

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saratoga Springs



Our new home

Where Heaven and Earth Meet

Sunday, July 26, 2026

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING BLESSING

PRELUDE

Music: Valentine by Fred Hersch (Dedicated lovingly to our much revered visiting minister, Melissa O'Brien- J.T.)

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

No. 451, The Words of Leslie Pohl-Kosbau

Flame of fire, spark of the universe that warmed our ancestral

Hearth-

Agent of life and death,

Symbol of truth and freedom.

We strive to understand ourselves and our earthly home.

OPENING SONG

Belfast Mill

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.

READING

Stages by Herman Hess

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

SERMON

OFFERING

Music: Sonata #3 by Beethoven

STONES AND WATER RITUAL

Hymn No. 123, Spirit of Life

JOYS AND SORROWS

*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 SONG

Ashoken Farewell

BENEDICTION

*We bless this parting as the right course of action.
We give thanks for the covenant that held us these seven months,
chosen freely, kept faithfully, and now, rightly, released.
We go in gratitude, for what was given and received.
We go in peace, for Pastor Melissa's work here is finished, and
finished well.
We go in hope, for what waits on the other side of this door.
May the blessing of this beloved community go with us.
May the door that closes gently open another, wider.
May we rest in the knowledge of good work done,
and return again, ready for what comes next.
Amen. Blessed be. Go now in peace.*

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

PASS THE PEACE

Service Participants

Melissa O'Brien, Interim Pastor
Damian Redman, Worship Associate
Marian Bigelow, Care Team
Julie Holmberg and Marigold, Guest Readers
Judith Thomas, Pianist
Sean Cohan, Special Guest Musician

A special thank you to our Tech and Hospitality Teams.

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 refreshments and conversation.

We hope this community can be a place of meaning, inspiration, celebration and joy for you and your family.

