



Winter 2017–2018

Worship at First Universalist Church

Sharing Sundays: Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4
Pre-K to 5th grade attend first part of service

Multigenerational worship: Dec. 24 & Dec. 31
Pre-K & up attend service (no childcare 12/24)

Youth-friendly worship: Jan. 14 & Feb. 18
6th-12th grade attend entire service

December 2017

Worship Theme: Hope

Barbara Kingsolver writes, "The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what to hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof." Some of us struggle to find hope. Some of us take hope for granted. Hope is what sends a student to school, an addict to a 12-step program, an activist out into the street. Theologian Julie Neraas writes, "While hope is a strengthening force, it also lays a person open to the vulnerabilities of love, desire, expectation, disappointment, loss." This month we wrestle with hope, what to hope for, with all its complexity, and how to live under its roof.

Dec. 3 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.
Sharing Sunday

Worship, Rev. Jen Crow
Music: First Universalist Choir

Dec. 10 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Worship, Rev. Justin Schroeder
Worship Associate: Janell Hill

Dec. 17 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Choir-led Worship, Rev. Justin Schroeder, Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
Music: First Universalist Choir and Orchestra

Dec. 17 & 24 Sundays, 4 p.m.

Christmas Pageant

Dec. 21 Thursday, 7:30 p.m. (7 p.m. doors)

Winter Solstice Celebration

Dec. 24 Sunday, 10 a.m. **one service only**

Worship, Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Multigenerational Worship (no childcare or Religious Education) Worship Associate: Kathy Coskran

Dec. 24 Sunday, 9:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec. 31 Sunday, 10 a.m. **one service only**

Singing Sunday, Rev. Justin Schroeder

Multigenerational Worship (childcare only; no Religious Education)

January 2018

Worship Theme: Loving

This month we are inspired by the work of Leslie Barlow, a young artist who has taken the art scene in the Twin Cities by storm. In her series of paintings called, Loving, Ms. Barlow uses the Supreme Court ruling of 1967 against anti-miscegenation (or anti interracial marriage) laws, as the launching pad for her study of family, challenging perceived family normalcy and the lack of representation of diverse family dynamics. Her series invites us into the extraordinary of ordinary love in all different kinds and variety of families. This month we explore Loving. The people we love. The variety of families from which we were born, and the big hearted call to Love found in the very DNA of our family of faith.

Jan. 7 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.
Sharing Sunday (all ages)

Remembrance Sunday, Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Jan. 14 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.
Youth-friendly worship

Dr. King Sunday Worship, Rev. Justin Schroeder
Music: First Universalist Choir Worship Associate: Isabel Quast

Jan. 21 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Worship, Rev. Justin Schroeder
Music: Give Get Sistet Worship Associate: Adrian Ali-Caccamo

Jan. 28 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Worship, Rev. Jen Crow
Music: First Universalist Choir Worship Associate: Greta Gaard

February 2018

Worship Theme: The Long Haul

The Chinese symbol for perseverance is a knife poised over a heart. There is something about the long haul that requires big heartedness, strength, a willingness to be wounded, and still lean into life. Author and social critic Margaret Wheatley writes, "Human experience is the story of perseverance." Every one of us knows what it is to be in it for the "long haul." At one point or another this life will require us to do something that's hard, that we hate, that hurts, or that we don't believe we can do, but we do it. The question is: how to go the distance without the journey eating you alive? This month we explore the nature of perseverance, the long haul, and finding the life-giving qualities entwined in it all.

Feb. 4 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.
Sharing Sunday

Worship, Rev. Jen Crow
Music: First Universalist Choir

Feb. 11 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Worship, Rev. Justin Schroeder
Worship Associate: Janell Hill

Feb. 18 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.
Youth-friendly worship

Worship, Rev. Justin Schroeder
Music: First Universalist Choir Worship Associate: Muriel Ambrus

Feb. 25 Sunday, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Worship, guest preacher
Worship Associate: Jason Tenbrink