting Arms*  
by Elisha Hoffman

**Reading**    “Naming the Unnamable”  
by Rev. Jill Kirchner-Rose

**Reading**    “Awakening to the Divine Feminine”  
by Candise Soaring Butterfly

**Anthem**    *The Color Purple* by Allee Willis, Brenda Russel,  
and Stephen Bray

**Sermon**    “Honoring the Beauty & Complexity of Mother's  
Day” by Rev. Jason Lydon

**Closing Hymn\***                                      #100 *I've Got Peace Like a River* by Marvin Frey

**Benediction\***                                      Rev. Jason Lydon

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

## A Warm Welcome

We welcome you! As Unitarian Universalists, we offer a spiritual home for people who seek liberal religion in a caring community. We seek to create a community of connection to deepen our spiritual lives and share in the work to transform the world. Whoever you are, however, you arrived here, you are welcome. We look forward to getting to know you. *–Rev. Jason Lydon*

### Today's Worship Team

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Our worship today is led by Rev. Jason Lydon along with Ben as the Worship Associate. Music this morning is provided by guest artist Amanda Thomas and Director of Music, Carl Kennedy. 2U's tech team includes our Digital Media Producer, Joey LeBlanc along with Harris McKee, Dan Ashley, and Ricardo Rivera. We thank them all for their ongoing service.

### New Visitors

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We are delighted to welcome you to Second Unitarian Church of Chicago (2U), where we seek to create a vibrant, inclusive faith community. Finding a new community and making new connections can be challenging. Please know that we're excited to have you and look forward to getting to know you. If you're new to us today, please note that in the Zoom chat or mention it in person during Coffee Hour after the service.

### Kids & Families

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Our caring and qualified staff, along with dedicated volunteers, create a warm and nurturing environment for your infants and toddlers in the Green Caterpillar Room, just off the Palmer Room outside the sanctuary. Please check in at the Welcome Table, receive your child's name tag, and drop them off right before the service begins.

### Accessibility

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Earmuff-style noise canceling headphones for both adults and children are now available for use for services or events, as well as hearing assistance devices. Please see our tech team in the back of the Sanctuary for more info. Email [AIM@secondunitarian.org](mailto:AIM@secondunitarian.org) if you or someone you know would benefit from a braille copy of the Singing the Living Tradition hymnal.

## **Music at 2U**

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Music at Second Unitarian Church honors diverse backgrounds and traditions and is presented to give a viscerally spiritual experience. You are therefore welcome to engage and connect as the spirit moves you whether that be clapping and cheering or listening in quiet contemplation. Allow yourself to be stirred in body, mind, heart, and spirit.

## **Attendance**

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We consistently see great numbers each Sunday in-person at 2U and The Admiral at the Lake, as well as virtually on Zoom! Last Sunday, we had about 45 in attendance at First Unitarian in Hyde Park, 10 at The Admiral at The Lake, and 25 on Zoom! Together, we continue to create a warm and welcoming environment where everyone is valued and celebrated.

## **Your Life is Sacred & Valuable**

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If you need immediate support, please reach out. Here are phone numbers that may be helpful in times of need:

- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 988
- Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233
- Chicago Rape Crisis Hotline: 888-293-2080

## **Sharing Milestones**

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As occasions arise, we send out an email noting the important life passages of our members to our members, including births, deaths, illnesses, marriages, moves, graduations, and other milestones. If you would like to inform the congregation of an important event in your life, email [passages@secondunitarian.org](mailto:passages@secondunitarian.org) with the information you would like to include.

## Collection Plate Share

### May & June: Lighthouse Foundation

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Lighthouse Foundation of Chicagoland is a Black LGBTQ+ led, multiracial social justice organization that advances justice for Black LGBTQ+ people across Chicagoland through empowerment, education, and entertainment. Learn more at [lightfoundchi.org](http://lightfoundchi.org).

**Text Giving:** Text “Give” to 773-900-5669 to donate to our collection plate from your phone. When you text to this number for the first time, you will be prompted to enter your payment details.

Once you have given your information, simply text “Give,” and the dollar amount you wish to donate. *Please Note: this number is strictly for the collection plate and will not count toward your pledge.*

**Web Giving:** Pay one time or set up a recurring payment with your credit card or bank account by going to: [secondunitarian.breezechms.com/give/online](http://secondunitarian.breezechms.com/give/online).

## Announcements

### New Member Orientation – TODAY after service

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Thinking about becoming a member? 2U’s Spring Orientation is for those pursuing membership at Second Unitarian or wanting to know more about Unitarian Universalism, 2U history, getting involved, and governance. Part 3 of our 3-part series is today at 12pm in Fleishman and via Zoom.

### Visit the 2U Library TODAY!

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The 2U Library is open on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month with over 2,600 books to (literally) check out! Dive into a world of knowledge and adventure with our vast collection, covering everything from religion to philosophy, Paganism to cookbooks, and beyond! Feel free to self-checkout a book, and if you need assistance locating a specific title, simply whip out your cell phone and access our online catalog on our website under 'About,' then click on 'Our Library.' Happy reading!

## **2U Featured on PBS – May 14th**

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Tune in to PBS this Tuesday, May 14th at 8pm to watch our church featured on an episode of *The Express Way with Dulé Hill*. This docuseries explores the power of the arts. Led by renowned actor, dancer, and singer, Dulé Hill, the series captures diverse artists' stories from across America, celebrating community, humanity, and the transformative potential of creative expression. A portion of the Chicago episode was shot at 2U and features the music of Bassel and the Supernaturals. Don't miss out! After the broadcast, you can also stream the episode online at [pbs.org](https://www.pbs.org).

## **Senior Sack Lunch – May 15th**

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Do you consider yourself a “senior?” Then join us for our monthly brown bag lunch at the Admiral at the Lake, on the third Wednesday of each month, at 12pm. You may bring a dish to share, but most will find it easier to just bring their own meal, as our meeting place doesn't have a microwave, oven or stove. For more details, please email Dave Haeckel at [davehkl@yahoo.com](mailto:davehkl@yahoo.com) or call him at 312-307-8518.

## **Finance Town Hall – May 19th**

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As the giving campaign concludes, our mission continues. The Finance Committee will soon unveil a draft budget for our congregation's review during the Budget Town Hall on Sunday, May 19th at 12:15pm in the Sanctuary and on our regular Sunday Service Zoom link. This is your opportunity to gain valuable insights into the financial decisions shaping our congregation's future. It's a space to ask questions, delve into the rationale behind budgetary choices, and ensure that our spending reflects the core values.

## **Wise Older Women (WOW) Meeting – May 19th**

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Wise Older Women (WOW) actively supports and addresses the challenges associated with aging for women 60 and above. Our approach involves regular member check-ins and insightful presentations on topics relevant to older women. Join us for our upcoming meeting on Sunday, May 19th at 1pm via Zoom (link can be found on our website). For more details, please email [EileenMeyer@att.net](mailto:EileenMeyer@att.net).

## **Chicago Community Jail Support – May 20th**

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Join 2U's Social Justice Ministries as an on-the-ground volunteer with Chicago Community Jail Support, a daily grassroots mutual aid project to assist those being released from Cook County Jail. The next volunteer shift is on Monday, May 20th from 5:30-8pm, at 27th & California. Shared rides to and from can be arranged. Email [Eli@EliSander.com](mailto:Eli@EliSander.com) for more info and to join.

## **Article II Zoom Event – May 22nd**

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Are you curious about the core principles that guide Unitarian Universalist congregations worldwide? Do you seek to delve deeper into the values that shape our community and our actions? Then mark your calendars for an enlightening Zoom event where we'll explore and discuss Unitarian Universalist Article II. Stay tuned for more information and Zoom link.

## **Change in Church Entry – May 26th**

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Starting Sunday, May 26th, we will be utilizing the west entrance door as our primary entry and exit in anticipation of upcoming construction. This adjustment is necessary to ensure the smooth continuation of our activities while necessary improvements are made to our facilities. We understand that changes like these can sometimes be inconvenient, but please rest assured that we are taking every measure to minimize disruptions.

## **Family Choir is Back – June 2nd**

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The 2U Family Choir will return to perform on Sunday, June 2nd for the Children's Service (more info on that below). All ages and levels of experience are encouraged to participate. We will meet in the Sanctuary at 9am before the service on June 2nd, learn a couple of simple songs and perform in the service *that* day. This is a great opportunity to have fun with some great music and connect across generations through the power of singing. If you have questions, please reach out to Director of Music, Carl Kennedy at [MusicDirector@secondunitarian.org](mailto:MusicDirector@secondunitarian.org).



## **Children's Sunday Service – June 2nd**

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Join us Sunday, June 2nd for a heartwarming service led by our talented children! Our Sunday service will be a testament to youthful creativity and spiritual energy as the children take the helm, curating songs, readings, and more. Experience the joy and inspiration as they share their unique perspectives and gifts with our community. Don't miss this special service filled with innocence, wonder, and the boundless spirit of youth. All are welcome to join us for this unforgettable experience!

## **UU Parents Book Club – June 2nd**

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Brittany Morse invites you to join a book discussion group focusing on “Tending the Flame: The Art of Unitarian Universalist Parenting” by Michelle Richards on Sunday, June 2nd at 12:15pm in the 2U Library. Although this is a book about parenting, all are welcome to join! If you plan to participate, please acquire a copy of the book, or let Brittany know if you would like assistance locating one. An RSVP to Brittany Morse at [Brittany.Morse@gmail.com](mailto:Brittany.Morse@gmail.com) is helpful, but not required. Childcare will be provided.

## **“This I Believe” Service – June 23rd**

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On June 23rd, 2U will have a traditional "This I Believe" worship service to celebrate the plurality of religious beliefs we hold here at Second Unitarian. The sermon will be split into 4 parts, each delivered by a different member of 2U. Pip Paris will share a Pagan/Heathen perspective, we are looking for 3 other people with a diversity of other religious perspectives. If you might be interested in participating (writing and preaching coaching will be provided), please email Pip Paris ([pipollieparis@gmail.com](mailto:pipollieparis@gmail.com)) or Curtis Smith ([cmwright123@outlook.com](mailto:cmwright123@outlook.com)).

## **Stay Connected**

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Want to dive deeper into our community and keep up with the latest news, events, and announcements? Subscribe to our email updates for exclusive insights and timely reminders straight to your inbox. Plus, join the conversation on our social media platforms! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and subscribe to our YouTube channel to stay up-to-date on everything going on at 2U. Don't miss out on any of the excitement and inspiration – join us online and in-person to journey together! Visit us online at [SecondUnitarian.org/Stay-Connected](http://SecondUnitarian.org/Stay-Connected) for more information.

# Our Principles and Sources as UUs



## **We affirm and promote:**

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1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part;
8. Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

## **The living traditions we share draw from many sources:**

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1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
2. Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
3. Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
4. Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
5. Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
6. Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

*Learn more about what Unitarian Universalists believe:*  
[uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe](http://uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe)

# Our Symbols and History

## Land Acknowledgement

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2U resides on the traditional homelands of the Three Fires Confederacy: Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi. This region has long been a center for Indigenous people to gather, trade, and maintain kinship ties. Today, one of the largest urban American Indian communities in the United States resides in Chicago.

We acknowledge that settler colonialism is not just an event of the past but an ongoing reality that we commit to learn about and challenge. See Chi-Nations Youth Council or the American Indian Center of Chicago for more info.



## Our Logo

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We incorporate two powerful symbols into our identity: the flaming chalice emblem of Unitarian Universalism and the historic anvil once owned by our founding minister, Rev. Robert Collyer.

Rev. Collyer's journey from a humble blacksmith's apprentice in Yorkshire, England, to his pivotal role in our congregation is a testament to the rich tapestry of our history. In an era where most Unitarian preachers hailed from privileged backgrounds, Rev. Collyer's working-class roots resonated deeply with our early members. This connection led them to acquire his cherished Yorkshire anvil, a poignant relic that endured the ravages of the Chicago fire, symbolizing resilience, and continuity.

During WWII, the Unitarian Service Committee adopted the flaming chalice as a beacon of hope and solidarity for those fleeing persecution. This symbol transcends religious boundaries, embodying the spirit of sharing and universal love. Its flame symbolizes not only power but also the resilience necessary to withstand adversity, offering solace in times of turmoil and strife.

Seymour Fleishman's original logo, updated by Ellen Rockett, captures the essence of our values. The chalice adorning our chancel was crafted by Libby Harvey-Hill. Lew Harding's skillful construction of the wood pedestal and anvil cabinet completes this tribute, showcasing the talents and dedication of our community.

## Connect With Us

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