

***CLOSING HYMN:** No. 349. We Gather Together

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE Words of Elizabeth Selle Jones

*We extinguish this flame,
but not the light of truth,
the warmth of community
or the fire of commitment.
These we carry in our hearts
until we are together again.*

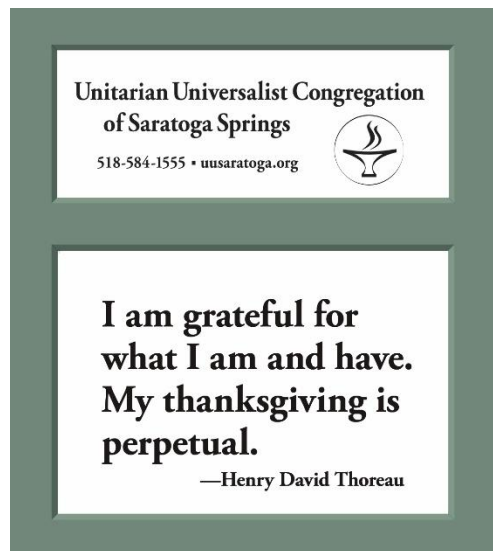
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

Service Participants:

Rev. Dr. Tom Chulak, Guest Speaker
Richard Wilkinson, Worship Associate
Sue Fisher, Story Reader
Doretta Miller, Care Team
Richard Wilkinson, Board Announcer
Carol Ann Elze, Choir Director

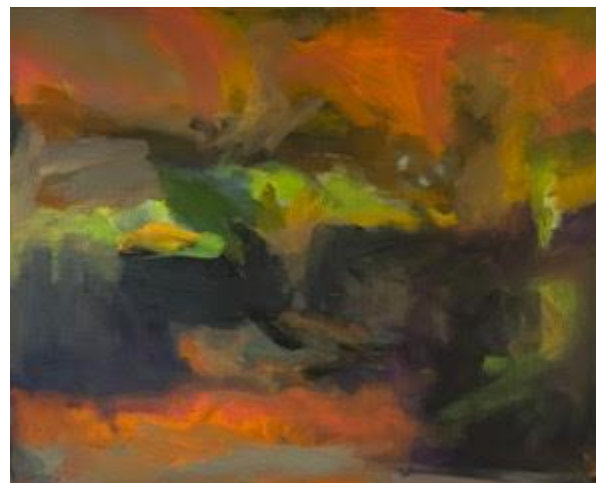
A special thank you to our Tech Team and Hospitality Team



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saratoga Springs

Creating a Community of Love for Justice and Peace

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saratoga Springs is a Welcoming Community that embraces people of any age, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, ability, language, or cultural background. We extend a warm welcome to all who worship here today, especially those who are visiting for the first time. Following the service, please join us for refreshment and conversation. We hope this community can be a place of meaning, inspiration, celebration and joy for you and your family.



Hard Won Gratitude

Sunday, November 23, 2025

*Acknowledging the good that you already have in your life is the
foundation for all abundance.*

-Eckhart Tolle

CHIMES AND WELCOME

PRELUDE “Song of Gratitude” words by Michael Dennis Browne,
music by Craig Hella Johnson

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

*We gather this hour as people of faith
with joys and sorrows, gifts and needs.
We light this beacon of hope,
sign of our quest
for truth and meaning,
in celebration of the life we share together.*

***OPENING HYMN.** No. 21 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*OUR COVENANT

*Love is the doctrine of this faith,
The quest for truth is its sacrament,
And service is its prayer.
To dwell together in peace,
To seek knowledge in freedom,
To serve human need,
To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine—
Thus do we covenant with one another and love beyond belief.*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

STORY FOR ALL AGES. “This is the Feast” by Diane Shore,
illustrated by Megan Lloyd

CHILDREN’S RECESSIONAL

Words & Music by Thomas Benjamin

*For we shall go out in joy (2x)
And come back in peace (2x)
Blessed be.*

A TIME FOR GRATITUDE AND GENEROSITY

Offertory Music “Hungarian Pastorale Fantasies” (excerpt) for Flute
and Piano by Albert Franz Doppler

SHARING OF JOYS AND SORROWS

Stones and Water Ritual

Hymn No. 1006 “There is a River Flowin’ in My Soul”

Leader: May we all know that we are not alone as we hold one
another in our hearts.

All:

*There is a love holding me.
There is a love holding you.
There is a love holding all.
We rest in this love*

RESPONSIVE READING. No. 515 “We lift up our hearts in thanks”

Leader: For the sun and the dawn which we did not create;

All: For the moon and the evening which we did not make;

For food which we plant but cannot grow;

For friends and loved ones we have not earned and cannot buy;

For this gathered company which welcomes us as we are, from
wherever we have come;

**For all our free churches that keep us human and encourage us in
our quest for beauty, truth and love;**

For all things which come to us as gifts of being from sources beyond
ourselves;

**Gifts of life and love and friendship, we lift up our hearts in thanks
this day.**

REFLECTION Hard Won Gratitude

ANTHEM “I Believe” anonymous Jewish poem, music by Mark A.
Miller

CLOSING WORDS “May we look with gratitude upon this day” by
Michael R. Leduc