



## The Colors of Grief

Rev. Kim Mason  
November 3rd, 2024  
Order of Service

### Ringing of the Bowl

Annette Peterson

### Welcome

Annette Peterson

**Prelude**     *Andante dolce from Symphony No. 1* by William Boyce

Allen Hoffman, organ

### Call to Worship

Rev. Kim Mason

### Hymn #142 Let There Be Light

*Let there be light,  
let there be understanding,  
let all the nations gather,  
let them be face to face.*

*Open our lips,  
open our minds to ponder,  
open the door of concord  
opening into grace.*

*Perish the sword,  
perish the angry judgment,  
perish the bombs and hunger,  
perish the fight for gain.*

*Let there be light,  
open our hearts to wonder,  
perish the way of terror,  
hallow the world Love made.*

### Lighting the Chalice

Annette Peterson

### Sung Response : Come Into the Flame

*Come as we light this candle of memory.  
Come as we light this candle of hope.  
Come as we light this candle of reverence.  
Come into the flame. Come into the flame.*

Words and music by Tony Fathman

**Story for All Ages** *Lessons from Our Ancestors* Michele Grove

**Joys & Concerns** Rev. Kim Mason

**Prayer** Rev. Kim Mason

**Sung Response #123 Spirit of Life**

*Spirit of Life, come unto me.*

*Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.*

*Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;*

*move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.*

*Roots hold me close; wings set me free;*

*Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.*

**Reading** *Called to Heal* by Melissa Jeter Annette Peterson

**Call for the Offering** Rev. Kim Mason

Text the dollar amount you wish to give to this number: 833-649-0088

**Offertory** *Remember* First Unitarian Choir  
Lyrics by C. Rosetti, Music by Stephen Chatman Joel Knapp, Director

**Gratitude** Rev. Kim Mason

**Reading** *Good Grief* by Amanda Gorman Annette Peterson

**Sermon** The Colors of Grief Rev. Kim Mason

**Ritual of Remembrance** Rev. Kim Mason &  
Annette Peterson

**Hymn #412 Let Hope and Sorrow Now Unite**

*Let hope and sorrow now unite*

*to consecrate life's ending.*

*And praise good friends now gone from sight,*  
*though grief and loss are rending.*

*The story in a well-loved face,*  
*and years and days our thoughts retrace,*  
*are treasures worth repeating.*

*With faith, or doubt, or open mind*  
*we whisper life's great question.*

*The ebb and flow of space and time*

*surpass our small perception;*

*yet knowledge grows with joyful gains*

*and finds out wonders far more strange*  
*than hopes of resurrection.*

**Closing Words** Rev. Kim Mason

**Postlude** *Go Forth in Hope* by Franklin Ritter Allen Hoffman

*The flowers today are given by **John Piepho** in memory of his mother, who passed away on  
October 31, 2009.*

**Serving Us This Morning**

**Ushers:** Sheryll Coulter and Nadine Vlietstra

**Greeters:** Larry Dusenbery and Grace Munie

**A/V Assistant:** Adam Lunter

**Music Notes**

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**Welcome to this religious community  
where we affirm the dignity, worth, and freedom  
of all who enter our doors.**

Here we seek to live together in relationship and respect so that we may embrace and celebrate our differences. Understanding that we need not think alike to love alike, our religious values invite us to a shared journey of truth and meaning. Sincerity and connection guide our religious community and call us into deeper association with ourselves and our world.

We welcome people of all ages, races, classes, ethnicities, abilities, sexual orientations and gender identities. First Unitarian Church of St. Louis is a *Welcoming Congregation* committed to the inclusion of LGBTQIAA+ individuals, families and communities in the life of our congregation. We are a *Green Sanctuary Church*, committed to sustainable practices and ethical consumption on our building and grounds.

# **First Unitarian Church of St. Louis Yellow Pages**

(314) 361-0595 5007 Waterman Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63108 <https://www.firstuustlouis.org/>

Weekly E-News from First Unitarian Church of St. Louis

## **Worship Service**

**Sunday November 3rd, 2024**

### **The Colors of Grief - Rev. Kim Mason**

On All Souls Day we remember our loved ones that have died. On this day after All Souls we pause to remember our ancestors and consider how to repair the wounds of grief.

[Watch this Service on YouTube!](#)

Join Virtual Coffee Hour After the Service!

(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81842582434?pwd=dThVUXR1clhTMVBFbmRYa0l3OVlKZz09>)

**Worship Service starts at 10 AM.** We've said that for years - yet we begin with announcements and announcements aren't worship! In recognition of this distinction, announcements will start before the service and end by 10 am when the service begins.

## **\*\* This Week at First UU STL**

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### **Sunday, November 3rd, 2024**

10:00 am - 11:00 am - Worship Service (In person and online)

10:30 am - 1:30 pm - Trinity Hot Lunch Prep (Kitchen)

11:30 am - 1:00 pm - Welcoming Congregations (Dodson Room)

11:30 am - 1:00 pm - Policy Board (C1)

### **Monday, November 4th, 2024**

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Social Justice Committee (online)

### **Tuesday, November 5th, 2024**

12:00 am - 1:00 pm - Women's Alliance (online)

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm - Executive Committee (online)

### **Wednesday, November 6th, 2024**

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Post Election Check-In (Chapel)

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm - Choir (Choir Room)

### **Thursday, November 7th, 2024**

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm - A Call to Connection (online & C1)

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm - Herzog Covenant Group

### **Saturday, November 9th, 2024**

9:00 am to 10:00 am - Black Lives Matter Social Witnessing (Kingshighway & Waterman)

### **Sunday, November 10th, 2024**

10:00 am - 11:00 am - Worship Service (In person and online)

11:30 am - 1:00 pm - Young Adult Covenant Group (Youth Group Room)

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Climate Revival (multiple rooms)

## **Upcoming Services**

### **November 2024 Theme - Repair**

November 10th - Impact v. Intent: Relationship in the Balance - Rev. Kim Mason

November 17th - Partner Church Sunday - Partner Church Committee

November 24th - Cornbread Communion - Rev. Kim Mason

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## **Joys and Concerns**

### **Concerns**

Wishing Sunday Schooler **Amory Henderson** a quick recovery with his arm that he broke last week.

Healing thoughts and prayers for **Karen Siegrist** who has returned to the hospital.

As a church community, each of us is an integral part of the care and concerns network. SHARE a Joy or Concern with us by clicking the button below or email your joy or concern to [careandconcern@firstuustlouis.org](mailto:careandconcern@firstuustlouis.org)

Submit Joy or Concern Online

([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdeSrftkA6h7HR77ZJfDI4K3Xr8IF17IBeY9tZgdzU\\_bjKTVw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdeSrftkA6h7HR77ZJfDI4K3Xr8IF17IBeY9tZgdzU_bjKTVw/viewform))

## **Religious Education for Children**

### **This Sunday 11/3 10am-11am**

Children will go to worship service first and then to their classes after the Story for All Ages.

Nursery is open for younger children.

## **Church News & Events**

### **Message from Board President Chuck Eby about Upcoming Sabbatical for Rev. Mason**

This past August marked the beginning of the sixth year of Reverend Kim Mason's called ministry to First Unitarian Church in St. Louis. The UUA guidelines recommend congregations bank one sabbatical month for each year of service and ministers start a sabbatical no earlier than during the fourth year of a called ministry and no later than during the seventh year. In January of this year, the Policy Board approved Reverend Kim Mason's request to take a four-month sabbatical beginning January 1, 2025, ending April 30, 2025.

This is an exciting opportunity for Reverend Mason to enrich her professional ministry. A sabbatical committee, chaired by past-Board President Steve Wilke, will be assisting our sabbatical minister, Reverend Sabrina Trupia, and communicating with the congregation. There will be opportunities to learn more about ongoing Church activities during Reverend Mason's sabbatical and to provide feedback.

During the sabbatical, the Policy Board will continue to engage the congregation in the process of reflecting on and reshaping our Vision for First Unitarian which Reverend Mason started in late September.

We will all look forward to Reverend Mason's return from her sabbatical, and to the energy and new ideas she will share with us as we continue to live our mission and vision as a community of faith.

Sincerely,  
Chuck Eby

**Inspired by a UU The Vote challenge**, the Toward Justice Committee set a goal to send 200 Get Out the Vote postcards per member. The League of Women Voters sent us names and addresses of people in two nearby wards who are registered but irregular voters. Our congregation and some friends wrote and decorated a postcard for every one of the 2,413 names in Ward 14, using the best research available for what makes an effective postcard.

While we didn't make our goal of 200 postcards per church member, we are pleased and grateful for the response. Several members have commented on the community building effect this effort had on our congregation. People felt like they were engaged in a worthy effort and, being Unitarians, were pleased to be involved in a research project. We should receive the information on any change in voting participation among the people to whom we sent postcards by the end of the year.

Thanks again for your effort.

**Look for the Partner Church Committee Information** table in Fellowship Hall this Sunday. The table will have information about the activities of the committee, and about the history of the Csokfalva Unitarian church in Transylvania.

### **Post Election Check-In - November 6th (6:00 pm - Chapel)**

As the election approaches many people have expressed feeling anxiety. Below are resources that have been developed by UUs to help manage your feelings as we approach election day.

[Election Self Care Sheet](#)

[Calming, Reflecting and Regulating Election Practices](#)

### **Reimagine Together: A Climate Justice Revival Sunday, November 10, 2024 (2 – 5pm)**

Join congregations from across the St. Louis region to collaboratively create a representation of the challenges of climate change -- and the possibilities for liberation within our communities. Together we will identify a vision for a flourishing future and actions we can take to make that vision a reality.

RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/vzcEKpP9oxm1dgoCA>

### **Upcoming Women's Alliance Programming**

Nov 12 - 12:00 - Thanksgiving Potluck

Nov 26 - 12:00 – Brown Bag lunch

1:00 -- All -Share Reflections on grandmothers or older women mentors

### **Tabernacle CDC Update**

On Oct. 7 Tabernacle Community Development Corporation(TCDC) celebrated 10 years of redeveloping the Jeff-Vander-Lou neighborhood at their Evening of Hope. Partners, including members of First Unitarian, celebrated newly built and rehabilitated homes with music, appetizers, and lots of positive energy.

We were able to tour both new and restored homes, both of which were beautiful, and built with quality construction, including 95% energy efficient appliances, double pane windows, custom cabinetry and noise insulation. TCDC sells the homes at ½ the cost of construction, and ~ \$40,000 less than appraised value, so owners start out with that much in equity. In addition, they have created over 150 construction

jobs for those in the community, and recruited neighborhood youth to work on rehabbing the homes, providing productive activity and skill development.

TCDC members and partners shared stories of lives changed by the opportunity to own and live in an affordable home built with integrity by members of the community. Pastor Andre Alexander shared his enthusiasm for the families in the neighborhood and his experience of the consequences of the project. In rebuilding the neighborhood, businesses have partnered at the CDC space entitled The Hub. The Hub provides a community center with services that include medical, legal, photo ID, banking, pathways to progress, and free speech pathology for preschoolers.

Following the home tours, the evening program focused on reflections with some of the original partners of the corporation. Highlights of the reflections included completion of the first home and filling all the space in The Hub with organizations that want to be part of the re-emerging neighborhood. It was an inspiring evening, and we are grateful that First Unitarian is part of this work in our community.

**Submitted by Annette & Chris Peterson and Lisa Ross**

### **Online Giving is Easier than Ever Before!**

Our online giving platform, Vanco, is now easier to use than ever before. You can easily set up regular pledge payments, donate to specific funds or purchase tickets to church events on our new web based site (<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZCVK/home>) or you can install the app on your phone (this is ideal for Sunday morning offering). Use the QR code below to download the app. Any questions – contact Administrator, Lynn Hunt.



### **Pastoral Appointments**

You can schedule pastoral appointments with Rev. Kim at your convenience. Click the button below and choose the date that works best for you - no account necessary.

Schedule an Appointment with Rev. Kim Mason (<https://calendly.com/kmason-7>)

### **Our Mission**

We strive to be a welcoming congregation, inspiring lives of loving kindness and integrity by nurturing spirituality, building community, and advancing justice

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\*\* Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitarianSTL>)

\*\* [https://www.instagram.com/first\\_unitarian\\_stl/](https://www.instagram.com/first_unitarian_stl/) ([https://www.instagram.com/first\\_unitarian\\_stl/](https://www.instagram.com/first_unitarian_stl/))\*\*

Website (<https://www.firstuustlouis.org/>)

\*\* YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/@FirstUnitarianSTL>)

\*\* TikTok (<https://www.tiktok.com/t/ZT84oXuQM/>)

Our mailing address is:

5007 Waterman Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63108

(314) 361-0595

**Staff**

Rev. Kim Mason, Minister ([kmason@firstuustlouis.org](mailto:kmason@firstuustlouis.org))

Michele Grove, Interim Remote Director of Religious Education ([mgrove@firstuustlouis.org](mailto:mgrove@firstuustlouis.org))

Lynn Hunt, Administration & Programs ([lhunt@firstuustlouis.org](mailto:lhunt@firstuustlouis.org))

Augustine Underwood, Office Asst. ([aunderwood@firstuustlouis.org](mailto:aunderwood@firstuustlouis.org))

Allen Hoffman, Organist

Joel Knapp, Choir Director

Moe Hurst, A/V Technician ([mhurst@firstuustlouis.org](mailto:mhurst@firstuustlouis.org))

**Policy Board**

Board President – Chuck Eby

Vice President – Larry Dusenbery

Secretary – Sidney Watson

Treasurer - Kathy Wilke

Member – Becca McBride

Member – Chris Kocher

Member – Betty Neill

**Church Council**

Sherry Bassi, Chair

Tom Finan, Facilities

Kathy Wire, Stewardship

Lisa Ross, Outreach & Social Responsibility

Erin Milligan, Outreach & Engagement

Grace Munie, Programming Cluster