



September 13, 2026

Order of Service

Together, we nourish souls, transform lives, and do justice to build the Beloved Community.

Co-Worship Leaders: Rev. Chris Jimmerson, Tomas Medina, John Scott, and Margaret Borden

Music Director: Brent Baldwin

Lay Leader: Margret Borden

Caring Companion: Toni Wegner

Please feel free to light candles to mark sacred moments at any time before the service or any of the times in the service designated by an asterisk below.

- *Prelude: "Invention N.8 in F major" (JS Bach) - Valeria Diaz, piano
- Welcome: Rev. Chris Jimmerson
- Lighting the Chalice (in unison): ***This is the flame we hold in our hearts as we strive for justice for everyone. This is the light we shine upon systems of oppression until they are no more. This is the warmth that we share with one another as our struggle becomes our salvation.***
- Call to Worship: "Bringing Conflict to the Table" (Amanda Doyle) - Margaret Borden
- Hymn: #360 (gray hymnal) "Here We Have Gathered"
- Affirming Our Mission (in unison): ***Together we nourish souls, transform lives, and do justice to build the Beloved Community.***
- Anthem: "We Just Disagree" (Jim Krueger) - Jordan Price, lead vocal; Brent Baldwin, guitar & backing vocal; Noah Reinhuber, backing vocal; Efrain Davila, bass guitar; Rachel Fuhrer, drums

- Time for All Ages: Music Activity with Christina Tannert
- *Meditation on Breathing:

When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.
- Monthly Service Offering: Drive a Senior - Margaret Borden
- Offertory: "Minuet in G minor" (Christian Petzold)
- Reading: "Approaching Conflict Like a Poem" (Tania Y Márquez) - Margaret Borden
- Centering
- Music for Meditation: "Dig" (Incubus) - Noah Reinhuber, vocals; Valeria Diaz, piano
- Sermon: "Can Conflict Be Good?" - Tomas Medina, John Scott, and Margaret Borden
- Hymn: #354 (gray hymnal) "We Laugh, We Cry" (verses 1 & 4 only)
- Extinguishing the Chalice (*in unison*): ***We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we hold in our hearts until we are together.***
- Benediction
- *Postlude: "Nocturne Op. 54 N.4" (Edvard Grieg) - Valeria Diaz, piano

Living Love...and Building Our Dreams

Did you know?

The UUA recently moved our church into the same category as many churches in East coast cities in terms of cost of living increases for staff working in Austin.

Commitment Sunday is coming on September 20th!

The funds we raise through our 2027 pledge drive, “Living Love-Building Our Dreams”, are necessary for us to continue offering vital programs that support the spiritual, ethical, and social growth of everyone in our congregation. From uplifting worship services and inspiring music, to our commitment to social justice and pastoral care, your pledge sustains the life-changing work we do together.

In order to sustain our church, we have increased our pledge goal for the first time in 3 years by \$60,000. This seems like a big increase but is less than the inflation rate for the past 3 years. The majority of this increase will be used to pay our staff a fair living wage.

Your commitment is the lifeblood of our congregation and ensures that our church can be a source of hope, strength, and service NOW when the need is so high and the work so necessary.

On September 20, Commitment Sunday, we ask you to make your pledge commitment for 2027. Please be on the lookout for an email from First UU on Thursday, September 17, for more details.

To the Parents of Young Children, May We Suggest:

Relax! Nature made children to wiggle, so don't feel the need to suppress the fullness of their humanity in this sacred place.

Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little one to see what's going on.

Quietly explain the parts of the service to them, letting them know when it is time to sit in quiet reverence and when they should sing enthusiastically!

If you have to step out with your child, please feel free, but do come back. We love to see all ages in our sanctuary. Please know that we do have a "comfort room" at the back of the sanctuary where you can still hear and see the service and be comfortable with your child. (But that's for your comfort, not ours!)

To the Members of Our Church: The presence of children is a gift to our faith community and a reminder that our church is growing. Please be welcoming and give grace for how they exist in the world. This is how we will continue to grow a loving and beautiful community centered on love.

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to communities of faith, religious exploration, experiences of the Divine, and to one another.