Welcome to All Souls! We’re so glad you’re here.

Are you new to All Souls and interested in learning more?

Please reach out to Spiritual Care and Membership Manager, Gretchen at gretchen@allsoulsnyc.org, to learn more about the values of All Souls, volunteering opportunities, or our thriving groups. All are welcome here!

Every first Sunday of the month, join us for All Souls in 20 Minutes, a brief introduction to congregational life, groups, and events at All Souls NYC. We want to know who you are and what brings you to All Souls!

You are welcome to introduce yourself to the Sunday Worship leaders and/or head down to Reidy Friendship Hall where we gather in community for coffee hour every Sunday afternoon.

For more information: allsoulsnyc.org

Children are a cherished part of our congregation, and their presence brings joy to our worship. We understand that they may sometimes make noise, and that's absolutely okay. Thank you for being part of our welcoming community!

Accessibility Information
We want our services to be inclusive and welcoming. All Souls provides listening assistance through Bluetooth enabled hearing aids or through earbuds from your smart phone. Detailed instructions are available in the vestibule. We will alert you if unusual sounds or lights will be a part of the service.

Spiritual Care
When you or someone you love is in need of a helping hand or a listening ear, the All Souls Spiritual Care ministry provides emotional and spiritual care from our ministers and Caring Connections Team. To request support, please email Pamela@AllSoulsNYC.org

Scan this code to make a gift or offertory contribution to All Souls!
Order of Service
July 7, 2024
11:15 a.m.

“I am a living member of the great family of all souls.”
~ William Ellery Channing

Rev. Susan V. Rak, Guest Preacher
Trent Johnson, Asst. Director of Music
Matthew Mueller, bass

SOUNDING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Prière à Notre-Dame
Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

WELCOME

OPENING WORDS

Cortney Skinner
BOND OF UNION

In the freedom of the truth
And in the spirit of love,
We unite for the worship of God
And the service of all.

DOXOLOGY

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let faith and hope with love arise;
Let beauty, truth and good be sung,
Through every land, by every tongue.
   Amen.
RESPONSIVE READING

“When the Gift Is Love”
A. Powell Davies, adapted

None of our private worlds is big enough
for us to live a wholesome life in.

We need the wider world of joy and wonder,
of purpose and venture, of toil and tears.

What are we, any of us, but strangers and sojourners
forlornly wandering through the nighttime,

until we draw together
and find the meaning of our lives in one another,

dissolving our fears in each other’s courage,
making music together,
and lighting torches to guide us through the dark?

We belong together. Love is what we need.
To love and be loved.

Let our hearts be open;
and what we would receive from others, let us give.

for what is given still remains to bless the giver,
when the gift is love.
HYMN 34

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

READING

ANTHEM

In diesen heil’gem Hallen
from Die Zauberflöte
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

In these holy halls
Revenge is unknown,
And if a person has fallen,
Love leads them to their duty.
Then they walk, holding their friend’s hand,
Happy and glad, to a better land.

In these holy walls,
Where humans love each other,
No traitor can lurk,
Because the enemy is forgiven.

PRAYER
OFFERTORY

Ístina (Truth)
From Op. 145, "Suite on Words by Michelangelo"
Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)

My God! If any ancient proverb is true,
Hear this truth: Those who can, never will.
You believed in fables and words,
Rewarding those who hate the name of truth.

I am and have been your faithful servant--
I am given to you like the rays of the sun;
and you are indifferent to my wasted time,
and you like me less as I tire myself more.

Once, I hoped to ascend to your height;
But it is the balance and powerful sword
of Justice, not false Echo, that we need.

Heaven, it seems, despises virtue
If here on the earth, it will be our reward
To seek for fruit on withered trees.

SERMON

After the Fireworks

HYMN 112

Do You Hear?

Benediction

POSTLUDE

The Liberty Bell March
John Philip Sousa (1854-1932)
Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

2. Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed,
by this we worship, and are freed.
1. Do you hear, oh my friend, in the
2. Through the roar, through the rush, through the
3. From the place where you stand to the
place where you stand, through the
outermost strand, through the

sky, through the land, do you hear, do you hear? In the
hear in the hush of your soul, of your soul? Hear the
hear, oh my friend, do you hear, do you hear? All the

heights, on the plain, in the vale, on the main, in the
cry fear won't still, hear the heart's call to will, hear a
dreams, all the dares, all the sighs, all the prayers—they are
sun, in the rain, do you hear, do you hear?
sigh's startling trill in your soul, in your soul?
yours, mine, and theirs—do you hear, do you hear?
The Reverend Dr. Susan Veronica Rak has been a Unitarian Universalist since the early 1970's and Unitarian Universalist Minister since 1996. She earned her Masters of Divinity at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster PA, and received a Doctor of Ministry from Meadville-Lombard Theological School (Chicago IL).

Rev. Susan has served our faith as interim and settled minister in the greater New York and Philadelphia area. She also was the UUA Program Consultant for the Joseph Priestley District (1997-2001) and prior to that, worked as a UU religious educator for 15 years.

She continues her volunteer work in support of Unitarian Universalism by serving as President of the UU Retired Ministers and Partners Association.

She and her spouse, Dr. Mary Chinery (Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences and School of Education, Georgian Court University, Lakewood NJ) reside in Asbury Park NJ.
Here are ways you can send us your comments, concerns, questions (and praise!) about All Souls.

Email the Board of Trustees at Board@AllSoulsNYC.org
Send suggestions to staff at info@AllSoulsNYC.org

The lines are always open. We want to hear from you!
What We Believe

Although we do not subscribe to a creed, occasionally someone attempts to articulate the beliefs that most Unitarian Universalists hold in common. This piece is one such effort by David Rankin, who served as a Unitarian Universalist minister for more than thirty years.

We believe in the freedom of religious expression. All individuals should be encouraged to develop their own personal theology, and to present openly their religious opinions without fear of censure or reprisal.

We believe in the toleration of religious ideas. All religions, in every age and culture, possess not only an intrinsic merit, but also a potential value for those who have learned the art of listening.

We believe in the authority of reason and conscience. The ultimate arbiter in religion is not a church, or a document, or an official, but the personal choice and decision of the individual.

We believe in the never-ending search for Truth. If the mind and heart are truly free and open, the revelations which appear to the human spirit are infinitely numerous, eternally fruitful, and wondrously exciting.

We believe in the unity of experience. There is no fundamental conflict between faith and knowledge, religion and the world, the sacred and the secular, since they all have their source in the same reality.

We believe in the worth and dignity of each human being. All people on earth have an equal claim to life, liberty, and justice—and no idea, ideal, or philosophy is superior to a single human life.

We believe in the ethical application of religion. Good works are the natural product of good faith, the evidence of an inner grace that finds completion in social and community involvement.

We believe in the motive force of love. The governing principle in human relationships is the principle of love, which always seeks the Welfare of others and never seeks to hurt or destroy.

We believe in the necessity of the democratic process. Records are open to scrutiny, elections are open to members, and ideas are open to criticism—so that people might govern themselves

We believe in the importance of a religious community. The validation of experience requires the confirmation of peers, who provide a critical platform along with a network of mutual support.