

# **We Belong to Each Other!**

## **UUCG Ingathering 2025**

**Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, Worship Leader**

**Ian Van Sice, Worship Associate**

**Christiana Fernandez-McQuain, Coordinator of Family Ministries**

**Michael & Rebecca Parker, Choir Directors**

**Kathee Tomlin, Guest Pianist**

**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

|                                  |                                                                     |                                                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Prelude</b>                   | <b><i>Rainy Window</i></b>                                          | D. C. Burke                                                           |
| <b>Singing #360</b>              | <b><i>Here We Have Gathered</i></b>                                 | Words: Alicia Carpenter<br>Music: Genevan psalter                     |
| <b>Welcome and Centering</b>     |                                                                     | Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones                                               |
| <b>Spirit Stones Ritual</b>      |                                                                     |                                                                       |
| <b>Call to Worship</b>           | <b><i>Belonging: Remembering Ourselves Home</i></b>                 | Toko-pa Turner                                                        |
| <b>Chalice Lighting</b>          | <b><i>The Spirit of Water</i></b>                                   | Katie Sivani Gelfand                                                  |
| <b>Wonder Box Wisdom</b>         | <b><i>Coming Home</i></b>                                           | Christiana Fernandez-McQuain                                          |
| <b>Music for Reflection</b>      | <b><i>On Golden Pond</i></b>                                        | Dave Grusin, arr. Philip Keveren                                      |
| <b>Reflection</b>                | <b><i>Our Shared Vessel</i></b>                                     | Ian Van Sice                                                          |
| <b>Anthem</b>                    | <b><i>Hallelujah</i></b>                                            | Karisha Longaker<br>and Sarah Nutting                                 |
| <b>The Water Ceremony</b>        | <b><i>Our River Will Never Run Dry</i></b>                          |                                                                       |
| <b>Singing #1064</b>             | <b><i>Blue Boat Home</i></b>                                        | Words: Peter Mayer<br>Music: Roland Hugh Prichard, arr. Jason Shelton |
| <b>Sharing Our Gifts</b>         | Offering shared with <i>Mosaic Georgia</i>                          |                                                                       |
| <b>Offertory</b>                 | <b><i>By a Sylvan Lake</i></b>                                      | William Gillock                                                       |
| <b>Gratitudes</b>                | <b><i>For the Launch of the 2026 Pledge Drive ... and More!</i></b> |                                                                       |
| <b>Call to Connection</b>        |                                                                     |                                                                       |
| <b>Singing #1007</b>             | <b><i>There's a River Flowin' in My Soul</i></b>                    | Words and music: Rose Sanders                                         |
| <b>Closing Words</b>             | <b><i>We Belong to Each Other!</i></b>                              | Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones                                               |
| <b>Extinguishing Our Chalice</b> |                                                                     | Elizabeth Selle Jones (adapted)                                       |

---

+Our plate is shared 50/50 with the quarterly plate recipient and UUCG.  
Please make checks payable to UUCG and indicate on the memo line if the check is for your  
annual pledge contribution or today's plate recipient



## UUCG Beyond Sunday Morning

### Directions for UUCG's Water Ceremony 2025

1. Please bring to the service a small container of water from home, your travels, or another source.

2. Read through the descriptions of the Directions and choose the one that holds the most meaning for you right now:

\* **East:** New beginnings, birth, creation, inspiration; Direct experiences of transcending mystery that open our hearts and renew our spirits

\* **South:** Emotions, trust, faith, passion, playfulness, vulnerability; Sacred, secular, and scientific understandings that help us make meaning

\* **West:** Abundance, harvest, maturity, strength, transformation; The diversity which enriches our faith by which we are enlivened

\* **North:** Clarity, wisdom, death, silence, peacefulness; The religious ancestries we inherit

3. Please pour your water into the pitcher for the Direction you have chosen. You can add your water to the pitcher before the service begins, during the Prelude, during the Music for Reflection, or during the Anthem.

4. From the stack beside the pitcher, please take a colored index card (and a pen, if needed).

5. Back at your seat, please write LEGIBLY on the index card:

\* Source of your water: \_\_\_\_\_ [examples: home, kitchen faucet, garden hose, place you visited, UUCG bathroom, ...].

\* My water belongs in the \_\_\_\_\_ [Direction you have chosen] because it represents \_\_\_\_\_ [examples: something you have experienced; something you have learned; something that is most alive or present in your life right now; something you are bringing to this congregation this year]

6. When you are done, please pass your card toward the center aisle.

All ages are welcome to participate!



### 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.



### Events This Week

\* in-person + online ~ off-site

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| * <b>Today at 12:30pm:</b>   | <b>Potluck Lunch</b>       |
| * <b>Today at 12:30pm:</b>   | <b>Love in Action Expo</b> |
| * <b>+ Today at 12:30pm:</b> | <b>Sharing the Journey</b> |
| + Mon., Sep. 8 at 7:00pm:    | Covenant Group A           |
| * Tues., Sep. 9 at 7:00pm:   | Choir Rehearsal            |
| * Wed., Sep. 10 at 7:00pm:   | Covenant Group B           |
| + Thur., Sep. 11 at 10:00am: | Covenant Group C           |
| * Thur., Sep. 11 at 6:30pm:  | Music Night                |
| * Fri., Sep. 12 at 7:00pm:   | QUest Jr. D&D              |
| * Sat., Sep. 13 at 9:00am:   | Learning Tarot             |
| * Sat., Sep. 13 at 9:00am:   | UUCG Men's Group           |
| * Sat., Sep. 13 at 1:30pm:   | David Morgen Ordination    |

### Celebrating Ingathering

Ingathering is celebrated in Unitarian Universalist congregations to mark the beginning of a new congregational year in the fall. Other rituals celebrated in the first worship service of the year can include Water Communion, where congregants bring small amounts of water from places of significance to them and combine them together while sharing something about the meaning it holds.

Themes often used in ingathering rituals include: interconnectedness, reunion; re-gathering; re-covenanting as a community of faith; hospitality; returning home to the church community that holds us; hope; looking forward with excitement to church year. The service may be intergenerational in whole or in part

- by Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, "Ingathering 2020"