



Fire Communion

Rev. Kim Mason
December 29th, 2024
Order of Service

Ringing of the Bowl

Welcome

Judi Crouch

Prelude

Prelude No. 4, Op. 28 -- Frederic Chopin

Judy Meyer, piano

Call into Worship

Rev. Kim Mason

*Hymn #58 Ring Out Wild Bells

*Ring out, wild bells, to the wild, wild sky,
the flying cloud, the frosty light:
the year is dying in the night;
ring out, wild bells, and let it die.*

*Ring out the old, ring in the new,
ring, happy bells, across the snow:
the year is going, let it go;
ring out the false, ring in the true.*

*Ring out the grief that saps the mind
for those that here we see no more;
ring out the feud of rich and poor;
ring in redress to humankind.*

*Ring out false pride in place and blood,
the civic slander and the spite;
ring in the love of truth and right;
ring in the common love of good.*

Lighting the Chalice

Judi Crouch

Sung Response

*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

Little Tree by Loren Long

Rev. Kim Mason

Children's Recessional #118 This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Reading

In Blackwater Woods by Mary Oliver

Judi Crouch

Joys & Concerns

Submit Joys and Concerns online at <https://forms.gle/WiHevqVTkCc3dWmC7>

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Kim Mason

Sung Response #352 Find a Stillness

Find a stillness, hold a stillness, let the stillness carry me.

Find the silence, hold the silence, let the silence carry me.

In the spirit, by the spirit, with the spirit giving power,

I will find true harmony.

Reading

The February Shore by Parker Palmer

Judi Crouch

Call for the Offering

Rev. Kim Mason

Offertory

Let It Be -- Paul McCartney & John Lennon

Judy Meyer, piano
Becca McBride, vocals

Gratitude

Rev. Kim Mason

Reading

I Am Running Into a New Year by Lucille Clifton

Judi Crouch

Reflection

Rev. Kim Mason

Fire Communion**Ritual of Temporary Parting**

Steve Wilke & Margaret Weck

Congregational Response:

Remember us, we will save space for your return.

Merry Meet, Merry Part and Merry Meet Again.

Closing Hymn #350 The Ceaseless Flow of Endless Time

The ceaseless flow of endless time no one can check or stay;

we'll view the past with no regret, nor future with dismay.

The present slips into the past, and dreamlike melts away;

the breaking of tomorrow's dawn begins a new today.

The past and future ever meet in the eternal now:

to make each day a thing complete shall be our New Year vow.

***Closing Words**

Rev. Kim Mason

Postlude

Simple Gifts -- American Folk Tune--Setting by John Carter

Judy Meyer, piano

Serving Us This Morning
Ushers: Layne Simpson and Gary Parks
Greeters: Sidney Watson and Sherry Bassi
A/V Assistant: Mike 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 December 29th, 2024

Fire Communion - Rev. Kim Mason

Join us for our annual Fire Communion , where we release the old year with a ritual of letting go. This is Rev. Kim's last service before sabbatical.

Watch this Service on YouTube!

https://youtube.com/live/Ed3Xzo5P_xg

Join Virtual Coffee Hour After the Service!

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

**** This Week at First UU STL****

Sunday, December 29th, 2024

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

Tuesday, December 31st, 2024

11:00 am - 12:00 pm - Women's Alliance (online)

Wednesday, January 1st, 2025

New Year's Day - Office Closed

Thursday, January 2nd, 2025

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm - Facilities (C1 & online)

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

Sunday, January 5th, 2025

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

11:30 am - 12:30 pm - Welcoming Congregations (Dodson Room)

Upcoming Services

January 2025 Theme -Story

January 5th, 2025 - Jazz Sunday - Pamela Geppert & Sue Fazio, Worship Committee

January 12th, 2025 - A Good Story to Tell - Annette Peterson, Worship Committee

January 19th, 2025 - From the Vault - Rev. Sabrina Trupia

January 26th, 2025 - Rev. Sabrina Trupia

Joys and Concerns

Joys

Concerns

We hold in our hearts all who have struggles at this time.

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

Submit Joy or Concern Online

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdeSrftkA6h7HR77ZJfDl4K3Xr8lF17lBeY9tZgdzU_bjKT_Vw/viewform)

Religious Education for Children

This Sunday 12/29 10am-11am

Children start in the service then go to the Chapel for special activities.
Nursery is open for younger children.

Church News & Events

Save the Date!

January 12th, 2025 – De-Escalation Session

January 25th, 2025 – Mid-Winter Meeting

WATCH FOR DETAILS

Makers Ministry: Wrapped In Love Project

Makers Ministry is planning to collect handmade and donated (new) scarves for a Wrapped in Love scarf give-away planned for MLK Day. Scarves will be draped on the church fence in a colorful “scarf bombing” display with a Wrapped in Love/ Free Scarves sign. Please bring scarves for donation on Sunday January 19th (before MLK Day). Please direct any questions to Sherry Bassi.

Guest at Your Table (GAYT) is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee’s

annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about key human rights issues. Since UUSC works in more than 20 countries, with over 50 grassroots partners, there are thousands of individuals involved in and who benefit from the work that our members make possible. The program is an opportunity to celebrate grassroots partnership, support human rights, and learn about just four of these individuals—the “guests” in Guest at Your Table. On Sunday morning pick up a GAYT box. Each time you have a meal or snack drop some coins into the box. **We will collect the boxes on Sunday, January 19th, 2025. All monies collected will be contributed to the UUSC in order to support their programming.**

First Church Community Fund Committee is Seeking New Members

Informational Luncheon - January 25th, 2025 (noon at the Church)

First Church Community Fund is seeking members interested in learning more about St. Louis nonprofits, participating in the committee’s annual grant review process and advancing the work of the committee and its visibility within our church community. We hope you can attend.

[Sign-Up Here](#)

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

Rev. Kim is on Sabbatical until May 1st, 2025 and will resume taking appointments upon her return. You can reach the Caring Committee by emailing careandconcern@firstuustlouis.org. Other church related questions can go to the Office staff at 314-361-0595.

Our Mission

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

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

** 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 (on Sabbatical)

Rev. Sabrina Trupia, Sabbatical Minister (strupia@firstuustlouis.org)

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

Lynn Hunt, Administration & Programs (lhunt@firstuustlouis.org)

Augustine Underwood, Office Asst. (aunderwood@firstuustlouis.org)

Allen Hoffman, Organist

Joel Knapp, Choir Director

Moe Hurst, A/V Technician (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