

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
January 12, 2025 10:30 a.m.

Chimes Sebastian Glaspey

Organ Prelude *Invention I* by J. S. Bach

Welcome Holly Begley

Call to Worship by Rebekah Savage Rev. Beau Rivers

Hymn* #170 *We Are a Gentle, Angry People*

Unison Reading - Covenant Statement Holly Begley
Creating a caring community is the promise of our church. To listen deeply, show compassion, build trust, and honor our differences: these things we covenant together.

Chalice Lighting Sebastian Glaspey

Chalice Lighting Response
May We Shine a Light of Love (See back cover)

Musical Offering Chalice Choir
Give Us Hope by Jim Papoulis

Message for All Ages Kelly Lownds
Wisp: A Story of Hope by Zana Fraillon

Children's Recessional *(Children leave at this time.)*
Children's Blessing (See back cover)

Meditation Rev. Beau
Quiet Moments by Linda Hart

Moment of Silence

Hymn* #391 *Voice Still and Small*

Reading Holly Begley
Bridge Builders by L. R. Knost

Responsive Reading by Julia Corbett-Hemeyer (*See insert*)
Holly Begley and Rev. Beau

Sermon *Hope in the Dark* **Rev. Beau Rivers**

Offertory *Simple Gifts* American Folk, set by John Carter
The Cash in the Plate this morning will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

Hymn* #348 *Guide My Feet*

Closing Words by William Cowper **Rev. Beau**

Extinguish the Chalice **Rev. Beau**

Postlude *Sicut Cervus* by Jason Shelton

Announcements **Holly Begley**

Joys and Concerns **Rev. Beau**

Pastoral Response

Silent Meditation

Sung Benediction *Go Your Way in Peace (See back cover)*

**Please stand.*

Thank you to all who helped with today's service:

<i>Greeters:</i>	<i>Rick Benard and Linda Thompson</i>
<i>Worship Associate:</i>	<i>Holly Begley</i>
<i>Sound:</i>	<i>Stephen Larrett</i>
<i>Live Streaming:</i>	<i>Cate Vanzant</i>
<i>Coffee Hour Host:</i>	<i>Andrea Priest</i>

Music Notes

Kudos to the Chalice Choir for singing "Give Us Hope" by Jim Papoulis. This song is from the project SOUNDS OF A BETTER WORLD = small voices calling, a series of songs focusing on children, which examines their world and how small steps can be made to improve it.

Our Mission:

To create and sustain a welcoming and caring community that embodies our UU principles, inspires spiritual growth without dogma or creed, and promotes and serves racial and social justice.

Church Website Address:
<https://uumiddleboro.org>

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Earth Advocates

This week we will make an earth work family compost bin for the church. We will consider placement in the church yard and consider how to care for it year-round.

Nursery During the Worship Service

Niko Pucillo-Dunphy and Jesse Hoyle offer child care during the church service. Please feel free to bring your infants and toddlers to have fun with Niko and Jesse while you are in the sanctuary participating in the service.

Youth Group

Youth Group is for children 6th grade and up. We will be meeting at least once a month in the new year. We are hoping to create an interfaith program that can be shared with the church. We meet next on Sunday, January 26, at 12:00 noon in the Parish Hall.

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration

CHALICE LIGHTING RESPONSES:

May We Shine a Light of Love

Words & Music by Joyce Poley

May we shine a light of love, May we shine a light of love,
With ev'ry thought, With ev'ry step we take
May we shine a light of love.

Rise Up, O Flame (#362)

Words: Anonymous; Music: Christoph Praetorius

Rise up, O flame, by thy light glowing,
Show to us beauty, vision, and joy.

CHILDREN'S CALL TO R.E. CLASSES:

Children's Blessing

by First UU Nashville Youth Choir

May your mind be open to new learning.
May your lips bring truth into the world.
May your heart know love, and your hands do the work of justice,
as you go your way in peace,
as you go your way in peace.

Go Now in Peace (#413)

Words & Music by Natalie Sleeth

Go now in peace, Go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you everywhere,
Everywhere you may go.

SUNG BENEDICTIONS:

Go Lifted Up (#1057 teal hymnal)

Words & Music by Mortimer Barron

Go lifted up, Love bless your way,
moonlight, starlight guide your journey into peace
and the brightness of day.

Go Your Way in Peace

by Mozart/Jim Scott

Go your way in peace, wander as you may,
Blessed is the path you take: may love guide you on your way.