



# Winter 2016–2017

## Worship at First Universalist Church

**Sharing Sundays:** Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5  
4 years to 5th grade attend first part of service

**Multigenerational worship:** Dec. 25 & Jan. 1  
4 years & up attend entire service

**Youth-friendly worship:** Jan. 15 & Feb. 19  
6th-12th grade attend entire service

### December 2016

*Worship Theme:* **Presence**

*Sufi teacher and scholar, Kabir Helminski, writes “Presence signifies the quality of consciously being here. It is the activation of a higher level of awareness that allows all our other human functions—such as thought, feeling, and action—to be known, developed and harmonized.” Presence is named as awakening, mindfulness, dhyana, or remembrance in other religious traditions. Some might be surprised to discover that repentance, derived from the Greek, metanoia, means to enter the big mind/presence. Common to all great spiritual traditions is a spiritual philosophy of presence. In this season of advent, of waiting and listening, we will explore and experience Presence, the intersecting places of sense and spirit.*

<b>Dec. 4</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Sharing Sunday</i>	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Jen Crow Music: Folk Band
<b>Dec. 11</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.	<b>Choir-led Worship</b> , Rev. Justin Schroeder, Rev. Ruth MacKenzie Music: First Universalist Choir and Orchestra
<b>Dec. 18</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Justin Schroeder Music: First Universalist Choir
<b>Dec. 18 &amp; 24</b>	Sunday & Saturday, 4 p.m.	<b>Christmas Pageant</b>
<b>Dec. 21</b>	Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.	<b>Winter Solstice Service</b>
<b>Dec. 24</b>	Saturday, 9:30 p.m.	<b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b>
<b>Dec. 25</b>	Sunday, 10 a.m. <b>one service only</b> <i>Multigenerational Worship (no childcare)</i>	<b>Contemplative Christmas w/Music &amp; Poetry</b> , Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

### January 2017

*Worship Theme:* **Cloud of Witnesses**

*“Do you see what this means—surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses, ancestors that have paved the way, cheering us on? It means we better get on with it. Strip down. Throw off every burden. No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sin that keeps us from moving.” (Hebrews 12:1) Ancestors bless and burden us with legacy. They tell us why we are here and why being here right now matters. In this month we explore where we come from, whose are we, and where we find ourselves in the sacred arc of history.*

<b>Jan. 1</b>	Sunday, 10 a.m. <b>one service only</b> <i>Multigenerational Worship</i>	<b>Sing-along Sunday</b> , Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink
<b>Jan. 8</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Sharing Sunday (all ages)</i>	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b> , Rev. Jen Crow
<b>Jan. 15</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Youth-friendly worship</i>	<b>Dr. King Sunday Worship</b> , Rev. Justin Schroeder Music: Dean Magraw and Eric Kamau Gravatt
<b>Jan. 22</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink Music: First Universalist Choir
<b>Jan. 29</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Justin Schroeder Music: First Universalist Choir

### February 2017

*Worship Theme:* **Prophetic Imagination**

*What is a prophet? A prophet is not a clairvoyant, or a psychic. A prophet is more akin to a namer; someone who is called to look and discern the what of “what is,” and name it. The prophet is one who sees the patterns hidden in plain sight. Her measuring stick is not the GDP, but the health and well being of the whole. The prophet is in love with his people, all his people, the oppressed and the privileged. Still, a prophet’s questions may feel pointed and abrupt. The prophet asks: Is your God big enough? Is your world picture big enough? A prophet calls forth imagination. This month we explore the imperative of imagination, name the prophets in our midst, and ask where we stand in prophetic imagination.*

<b>Feb. 5</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Sharing Sunday</i>	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Jen Crow Music: A Ghost Revival
<b>Feb. 12</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m. <i>New Member Sunday</i>	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Justin Schroeder Music: First Universalist Choir
<b>Feb. 19</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Youth-friendly worship</i>	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Justin Schroeder
<b>Feb. 19</b>	Sunday, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Contemplative Evening Worship</b> - “Kinds of Light: COLOR”
<b>Feb. 26</b>	Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.	<b>Worship</b> , Rev. Justin Schroeder Music: First Universalist Choir