

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saratoga Springs



From The Dream To The Work Of Waking Up

Sunday, January 25, 2026

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace, words attributed to Saint Francis of Assissi, music of Peter Amidon

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

The words Rev. Erika Hewitt

*We light this chalice for the dreamers and the doers,
For those who carry the light of justice in dark times,
For those who, like Dr. King, saw a world not yet born
And gave their lives to bring it forth.
Let this flame kindle in us the same fierce hope and faithful action.*

*OPENING HYMN

No. 298, Wake Now, My Senses

*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

Be ours a religion which like sunshine goes everywhere, its temple all space, its shrine the good heart, its creed all truth, its ritual works of love.

STORY FOR ALL AGES

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

Words & Music by Thomas Benjamin

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

MEDITATION

The Peace of Wild Things by Wendell Berry

REFLECTION

From the Dream to the Word of Waking Up

RESPONSIVE READING

Leader: Human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability.

All: *It comes through the tireless efforts of people willing to stay awake.*

Leader: We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today.

All: *This moment calls for honesty, courage, and care.*

Leader: There is such a thing as being too late.

All: *We choose attentiveness and responsibility now.*

Leader: The time is always right to do what is right.

All: *We commit ourselves to the work of waking up.*

COMMUNAL CARE

Offertory Music: No. 1009, Meditation on Breathing- People Get Ready

The Give Away The Plate Recipient for January is MLK Saratoga

SHARING OF JOYS AND SORROWS

Stones and Water Ritual

All: *There is a love holding you.*

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

CLOSING HYMN

No. 157, Step by Step, The Longest March

BENEDICTION

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

The 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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Service Participants:

Melissa O'Brien, Minister

Wayne Cochran, Worship Associate

Tari Lee Muth, Care Team

Carol Ann Elze, Choir Director

A special thank you to our Tech Team and Hospitality Team

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.