

**FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BROOKLYN**

A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

WHOEVER YOU ARE

Whoever you are
Whomever you love
Wherever you are on your life journey
You are welcome here.

SONG OF HOPE

From all that dwell below the skies
Let songs of hope and faith arise.
Let peace, good will on earth be sung
Through every land by every tongue.

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

F F/A B_b F F F/A Gm⁷ C

We bless you on your jour-ney through from shel-tering arms to the wide sky blue. In your

Dm C/E F Gm⁷ Am⁷ B_b F/A B_b/C F

joy - ful jumps and your sad times too, you bless us by be - ing you.

SONG OF HOPE FOR JAZZ SUNDAY

Dm C/E F Gm⁷ Am⁷ B_b F/A B_b/C F

From all that dwell be-low the skies Let songs of hope and faith a - rise

Dm C/E F Gm⁷ Am⁷ B_b F/A B_b/C F

Let peace, good-will on Earth be sung Through ev -'ry land by ev -'ry tongue

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

Read Responsively:

Blessed is the fire of our faith,
and the chalice of our community;

***Blessed is the living tradition that is carried
forward in our work and in our love***

Blessed is the transient flame we kindle here;

***Blessed is the illuminated moment
of our gathering.***

Blessed is the light of the eternal;

***Blessed is the sacred call of life to which
we give ourselves in answer.***

February 1, 2026

That Great Strong Land of Love

Welcome to First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn, where we are exploring the themes of *prayer* and *grief* through words, music, silence, prayer, and community.

Gathering ♪ Gathering Music

During this gathering time, let's sing together, creating warm, sacred space. We stand, sit, and dance as we feel moved, and we may light candles to bring our private prayers into the sanctuary.

- ♪ **One More Step** (#168)
- ♪ **Whoever You Are** (inside cover)
- Chalice Lighting** (inside cover)
- ♪ **Song of Hope** (inside cover)
- Greeting**

Deepening Wisdom Story

Children's Blessing & Recessional

Offering

- ♪ **Wake, Now, My Senses** by Words: Thomas Mikelson
Music: Traditional Irish melody

Reading | Let America be America Again by Langston Hughes

Silent Meditation

Community Prayer

Candle Lighting

Connecting ♪ *National Anthem: Arise! Arise!* By Jean Rohe

arr. Liam Robinson, Adam Podd, and Matt Podd

Announcements

- ♪ **Joy in the Morning** by Adam Podd (insert)

Benediction

D. = 48 Smoothly, Unison

1. One more step, we will take one
 2. One more word, we will say one
 3. One more prayer, we will say one
 4. One more song, we will sing one

more step, 'til there is peace for us and
 more word, 'til ev - ery word is heard by
 more prayer, 'til ev - ery prayer is shared by
 more song, 'til ev - ery song is sung by

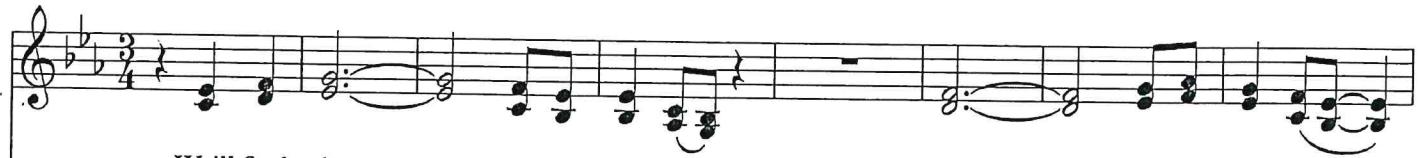
ev - ery - one, we'll take one more step.
 ev - ery - one, we'll say one more word.
 ev - ery - one, we'll say one more prayer.
 ev - ery - one, we'll sing one more song.

 Words & music: Joyce Poley, 1941- , © 1986 Joyce Poley,
 harmony by Grace Lewis-McLaren, 1939- , © 1992 Unitarian Universalist
 Association

ONE MORE STEP
 Irregular

JOY IN THE MORNING

by ADAM PODD



We'll find joy_____ in the mor-nin'
We find hope_____ in our chil-dren
We find strength_____ in each - oth - er
There is love_____ all a - round us

Joy_____ in the mor-nin'
Hope_____ in our chil-dren
Strength_____ in each - oth - er
Love_____ all a - round us



Joy_____ in the mor-nin'
Hope_____ in our chil-dren
Strength_____ in each - oth - er
Love_____ all a - round us

In the mor-nin' we'll find joy.
In our chil-dren we find hope
In each - oth - er we find strength
All a - round us there is love.



Worship Leader Rev. Micah C. Ma

Wisdom Story Amanda Rinzel

Music Director Adam Podd

Announcements Tyrone Davis, Jr., Membership Coordinator

Our Lay Worship Leader is Octavia Findley

Our Lay Pastoral Minister is ET Boyle

Our Livestream Producer is Justin Parkinson

Our Online Host is Yvonne Garrett, Intern Minister

Our Connections Table Host is Brian Elig

NOTES:

Mystical reading attributed to the Talmud

MUSIC NOTES:

We are thrilled and honored to have singer-songwriter **Jean Rohe** join us this morning for the New York City premiere of a new choral arrangement of her “aspirational alternative national anthem,” *Arise! Arise!* — created with Adam Podd and Matt Podd.

Today in Religious Education:

Nursery, Toddler, Pre-K / 11 AM-12:30 PM. Drop off anytime in the 50 Monroe Classroom. Pick up after the service.

Grades K-3: Children's Chapel: Pluralism, McKinney Chapel

The children will begin in the Sanctuary and exit during the Children's

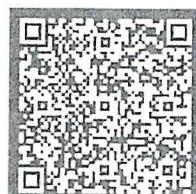
Recessional, proceeding directly to the McKinney Chapel. Pick up is at 12:30 from the Chapel.

Grades 4-5: OWL - 11:00-12:30, Frances White Room

Grades 6-7: *Building Bridges – Third Floor Teen Room

Grades 8-9: *Coming of Age – 11:00-12:30, Library

Grades 10-12: HS Youth Group – 12:30-1:30, Third Floor Teen Room



Registration is Open and Ongoing! Use the QR code to register your child today! Your child/children must be registered in order to participate in our programs.

**Building Bridges and Coming of Age are subject to change*

All are welcome at fellowship in the undercroft, following the service.

Notice of Congregational Meeting:

Sunday, February 22nd, 12:45 PM in the Sanctuary.

Documents, including the agenda, will be made available on our website, fuub.org, as they become available. All are invited. Only members of the congregation in good standing may vote. *Members must have signed the membership book at least 60 days before the meeting and completed a current year pledge form.* If you are unsure of your voting status, please contact Tyrone Davis, Jr. (tyrone@@firstbrooklyn.org)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Today at First Unitarian:

❖ **Poetry of Devotion and Doubt, Today, 12:45 -2:15 PM**

January marks the beginning of a new year, and a new year is often a time of deep reflection and thoughts about change. We will continue looking at poetry of faith and doubt. Daniel Walters will lead off with poems from George Herbert and Algernon Charles Swinburne. Participants are invited to bring poems written by others and themselves. All are welcome. Contact Beth Evans (beth.evans.is@gmail.com) with any questions. In the Library.

❖ **Queer Community @ First U, Today, 12:45 PM-2:15 PM**

Please join us today from 12:45-2:15 in the Frances White. We meet every First Sunday of the month. Newcomers are always welcome! For more information, to join, or to share an event please email (queercommunity-admin@firstbrooklyn.org)

❖ **DRE Search Committee Meets Today, 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM**

We are beginning the process of hiring a **Director of Religious Education (DRE)**. It is an open meeting today in the Eastman Room. All are welcome.

Share the Plate February: The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota



The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota enhances opportunities for immigrants and refugees through free immigration legal representation for low-income individuals, and through education and advocacy with diverse communities.

Donations to First Unitarian are received with gratitude. Scan the QR code to the left to be taken directly to our online portal. Checks to First Unitarian or cash may be dropped in the offering plate. Thank you for your generosity.

Looking Forward:

❖ **Newcomer Orientation, Sunday, February 8, 12:45PM**

Join our Membership Coordinator, Tyrone Davis, Jr., for this introduction to Unitarian Universalist theology and history. We will meet in the library.

❖ **Chalice Circle, 6 Weekly Zoom Sessions Beginning Tomorrow, Monday, February 2nd, 6:30 - 8:00 PM.**

Session dates; 2/2, 2/9, 2/23, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16 (no meeting 2/16)

Join facilitator Yvonne Garrett, Intern Minister, for this second series exploring our shared Unitarian Universalist theology. We will follow a covenant group model, starting with a chalice lighting, check-in, opening reading or video, and discussion questions.

Each member of the group will be given equal time to respond before moving to a more open discussion. We will practice listening deeply to each other as we explore the UU Values.

Limited to 10 people. **Contact Yvonne (yvonne@firstubrooklyn.org). The Zoom link will be sent to all those registered prior to our first meeting.**

❖ **First U Book Club: We will meet on zoom on February 12 at 7 pm.**

We are reading ***The God of Small Things*** by Arundhati Roy. We meet the second Thursday of each month. In March we are reading ***The Wren, The Wren*** by Anne Enright. Please contact Langdon Holloway (l.a.holloway35@gmail.com) to receive the zoom link. All welcome.

❖ **First Unitarian Women's Retreat, March 20-22, 2026**

LAST CALL for interest in our First U **March 20-22 retreat** where we nourish ourselves and our community at the Stony Point Center in the Hudson Valley. The cost of the retreat is \$190 and covers food and lodgings. Scholarship support will be available. Please email the WLA board if you'd like to join us or would like to know more! judithsdts@gmail.com.

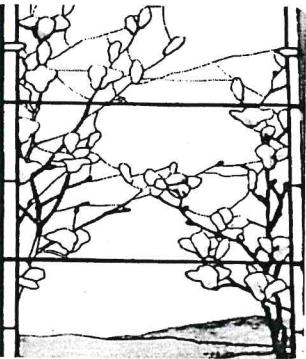


❖ **The Social Justice Committee is still sponsoring a weekly food collection.**

We seek shelf-stable donations of food items in cans, plastic, or cartons—***no glass please***—that we'll bring to the community food pantry at our neighbor, First Presbyterian. Look for the donation basket in the vestibule as you enter the church. Items of all kinds, including cereals, pasta, sauces, canned fruit and vegetables, Parmalat, and more, are very well received.

Please be respectful of the scent free area below the west balcony.

Choose another area of the Sanctuary if you use perfumes, scented soaps, essential oils or scented laundry supplies.



The First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn is a joyful, loving, religious community that inspires and empowers people to Grow spiritually, Care for one another, and Work for social justice and stewardship of the earth.

Unitarian Universalist Values and Covenant

As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our Association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our **shared values**. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

Our congregation is located on a hill near a place where two waterways join and empty into the Atlantic Ocean.

We honor with gratitude the land and the Lenape people who cared for it through many generations. We acknowledge the contributions and experiences of Native peoples, and in tribute to them, pay homage, and strive to learn how to be in better relationship with the earth we all inhabit.

In order to reduce our use of paper, this order of service cover is re-used. If there's information you need, feel free to take it with you, otherwise, please leave it in your pew.

To protect our historic building, please refrain from bringing food into the Sanctuary. Liquids in closed containers are welcome.

At First U, it's very important to us that we care for one another.

After the service a member of our Caring Ministry will be in the Chapel of All Faiths. If you are going through a hard time or if you are concerned about someone else, we invite you to come and connect with them. We very much want to hear from you.

Donations to First Unitarian are received with gratitude.

Scan the QR code to the left to be taken directly to our online portal.

Checks or cash may be dropped in the offering plate.

Thank you for your generosity.



FIRST UNITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY

CONGREGATION ORGANIZED IN 1833



BUILDING DEDICATED IN 1844

CLERGY & STAFF

Rev. Micah C. Ma, micah@firstubrooklyn.org
Interim Senior Minister

Adam Podd, adam@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Music

Wendy Russell, wendy@firstubrooklyn.org
Congregational Administrator & RE Assistant

Renee Strickland, renee@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Facilities

John McKeown, john@firstubrooklyn.org
Building Engineer

Bobby Blackman, bobby@firstubrooklyn.org
Sexton

Tyrone Davis, Jr. tyrone@firstubrooklyn.org
Membership Coordinator

Becky Huffman, becky@firstubrooklyn.org
Interim RE Coordinator & RE Council Chair

Sean Sellers, sean@firstubrooklyn.org
Youth Coordinator

Yvonne Garrett, yvonne@firstubrooklyn.org
Intern Minister

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Office Hours:

Sunday 9:00-2:00 / Monday by appt
Tues - Wed - Thurs |10:00 am-4:00 pm
Office Closed Friday & Saturday

OFFICERS

Anne Calder & Mark Weiss
Co-Presidents, Board of Trustees

Trustees:

Vicki Antonini, Michele Ascione,
Barbara Bornmann, Luke Messina,
Amanda Nietzel, Jake Powell

Sarah Morgan | *Clerk of the Society*

Lee Pardee | *Treasurer*

James Goward | *Moderator*

Deacons:

Robert Bero, Thomas Check, Liz Davis,
Beth Evans, Patrick Gunn, Laurel Lesio-
Eisenstadt, Edwin Lord, Lee Pardee,
Nancy Wolf

Senior Deacon: Constance Newsom

Music Director Emeritus: William Peek

Bert Eisenstadt *Children's Music Director*

Phylisa St. Fleur *Nursery Caregiver*

Ruby Stackhouse *Nursery Caregiver*

EMAIL: info@firstubrooklyn.org

WEB: www.fuub.org

INSTAGRAM: FirstUBrooklyn

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FACEBOOK:

First Unitarian Universalist Society in Brooklyn

GIVE BY TEXT (855) 799-2543