

*First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington, Vermont*

*Order of Service*

September 17, 2023

**“A Thousand Beautiful Things”**

*“In the beginner’s mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert’s, there are few.” ~ Suzuki Roshi*

**Prelude**

*Falling Up*  
Sam Whitesell

Sam Whitesell

**Chime**

**Call to Worship**

Rev. Karen G. Johnston

**Chalice Lighting**

“We kindle this flame to remind ourselves of the light of truth, the warmth of community, and the fire of commitment.”

**Welcome**

Mary Beth McNulty, Worship Associate

**Hymn #21**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

**Time for All Ages**

Erika Reif, Director  
Lifespan Faith Development

**Singing the Children Out**

*As you journey, as you journey  
May you know, may you know  
Love and hope go with you, love and hope go with you  
Learn and grow, learn and grow*

**Reading**

“Not According to Plan” by Mark Nepo

**Anthem**

*A Thousand Beautiful Things*  
Lennox

Amelia and Kira Lawson

## Spiritual Practices

### Generosity Practice

*Offerings this month will be shared with the Chittenden Asylum Seekers Assistance Network (CASAN), which helps families who have fled their home countries and are seeking safety in the U.S. While they await legal hearing on their asylum petitions, CASAN provides help finding housing, support for daily living expenses, and connection to local resources and services.*

### Spoken Words

Joys & Sorrows & Gratitudes

Silence

Musical Meditation/Offertory/Ritual of Stones

**Musical Selection**      *Answered Questions*  
Sam Whitesell

### Offering Dedication

*“With gratitude, we dedicate these gifts in the service of our mission to inspire spiritual growth, care for each other and our community, seek truth, and act for justice.”*

**Sermon**                      “A Thousand Beautiful Things”

**Hymn #313**                *O What a Piece of Work Are We*

### Chalice Extinguishing

“We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts and share with the world until we are together again.”

### Benediction

**Postlude**                      *Why Not Ask Now*  
Sam Whitesell

## TODAY’S WORSHIP CREATORS

**Senior Minister**

Rev. Karen G. Johnston

**Worship Associate**

Mary Beth McNulty

**Director of Lifespan Faith Development**

Erika Reif

**Director of Music**

James Stewart

**Musician**

Sam Whitesell

**Guest Musicians**

Amelia and Kira Lawson

**Tech Manager**  
**Tech Team**

Michael Wright  
Woody Fulton  
Memphis Everest  
Zander Herrick  
Blake Ewoldsen  
Peggy Derby  
Mary Harrington, Susan Ogden

**Facilities Manager**  
**Flowers**

**Welcome Ambassadors**

### **TODAY'S EVENTS**

9:45 am - Nursery/Preschool Childcare - Nursery

10:15 am - Children's All Ages Activities - Memorial Garden & Lawn

11:10 am - Coffee Hour - Front Lawn or Community Room

11:30 am - Young Adult Kickoff - Susan B. Anthony Room

12 pm - New UU Part 1 Orientation Session - Parlors

Visit us at [uusociety.org](http://uusociety.org)