

ORDER OF SERVICE

December 19, 2021

Announcements and Ingathering Chime

Prelude *Gabriel's Message* trad. Basque/arr. Hicken

Opening Words

*Opening Hymn "When Darkness Nears" No. 50 [STLT]

Verse one: Solo
Verse two: Choir
Verse four: All

The end of day, the passing year
The rush of time, need cause no fear,
We'll love the night and its mystery now so near.

Chalice Lighting

Lighting the Advent Candles

Responsive Litany "Light of Hope" Joel Raney

Light of peace, calm our despair,
Light of hope, lift us up when we fall.
Light of joy, brighten our days,
Light of love, teach us your ways.

Congregation:

Light of Life, Maker of day,
Gather our shadows and cast them away.
Beacon of truth, gleaming and bright,
Shine in our hearts,
Illuminate night.

Joys and Sorrows

Solstice Litany

Congregational Response:
We move through the darkness and into the light.

Sung Response

Light of Life, Maker of day,
Gather our shadows and cast them away.
Beacon of truth, gleaming and bright,
Shine in our hearts,
Illuminate night.

Sermon "Around the Wheel"

Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein

A Solstice Story

"How the Raven Stole the Light"
The Faith Development Program Pageant

*Hymn "People Look East" No. 226 [STLT]

People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People look east, and sing today,
Love the Guest is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People look east, and sing today,
Love the Star is on the way.

Sending Forth

Postlude *A Flight of Angels* G.F. Handel

Benediction

Congregational Response AMEN!

Extinguishing the Lights

*We extinguish the candles, but not the lights. These we carry in our hearts
and our actions as we go forth.*

*Please rise as you are comfortable.

Today's Worship Team

The Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Parish Minister
Chris Scheller, Director of Community Life and Learning
Kenneth Griffith II, Director of Music
David Collins, Keyboard
The UUCGL Choir

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS In Memory or Honor of Loved Ones

DONOR	IN MEMORY/HONOR OF
Christina Hansen	Bertha Bryant Murphy, Peter Costa Jennifer Rich, Andy Hansen
Vanessa Nemeth	Rosa Moll

W E L C O M E

Welcome, or welcome back, to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn! Thank you for demonstrating your commitment to community well-being by wearing a mask and maintaining distance between yourself and others not in your “bubble.”

Waving hello, and sharing gestures of blessing are wonderful ways to express affection at a time when hugs and handshakes are not safe practices.

We encourage everyone who can be vaccinated to do so; however, our children and some members are medically unable to be immunized, and we remain vigilant for them and for the extended community while we experience high transmission rates of COVID in MA.

To minimize close contact, we will be accepting the Offering on the usher's table, where you can leave donations to support the ministries of the church. May love carry us through. May we carry love through.

OUR CHURCH HISTORY

Our congregation has a long history, and the present congregation is the outcome of the merger of three churches. Our earliest roots are in the First Church of Christ of Lynn, organized in 1632.

About two hundred years later, in 1822, a group of liberals withdrew to form the Second Congregational Society. Its first building was dedicated on South Common Street in 1832 and its second at the corner of Atlantic and Baltimore Streets in 1910. In 1919 that congregation changed its name to the Unitarian Church of Lynn.

The First Universalist Society, located in Lynn, was organized in 1833. Its first building was dedicated on Union Street in 1835 and its second on Nahant Street in 1873. By the late 1800s, the congregation was the largest Universalist Church in America. In 1908, the congregation changed its name to First Universalist Parish of Lynn.

The Swampscott Universalist Society was organized in 1889, and its building on Burrill Street was dedicated in 1891. The Swampscott Universalist Society later changed its name to the Swampscott Universalist Church.

Between 1964 and 1966 these three churches consolidated. On March 22, 1981, our present meetinghouse, on seven and a half acres of wooded land in Swampscott, was dedicated; and the congregation was renamed the *Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn*.

WE ARE A SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

that gathers to explore deeper truths together,
to support one another through the complexities
and struggles of daily life, and to serve the greater good by
becoming more compassionate in our thoughts, words and actions.
Join with us to cultivate reverence, peacefulness, and an ethic of
loving engagement with the world.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn
101 Forest Avenue • Swampscott MA 01907
781-595-8836
Website - www.uucgl.org