## Returning to Love at its Source

Lydia Patrick, Worship Leader
Bob Patrick, Worship Associate
Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, Minister
Christiana Fernandez-McQuain, Coordinator of Family Ministries
Michael & Rebecca Parker, Choir Directors
Stephen Pyle, Pianist
Sunday, August 10, 2025

Prelude Slides Making Our Dreams Come True/By My Side Charles Fox/

Peggy Gordon

Gathering Music #131 Love Will Guide Us Sally Rogers

**Welcome and Centering** 

Call to Worship\Chalice Lighting You Have Come Rev. Bob Janis-Dillon

Wonder Box Wisdom Invited

**Reading** There Connie Simon

Anthem Side by Side Lea Morris

**Homily** Primary Sources Lydia Patrick

Music for Reflection Love Reaches Out

**Community Prayer - Returning to Love** 

Hymn #402 From You I Receive Joseph & Nathan Segal

**Sharing Our Gifts** Offering shared with Mosaic of Georgia

Offertory Every Road Leads Back to You Diane Warren

Gratitudes

**Call to Connection** 

Hymn Side by Side (Reprise) Lea Morris

Closing Words The Home That Love Made Rev. Amanda Poppei

**Extinguishing Our Chalice** Elizabeth Selle Jones (adapted)



### **UUCG Beyond Sunday Morning**

#### **Events This Week**

\* in-person + online ~ off-site

\*+ Today at 12:30pm: Belief Explorers

\* Tue., Aug. 12 at 7:00pm: Choir Rehearsal

\* Thur., Aug. 14 at 6:30pm: Music Night

\* Sat., Aug. 16 at 9:00am: UUCG Men's Group

#### **Belief Explorers**

This week's August Belief Explorers is going to be a fun chat about what Plurality means to us as UUs. We'll kick things off by defining what Plurality is, and then explore what it's not. After that, we'll dive into what our group thinks about it all!

### **Thinking About Faith**

We all find our own way to faith and our own way of understanding what it means. What was your path like and how has it shaped the way it fills your life? Use the space below to write out your thoughts:

#### **UU Values**

As Unitarian Universalists, we draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building six values with Love at the center. Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

**Interdependence:** We honor the interdependent web of all existence.

**Pluralism:** We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.

**Justice:** We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.

Transformation: We adapt to the changing world.

**Generosity:** We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

**Equity:** We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion.





# A Brief History of Faith in the United States

The United States was founded on principles of religious freedom, attracting diverse religious groups, including Protestants seeking refuge from religious persecution in Europe. Throughout much of American history, Christianity, particularly Protestantism, held a dominant position in the nation's religious landscape.

The 19th and 20th centuries saw significant growth in religious affiliation, with church membership and attendance increasing, particularly among white Americans. The post-World War II era saw a further surge in religious involvement, with church attendance and faith playing a role in social life and national identity.

In recent decades, the percentage of Americans identifying as Christian has been declining, with a corresponding increase in those identifying as religiously unaffiliated (atheists, agnostics, and those with no religion). While Christianity remains the largest faith, other religions, including Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism, have seen growth, contributing to a more diverse religious landscape.