



Image Credit: Alice Mason

An Intergenerational Winter Solstice

UCV Children and Adults

– December 17, 2017 –



UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER



At the front of the church you will find unlit candles. You are welcome to light a candle in remembrance, in gratitude, in prayer, in celebration.



*The prelude helps to create a spirit for shared celebration and worship.
Please refrain from conversing and please turn off your cell phones.*

Warm Welcome!

Please visit our Visitors' Table in the Sanctuary foyer and get a nametag. Drop by the Welcome Table in Hewett Centre after the service and stay for coffee or tea and friendly conversation. Learn about our church and our community. Look for people wearing yellow nametags, who are welcoming you today.

If you are a new family visiting with children or babies, we look forward to welcoming you in person. We provide multiage programming and special workshops for children ages 2-12 with community building, questioning, wondering, and exploring as our goals. Babies and young toddlers are also provided for within our classes, the same as they are integrated into family life at home. Children and babies are always welcome to remain with you through the service if you and they prefer. Buddy Bags with a small stuffie, colouring pages, and crayons are available in the foyer for use during the service. If you feel that you need to slip out of the service with an upset child, please feel free to rejoin the service at any time. There is also a playroom for family use across from the kitchen in Hewett Centre.

The seats in the rear of the church are **reserved**:
(when facing the front) left side for those needing to slip in and out of the service, and
right side for persons in wheelchairs & strollers.

The UCV Campus is a non-smoking environment.

TODAY AT UCV

Today's service is presented by the children engaged in our Religious Exploration program. We are sharing a story of Night and Day, Owl and Robin. **This is a participatory story and anyone who wishes is welcome to join us on stage.** Please see Kiersten Moore, our Director of Religious Exploration, or any one of the other children and you can choose a mask or costume piece and join the chorus of animals.

Children and babies are always welcome in our worship services. To parents and responsible adults, we offer some tips to help you and your children be at ease:

- **Mother Nature put the wiggle in children;** don't feel you have to suppress it in our church.
- **Sit towards the front** where your child can see what is going on; backs of heads are boring! Help your child by being a role model.
- **Gently and quietly remind** them what we do in worship and **explain** what is going on.
- **Answer your child's questions** with a quiet whisper—they often whisper back.
- Encourage your child to work with their 'Buddy Bag' to help them concentrate on worship.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to come back. **We believe children belong in sacred spaces.**
- The service can also be heard in the foyer and in Hewett Hall where a playroom is open for your use.

Nursing parents are welcome in any part of our building. If you wish for more privacy there is a comfy chair and a rocking chair in the Hewett Hall playroom.

YOUTH GROUP: UCV currently does not have an active community of high-school-aged youth. We do have trained and experienced youth advisors as well as a cohort of young people entering high school in the next year or two. If you are interested in Religious Exploration for this age group, please email Youth Coordinator Olivia Hall at oliviahmargaret@gmail.com or Director of Religious Education Kiersten Moore at dre@vancouverunitarians.ca.

MEDITATION: Join us for the Sunday morning sitting meditation at 10 – 10:45 am. There is brief guidance at the beginning of each sit. Any inquiries can be sent to victoriaoginski@gmail.com.

TODAY'S FORUM: *Get The (Video) Picture? Participant Crowd Sourcing.* The world of video and television is rapidly changing. With new technology, capabilities, programming, pricing and feature packages it is a complex scene to navigate. In this vein, what questions or problems do you have to raise with the crowd? What knowledge, tips and selections would you like to share? Let's put our heads together. The ideas and resources will be summarized and emailed to participants.

GREEN FUND HOLIDAY ARTISAN MARKET/CRAFT FAIR: Dec. 17, 10 am – 2pm and 6:30 – 9 pm. Come find quality hand-made gifts and help support our Green Fund. Artisans are mostly from our own congregation! Look cards, pottery, jewellery, knitted sweaters and scarves, hand-painted silk scarves, photos, posters and art prints, honey, baked goods, candles, kids books, cottonwood bark carvings, and some surprises. MR. SHARP is back! Bring your knives, scissors, and wit for sharpening. 10% of proceeds go to the Environment Committee Green Fund.

EARTH SPIRITUALITY CIRCLE DANCE: Stay after church today and enjoy a Winter Solstice ritual and circle dance. On the sanctuary stage 12:30 – 1:30 pm. All are welcome. Dances are explained each time. There are no wrong steps, only variations. Contact: maryinvancouver@gmail.com

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE: A UCV tradition – worship, the spoken word, seasonal carols and music, featuring the Chalice Choir, honouring the festivals of December and the beginning of a new year. All are invited (Light dessert potluck after the service in the Hall. Please bring a dish & stick around!).

THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORT TEAM TODAY:

COFFEE SET UP AND SERVERS

Liz Monrad, Eric Chen

FLOWERS

Diane Donaldson

LIBRARY AND LITERATURE STALL

Frances Anderson, Laura Gerken, David Buchanan

SOUND

Kaelyn Elfert

LUNCH

No planned lunch today

GREETERS

Jane Sutherland, Shirley McLeod, Carolyn Grant, Denise Nereida

WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE

Karin Hall, Alison Pearson

CARETAKER(S)

Jennifer Débrosse, Ahmed Walwail, Igor Santizo

Celebration of Worship: December 17, 2017

Prelude	<i>Christmas Medley</i>	Trad. / arr. E. Dainow E. Dainow, piano
Announcements		Léonie Armstrong
Welcome & Greeting Our Neighbours		Rev. Steven Epperson
Opening Hymn #361		<i>Enter, Rejoice, and Come In</i>
Calling of the Directions		Kiersten Moore
Kindling the Chalice Flame		Rev. Steven Epperson
Reading from the Book of Celebrations and Concerns		Léonie Armstrong

The Owl and the Robin – Part I

Offering: <i>We deeply appreciate your presence here, your offerings and the gifts you share.</i>	<i>Dark of Winter</i>	Shelley J. Denham / arr. E. Dainow Performed by E. Dainow
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Meditation, Spoken and then Silent

Musical Response	<i>An Old Dance</i>	Kabalevsky E. Dainow, piano
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The Owl and the Robin – Part II

Responsive Reading		<i>The Light is Reborn</i>
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The Owl and the Robin – Part III

Closing Blessing #542		Solstice
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Closing Hymn #73	<i>Chant for the Seasons</i>	Words by Mark L. Belletini Arr. Grace Lewis-McLaren E. Dainow, piano
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Release the Directions		Kiersten Moore
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Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice Flame		Rev. Steven Epperson
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UCV This Week: Do you want to receive the weekly service information and announcements by email? Just send your request to ucvevents@gmail.com or sign up at the welcome table in the foyer any Sunday.

Next Sunday Service: December 24, 2017

The Day Before Christmas

Rev. Steven Epperson

The Owl and the Robin

Original story by Rev. Sunshine Jeremiah Wolfe

Adapted with Dialogue by Kiersten E. Moore

The Elements:

Sun ... Noella Prescod
Night Void ... Juliet Shenher
Earth ... Cohen Prescod
Moon ... Benjamin Malcolm
Stars ... Brendan Bomford-Moore
Wind ... Aleya Tsang
Water ... Jaden Tsang

The Animals:

Owl ... Elena Bomford-Moore
Fox ... Liam Bomford-Moore
Raccoon ... Leo Malcolm
Robin ... Rose Chernoff
Squirrel ... Violet Chernoff
Butterfly ... Juliet Imayoshi
Animal Chorus ... Benjamin Malcolm, Brendan Bomford-Moore, Aleya Tsang, Jaden Tsang and those who join in celebration.

Puppeteers ... Leonie Armstrong, Olivia Margaret-Hall

Narrator ... Kiersten E. Moore

Percussionist ... Nick Apivor

Responsive Reading: *The Light is Reborn*

In the greatest darkness
Out of winter's cold
From our deepest fears
The light is reborn

When we most despair
When all seems lost
When the earth lies waste
The light is reborn

When animals hide
When the leaves are gone
When the river is frozen
The light is reborn

When the ground is hard
Shadows are fleeing
Light is returning
The light is reborn

Plants will grow again
Animals will be seen once more
Life will continue
The light is reborn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

GREETERS NEEDED: The Greeter Coordinators are putting out a call for additional assistance for the service on the 24th. We need people to hand out the Orders of Service and candles. Greeters will also be helping with the offertory. The seasonal services attract many visitors, as well as members of the congregation and families. If you are able to help with any of these duties, please email djaynereida@hotmail.com, or call 604-731-7630. Let us know which evening you are available.

GLAD GATHERING FOR LABYRINTH ART & DANCE: Thursday, Dec. 21, 11 am – 1 pm. Celebrate the solstice on the solstice with a small group of friendly folk. Contact maryinvancouver@gmail.com

DECEMBER 24 FORUM: Christmas Eve Fireside chat at 12:45 pm with Christmas cheer and cookies. Drop in after church (no lunch in the Hall today). Have a jolly holly time with UCV friends. Bring a poem or reading to share with others. Special guest is Alina Smolyansky. Alina is an egg tempera artist, icon painter and educator, based in Vancouver, BC. Some of her lovely art work decks the walls of the Fireside Room. Alina will tell us about her creations and creative process.

DECEMBER 31 FORUM: Right after church – Happy New Year! *Out With the Old - In With the Old. Environmentally Correct Regifting and Repurposing.* Got a possession that is intrinsically precious, but has lost its magic for you? Bring it along. “If you loved something, set it free.” And in the spirit of the season, give and perhaps receive something in return. Any left-over gifts shall be offered to the Refugee Committee. Info: randalmackinnon@yahoo.ca. Please do not leave any donations outside.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND ALL ADULTS: Rev. Steven Epperson and DRE Kiersten Moore co-coordinated our first “Being Unitarian Through the Week” session on December 3. Thanks to those who attended this very successful first Sunday Adult RE gathering. For all who’d like to join with us next time: *mark your calendars!* Our second gathering will take place January 7, 2018, 9:30 – 10:30 am in the Lindsey-Priestley room.

REVIEW REQUEST: Do you use Yelp or TripAdvisor? If so, you could help the church by reviewing UCV on these sites to let people know that we are a welcoming and friendly community. Currently we have a negative review from a person who disagrees with our religious beliefs. *Thanks, Paul Prescod*

CONNECT + ENGAGE: Contact Mary [@ucvconnect@gmail.com](mailto:ucvconnect@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining a covenant group or neighbourhood group or otherwise would like to get more connected with other Unitarians...

Connect + Engage
ucvconnect@gmail.com



BLANKET, COAT AND SOCK DRIVE: The Coming of Age youth are collecting gently used and laundered blankets and coats, and new socks, for all ages and genders of people in need. Donations can be dropped off at our collection bins in Hewett Hall on Sunday, Dec. 10th and Sunday, Dec. 17th, or on weekdays at the office during office hours. We will be distributing the items you donate on December 24th, along with packed lunches made by the Coming of Agers. Thank you!”



Our Vision

Because we envision a more compassionate world, we seek to deepen our spiritual and religious lives, grow and enrich our congregation, and advocate for love and justice.

Living Our Vision

As Unitarians, we are dedicated to spiritual growth, social justice, and reverence for nature and all life. We embody these values through worship, ethical action, artistic expression, and religious education for all ages that aim to connect hearts, heads, and hands. Our congregation welcomes all ages, orientations, abilities, and identities in our joyous search for meaning.

MINISTER AND STAFF

PARISH MINISTER

Rev. Steven Epperson

COMMUNITY MINISTER

Rev. Laura Imayoshi

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kiersten Moore

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Donna Brown

MUSIC ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER

Elliott Dainow

CASUAL CARETAKERS

Ben Yeung, Paul Nash, Igor Santizo,
Ken Godmere, Jennifer Débrosse, Ahmed Walwail

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Aurora Eyolfson

OFFICE ASSISTANT/ ORDER OF SERVICE

Marcus Hynes

BOOKKEEPER

Collene Harris

LAY CHAPLAINS

Nan Gregory, Louise Bunn

Telephone: 604-261-7204

Email: info@vancouverunitarians.ca

Online: www.vancouverunitarians.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/vancouverunitarians.ca

To subscribe to the email version of the *UCV Events & Order of Service* write:
ucvevents@gmail.com Please include your name.