

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City

2124 Brewster Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94062

## The Fire Communion: Transitions and Letting Go January 3, 2021

**Worship Leader:** Dr. Tovis Page  
**Worship Associate:** Chris DeCardy  
**Musical Director:** Dawn Reyen  
**Pianist:** Larry Chinn



*From Tree of Life Unitarian Universalist Congregation*

*Please silence all electronic devices and join us in this moment.*

### Gathering of our Community

**WELCOME:** Chris DeCardy

**OPENING HYMN:** #188, Come, Come  
Whoever You Are

**LIGHTING THE CHALICE:** Tovis Page

**“Letting Go” by Jay Wolin**

*Are we a people of holding on or of letting go?  
Holding on to rigid ideas or  
Letting go and opening our minds and our hearts,  
to something new;  
Holding on to certainty of how things should be or  
Letting go and living with the uncertainty  
of new ways of being in the world;  
Holding on to what makes us comfortable or  
Letting go so we may grow,  
which can be uncomfortable;  
Holding on to what makes us safe or  
Letting go to make room to help others feel safe?  
With this flame, this symbol of our religion,  
let it be a symbol of burning up the ties  
that hold us back from being our true self and  
reaching our true potential;  
let it be a symbol of lighting a new way for us into a  
better tomorrow;  
and let it be a symbol of letting go  
Because holding on too long and too tightly is never  
good for the soul.*

### Connecting within Our Community

**TIME FOR ALL AGES:** Lillian Svec-Burdock

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Steve Hill

**OFFERING AND OFFERTORY:** Chris DeCardy, “Poor  
Butterfly” by Raymond Hubbell & John Golden

**JOYS AND SORROWS:** Chris DeCardy

**MEDITATION:** Tovis Page

### Deepening

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** “Blackbird” by Paul McCartney,  
guitar by David Krevor, vocals by Barbara White

**REFLECTION:** Chris DeCardy

### **MUSICAL BRIDGE**

**HOMILY:** “Letting Go” Tovis Page

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** “Blackbird” by Paul McCartney,  
guitar and vocals by Leila Parrot

**FIRE COMMUNION:** A Ritual of Letting Go

**PRAYER:** Tovis Page

### Returning to Life in Service

**CLOSING SONG:** #131, Love Will Guide Us

**EXTINGUISHING THE FLAME:** Chris DeCardy

*“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.”*

— Elizabeth Sëlle Jones

**CLOSING WORDS:** Tovis Page

*Thank you for joining us. Please stay after the service for virtual coffee.*

## **Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City**

If you would like more information about this liberal religious congregation, check out the UUFRC Facebook page ([facebook.com/uufrc](https://www.facebook.com/uufrc)), visit our website ([RedwoodCityUU.org](https://www.RedwoodCityUU.org)) for news and events, or request a call from our Minister.

**Visitors:** Visitors are always welcome to participate in UUFRC events and activities. During this time, some are being conducted virtually. To see what is happening, please check out our Facility Calendar on our website: <https://www.uufrc.org/upcoming-events/calendar-of-events/>. For more information about this liberal religious congregation, please request a call from our Connections Coordinator, learn more at: <https://www.uufrc.org/connection/visiting-us/>

**Sunday Offering:** A familiar Sunday Service is a critical part of life for many of us. We are happy you joined us. If you would like to support our programs, you can donate now!  
<https://www.uufrc.org/connection/donate/>

### **Thank you our virtual service support team**

We would like to give a very heartfelt THANK YOU to all the wonderful volunteers working on and off screen during today's service. It definitely takes a dedicated and hard-working team to make the virtual service run as wonderful as they do.

**Online Host:** Jen Bahr-Davidson

**Projection:** Cyndi Williamson

**Video Recording:** DeeDee Stovel

**Music Support:** Dawn Reyen & Larry Chinn

**Sound:** Greg Stovall

**Social Hour Host:** Jen Bahr-Davidson

**Website Support:** Crystal Valdez-Chandra

**Grounds Crew:** Jonelle Preisser &  
Peter Hartzell

**Sanctuary Video:** Grant Huberty &  
John Cooney

**Announcements:** Steve Hill

### **Mission Statement UUFRC**

We are a welcoming and inclusive community of individuals of all ages who seek spiritual meaning, empower personal growth, build connections with our neighbors, act for justice, and inspire others to join us.

### **Our Principles in Brief**

This congregation is part of the larger Unitarian Universalist Association. Together, we covenant to affirm and promote Seven Principles:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

### **Staff and Board Contact Information**

**Minister:** Rev. Brian Ferguson: [ministeratuufrc@gmail.com](mailto:ministeratuufrc@gmail.com), 650-365-1426

**Interim Director of Family and Youth Programming:** Lillian Svec: [dyaf.uufrc@gmail.com](mailto:dyaf.uufrc@gmail.com)

**Connections Coordinator:** Jen Gill: [connecting@uufrc.org](mailto:connecting@uufrc.org)

**Music Director:** Dawn Reyen: [musicdirector@uufrc.org](mailto:musicdirector@uufrc.org)

**Office:** Jan Johnson and Crystal Valdez-Chandra: [office@uufrc.org](mailto:office@uufrc.org), 650-365-6913

**Bookkeeper:** Cyndi Williamson: [bookkeeper@uufrc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@uufrc.org)

**Board of Trustees:** Chris Stovall, Graham Abra, Rob Davis, Tovis Page, Polly Ragusa  
David Stoutamire, Steve Hill: [board@uufrc.org](mailto:board@uufrc.org), 650-508-7941

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