

# A Message from Rev. Chris

Some of you will know that Mother's Day has Unitarian roots. Julia Ward Howe — best known for writing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" — was transformed by her work tending the wounded of the Civil War. In 1870, she called for an international Mother's Day of peace, writing: *"Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy, and patience."* She imagined the day as a day when mothers across nations would refuse to let their children be trained for war. Last month the UUA issued a [letter](#) opposing the war in Iran and the Christian Nationalist theology used to justify it.

This Sunday we celebrate mothers and mothering, and imagine a world that would more fully support that work. Peace is one foundation of that world. So are paid leave, childcare, healthcare, and the freedom to decide whether and when to bring children into it.

The youth are invited to join adults in worship this Sunday and there will be no separate children's faith development program. The nursery will be open as usual.

See you in church,

[Rev. Chris](#)