



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City

Faith and Doubt

August 23, 2026

Many UUs when considering our religion might be more comfortable with the word "doubt" rather than "faith" but the two words are inextricably linked. This worship service will explore the connection and the importance of faith and doubt in living a life of hope.

Led by: **Rev. Brian Ferguson & Blythe Thomas**

Music by: **Dawn Reyen & Ken Sundermeyer**

Please silence all electronic devices during worship



Gathering of Our Community

PRELUDE: Dawn Reyen, piano

WELCOME: Blythe Thomas

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

SONG: #347 "Gather the Spirit"

Written by contemporary American Unitarian Universalist songwriter Jim Scott, this is a song of welcome, openness and the power of loving community.

Connecting within Our Community

ANNOUNCEMENTS: David Stoutamire

STORY: Rev. Brian Ferguson

OFFERING: Blythe Thomas

To donate online please use this link:

uufrc.org/community/giving.

OFFERTORY: "There's a Place in the World."

Written by the late 20th Century American singer-songwriter Dan Fogelberg. The lyrics reflect on the themes of risk-taking and living our own truths in difficult times.
Performed by Ken Sundermeyer

Deepening

PRAYER: Rev. Brian Ferguson

SONG: "Sky High Your Heart"

Written by our guest musician today Ken Sundermeyer who says the song is about listening to your inner voice to inspire you.
Performed by Ken Sundermeyer

REFLECTION: Blythe Thomas

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Don't Give Up"

Written by contemporary English musician Peter Gabriel in the 1980's and was inspired by photographs of Americans from the 1930's dustbowl conditions. The lyrics are a conversation between a struggling unemployed person and another voice sharing encouragement and support.
Performed by Ken Sundermeyer

SERMON: Rev. Brian Ferguson

Returning to Life in Service

SONG: #1024 "When the Spirit Says Do"

This African American Spiritual became popular during the Civil Rights period and is a call to be open to being led by our creative spirit. The actual composer is not known, but the arrangement in our hymnal is by Unitarian Universalist jazz musician Mark Freundt.

EXTINGUISH CHALICE: Blythe Thomas

POSTLUDE: Dawn Reyen, piano

Visitors: Visitors are welcome to participate in UUFRC activities. For more information, email Jen Gill our Connections Coordinator (connecting@uufrc.org) or learn more at: uufrc.org/connection/visiting-us/

Hear Assistance Devices: are available at the back of our sanctuary for all who would benefit.

Announcements

- Caregivers Support Group meeting today at noon in the Back Lounge, Leslie Vallergera facilitating. All are welcome.
- Each month we Share The Plate with a non-profit group. In July, we raised \$1,967.51 for the Domini Hoskins Black History Museum and Learning Center. Thanks to everyone for your generosity!
- Save the Date! The UUFRFC all-ages retreat is Friday November 6 to Sunday November 8. Registration starts after Labor Day; subsidies available. Contact Anna Dyer, Amy Shaw or Sarah Skovlund.

About UUFRFC: Our vision is to be a community of spiritual growth, compassion, and justice. 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.

Statement of Unitarian Universalist Values

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love. Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Generosity We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

Transformation We adapt to the changing world.

Equity We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love and compassion.

Interdependence We honor the interdependent web of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility, we acknowledge our place in it.

Justice We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.

Pluralism We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology.



Center of Interest: In the spirit of inclusivity, the Center of Interest for the summer is a rainbow garden of flowers created by participants in an earlier Action Sunday workshop.

Thank you hybrid service support team!

A huge and heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone working on and off screen today!

Tech Team: Nathan Kibre, Adrian Hull,
Jen Bahr-Davidson

Refreshments: Jo O'Brien, Carrie Du Bois &
Nick Kibre

Greeters: Laurie McMahon, Sally Mentzer &
Jen Gill

Worship Slides: Gigi Casey

To Contact Staff or Board:

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Board of Trustees: Elisa Neipp, Liz Davis,
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David Stoutamire board@uufrc.org

Sunday Offering:

You can donate
to support our
programs!



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Zelle

Thank you for joining us. Please stay after the service for social time in the community room or online.