



May 16, 2021

*Practicing Grace  
Re-Storying Our Lives*

Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church  
Founded in 1821

Celebrating Diversity, Encouraging Spiritual Growth,  
and Promoting Social Responsibility

Please visit [www.A2U2.org](http://www.A2U2.org) to learn more about us!

# Order of Service

**GATHERING MUSIC** Dale Churchill, Dir. of Music

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING MUSIC** *Gaelic Tune* Dale Churchill, Dir. of Music

## **RINGING OF THE BELL**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *\*Invitation to Join the Journey* Rev. Lyn Cox

**OPENING HYMN** *\*#145 As Tranquil Streams* Singer: Terri Grover

**LIGHTING THE CHALICE** *\*Work in Commitment and Love* Rev. Viola Abbitt

**TIME FOR ALL AGES** *Advice from the Flowers* Emily C. Jones, Dir. of Religious Education

**ANTHEM** *Down in the River to Pray* A2U2 Choir and Dale Churchill, Dir. of Music

**PRAYER/MEDITATION** *\*We Are One* Rev. Dr. Hope Johnson

## **LIVE JOYS and SORROWS**

[Because of the private nature, joys and sorrows are not recorded for YouTube]

**MUSICAL RESPONSE** *\*\*We Begin Again in Love* The Rev. Jessica Star Rockers  
Words - Robert Eller-Isaacs Music - Les Kleen

**READING** *\*A Charm for Hope: A String* Rev. Theresa I. Soto

**HYMN** *\*\*\*# 346 Come Sing a Song with Me* Mary Jane Wagner

**REFLECTION** *Practicing Grace* Rev. Donna Dolham

**CLOSING HYMN** *\* # 131 Love Will Guide Us* Singer: Chris Malcolm

**BENEDICTION** The Words of the Rev. Rebecca Savage

## **EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

**CLOSING MUSIC** *Fiddle Tune* Dale Churchill, Dir. of Music

\*Permission obtained for streaming through Soul Matter's subscription, One License, CCS License, UUA in streaming services, or public domain status.

\*\*Thank you to Mike Menefee, Dir. of Music and the Kitsap UU Fellowship of Bremerton, Washington for the use of your video. Permission granted by email to Rev. Donna Dolham from Rev. Jessica Star Rockers and Mike Menefee on 4/29/21.

\*\*\*Permission granted for use by Mary Jane Wagner via Facebook post in Jan. 2021.

This week we will have a special budget discussion meeting following the service. For those who do not want to participate there will be a breakout room available that you can self select following our community sharing of gratitude.

## About the resources for today's service

As an undergraduate at the University of Maryland at College Park, **Lyn Cox** studied journalism with a concentration in public relations. This was also the time when Rev. Cox began practicing earth-centered spirituality. Some of her Pagan friends were also Unitarian Universalists. She remembered their descriptions of Unitarian Universalism a few years later when she was ready to seek out a congregation. She describes herself this way: "On a personal level, I live in Baltimore with my two partners, our two children, and our two cats. I have amateur interests in crafting, gardening, dinosaurs, and fitness walking. I enjoy reading UU history, poetry, science fiction, and popular science."

We are an interfaith household. We emphasize Judaism in our children's religious upbringing, although the children have been to Unitarian Universalist congregations a few times and are fond of "Meditation on Breathing." My children enjoy music, active play, and books. In our family, we encourage each other so that every person, young or old, is able to develop our gifts and our sense of responsibility to bless the world."



**The Rev. Dr. Hope Johnson** was a beloved elder in Unitarian Universalism. She served as the Congregational Life Consultant for the UUA's Central East Region and the Southern Region. She brought specialties in conflict resolution and multicultural congregational development.

She was also the former minister of UU Congregation of Central Nassau, NY, where she served for 15 years. Previously, she served as Minister of Spiritual Life at the First Unitarian Church of Brooklyn, New York and Director of Religious Education at the First Unitarian of Brooklyn, New York. She also brought a wealth of experience from her years of wider UUA leadership, including the UUA Appointments Committee, the UUA Nominating Committee, the UUMA Continental Good Offices team, and a variety of UU College of Social Justice leadership position, just to name a few.

Hope Johnson passed away in November, 2020.



**The Rev. Theresa Soto** describes themselves this way: "I've wanted to be a minister since I was four years old. How grateful I am that dreams do come true! I love Unitarian Universalism for all the ways it makes more justice and more beauty in the world." To learn more about their ministry please visit their [website](#).



**Rev. Dr. Rebekah Savage** is the Senior Minister at the UU Congregation of Rockville, MD; a permanent member of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee; and served previously as a military chaplain and a Licensed Professional Counselor. She graduated from Macalester College, Union Theological Seminary (M.Div.), and Nova Southeastern University (MS), and Wesley Seminary (D.Min.). Rebekah and her two children live in Bethesda, MD.



**Today is May 16, 2021**

For links to all ONLINE meetings and programs, please refer to the [Breeze Calendar](#)

**SHARE THE PLATE FOR May 2021**

The Share the Plate recipient for May is Ruth's Reusable Resources. Each day children in Maine attend school without needed pencils, paper and other supplies. At the same time, businesses in Maine dispose of these same basic items. Ruth's Reusable Resources transfers those unwanted supplies to children and their teachers – and it is working. See [ruths.org](http://ruths.org) for more information.

**UPCOMING This Week at A2U2 on Zoom!**

**Sunday:** [Worship & Coffee & Conversation](#) at 10am  
**Sunday:** [Pastoral Care Team](#) at 12pm  
**Sunday:** [Member Care Team](#) at 3pm  
**Sunday:** [Committee on Shared Ministry](#) at 6:30pm  
**Monday:** [Monday Morning SEG](#) at 9:30am  
**Monday:** [Monday Afternoon SEG](#) at 12:30pm  
**Monday:** [RE Committee](#) at 6:30pm  
**Monday:** [Monday Evening SEG](#) at 7:15pm  
**Tuesday:** [Dawn Redwood Meditation group](#) at 10am  
**Tuesday:** [Tuesday Afternoon SEG](#) at 2pm  
**Tuesday:** [Story time with Rev. Donna & Emily](#) at 4pm  
**Tuesday:** [Executive Committee](#) at 6:30pm  
**Tuesday:** [Worship Committee](#) at 7pm  
**Wednesday:** [Wednesday Evening SEG](#) at 6:30pm  
**Thursday:** [Lectio Divina Meditation & Reflection Group](#) at 10am  
**Thursday:** [Junior Youth Group](#) at 6pm  
**Thursday:** [Finance Committee](#) at 6:30pm

***The creation of services takes a team!***

Thank you to our singers, Terri Grover, Chris Malcolm, the A2U2 choir and Music Director, Dale Churchill.

Thank you John Howard and Joe Seal for being our choir editing team.

Thank you George Hixon for posting the service information for today's service and community conversation.

Thank you to our usher: George Hixon for serving as our online usher today.

Thank you Erica Bartlett & Katrina VanBrugh for creating the announcement for this week's events and service.

Thank you Alice Alexander for creating the slides and managing the tech. for today's service.

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