



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS
of the CHESTER RIVER

Sunday Services 10:00 AM In-Person and Zoom

Welcome!

Our Foundation: *The Unitarian Universalists of the Chester River congregation was established in 1992 as a value-centered community grounded in compassion, respect and love.*

Our Mission: *The mission of UU CR is to inspire, inform, and support all who seek spiritual and personal growth, and a more equal and just community.*

Board President, Bob Coleman

Minister, Rev. Kathryn Adams

Unitarian Universalists of the Chester River
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Office Hours: F & Su — 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Closed — M, Tu, W, Th, Sa

Unitarian Universalists of the Chester River

October 4, 2026

10:00 AM

Call to Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Chalice Lighting: (Unison) “For Our Ancestors, for Our Children, for Ourselves” by
Jennifer “Jaye” Brooks

Each Sunday we light the chalice of our religious heritage.

We do this for our ancestors, who taught us through their various religious traditions and by their actions for justice and hope.

We do this for our children, who are learning the traditions we teach and who learn more from our actions than our words.

We do this for ourselves, so that we are inspired to remember our beginnings; reflect on who we are now; and spread our wings as we understand who we seek to become.

Hymn: from Sing Out Love (projected words & music) – “We Sing Now Together”

Opening Words

Acknowledgements of the Heart:

Invite community sorrows, we sing “Hold On” and joys follow

Responsive Reading: “Listening Is an Act of the Heart” by Leslie Takahashi

One: Listening is not an act of the ear, listening is an act of the heart.

Many: In these times when so much speaks: outrage, anger, disillusionment.

One: Rage is a constant cry. Derision has found his voice. The despair of the fair and faithful speaks fast and often. The whisper of despair grows into a keening lament.

Many: Open our hearts to the real fears of those who have known hate because they are our guides to its insidious expansiveness.

One: Open our memories to those ancestors of our spirits who were love-seekers, peace-makers, truth-guiders, system-questioners. And listen, because—

Many: Listening is an act of our hearts.

One: Do not ignore the soul pain of the ones who move through the hardest nights, who face the denial of their rights and the desecration of their humanity. Do not forget those too dispossessed of a language of mastery and the countless forms of life who

do not count humanity as their family and yet who are within our larger circle of interdependence.

Many: Open our hearts to the true threats that many feel.

One: Open our minds to the anguish of those who need accompaniment.

Many: Open our memories to those who came before us and taught us how to create new forms of love out of the old worn patterns.

One: And listen, because—

Many: Listening is an act of our hearts.

Listening is an act of our hearts.

Offering

Reading: “Letters and Social Aims” 1875 - Emerson

Sermon: “What you do speaks so loudly, I can’t hear what you say” by Ralph Waldo Emerson with sermon by Rev. Kathryn Adams

Hymn: from Sing Out Love (projected words & music) – “We Rise”

Discussion

Closing Words

Extinguishing the Chalice: (Unison) “It Becomes More” by Amy Zucker Morgenstern

When we take fire from our chalice, it does not become less.

It becomes more.

And so we extinguish our chalice, but we take its light and warmth with us,
multiplying their power by all of our lives, and sharing it with the world.

Sung Benediction: # 1057 (teal hymnal) – “Go Lifted Up”

“Go lifted up, Love bless your way, moonlight, starlight guide your journey into peace
and the brightness of day.”

Postlude

Today’s Participants and Volunteers:

Minister: Rev. Kathryn Adams

Service Leader: Nancy Holland

Musician: Michael Casey

Greeter: Margo Long

Coffee Host: Elisabeth Tully

Tech Team: David Biehler, Dave Hart, Paula Hubbard, & John Ramsey

Upcoming Sunday Services:

OCT 11| "Inflicting Good on an Unsuspecting World," Rev. Paul Boothby, Guest Speaker

OCT 18| "Living Our Best Lives Every Day of Our Lives," Rev. Kathryn Adams, Minister

OCT 25| "Creating a Reverse Bucket List," Rev. Greg Chute, Guest Speaker

Upcoming UUCR Events:

OCT 11 | Last day to donate books to the Trunk-or-Treat event

OCT 11 | Get-Out-the-Vote letter mailing led by the Social Justice Cmte. RSVP required

OCT 16 | Potluck at Penny McCrea's 6 PM

Announcements:

Coffee Hosts and Greeters are needed. Please sign up on the whiteboard. **THANKS!**

The keycard reader to unlock the ramp door continues to be inoperable.

A message from your tech team:

Those of you who have tried to watch the service on Zoom have noticed that the piano and the congregation have been strangely silent. After three services we finally asked the all-knowing AI. It responded, "Zoom's default background noise suppression and automatic audio processing often filter out piano music and softer congregational singing, treating them as unwanted background noise rather than human speech." We have turned off the noise suppression. Hopefully that will solve the problem. Please don't give up on us.

Our Mah-Jongg Festival slated for November 7 has been postponed. But mark your calendars for our Annual Soup Sampler Supper on Friday, December 11.

More details on upcoming services and events are available in our weekly newsletter

Reflections which is published each Thursday and sent via email. If you'd like to subscribe, please contact the UUCR office and ask to be added to the contact list.

Unitarian Universalists Shared Values



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Equity: Help everyone flourish with dignity, love, and compassion. Build accessible and Inclusive communities

Interdependence: Honor the Web of Life with sustainable relationships of care and respect, mutuality, and justice. Protect the earth and All beings

Justice: Be Beloved Community, Dismantle racism and all oppressions, support the use of the democratic process

Generosity: Cultivate gratitude and hope. Share our faith, presence, and resources

Pluralism: Celebrate diversity, Learn from each other, embrace our differences with Love, Curiosity, and Respect

Transformation: Adapt to a changing World with Love and openness, Grow Together Spiritually and Ethically

Love: The power that holds us together and runs through all of our other values, the center of Unitarian Universalism.