First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington, Vermont

Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

CHOOSING HOPE

December 24, 2025 - 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Prelude "Fanfare on Adeste Fideles" (Fey)

Karl Fandrich

Chime

Call to Worship "Dona Nobis Pacem"

FUUSB Choir, Liam Hart &

Rev. Karen G. Johnston

Chalice Lighting

"We kindle our chalice flame tonight to remind ourselves of the message of Christmas, which is Hope; the spirit of Christmas, which is Peace; and the heart of Christmas, which is Love."

Welcome & First Lesson

Invitation to Christmas by Shari Woodbury

6pm: Betsy Ferries

8pm: Mary Beth McNulty

Second Lesson

6pm: Warren Baker & Abbie Wolff

Matthew 1: 18-25; Luke 2: 8-19

8pm: Miles Austin Jackson & Darryl Loiacano

Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Hymn #253)

Liam Hart, Karl Fandrich &

The FUUSB Choir

Third Lesson

6pm: Melinda Lee

"Christmas is Subversive" by Kendyl L. R. Gibbons

8pm: McNulty-deRosett family

Carol

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Fourth Lesson

6pm: Henry, Isaac, & Maddie Wood-Lewis

,

8pm: Sal Millichamp

by Robert Fulghum

"Christmas in the Bathroom"

Anthem

Christus Natus Est (Willan)

FUUSB Choir, Liam Hart & Sam Whitesell

Fifth Lesson

"Christmas Eternal" by Bob Janis

6pm: Andrea Van Liew

8pm: Linda Prokopy

Offering/Offertory

Away in a Manger

(James R. Murray; arr. Sam Whitesell)

Sixth Lesson

Choosing Hope

Rev. Karen G. Johnston

Carol O Holy Night

(Cappeau/transl. Sullivan Dwight)

Seventh Lesson

"I Will Light Candles This Christmas" by Howard Thurman

Candle Lighting (Please tip the unlit candle toward the lit one. Please hold your candle upright and remain seated until the conclusion of the Benediction.)

Carol Silent Night

Moment of Silence

Carol *Joy to the World (Hymn #245)*

Benediction/Eighth Lesson

"Blessing of Hope" by Jan Richardson

Postlude Christmas Is Coming (Vince Gauraldi)

Our Christmas Eve Offering will support the Joint Urban Ministry Project (assisting neighbors in need in Burlington) & the FUUSB Discretionary Fund (aiding members of our community who need financial assistance). You can contribute at onest/firstUUSociety/give/xmas or by texting Steeple Xmas to 73256.

WORSHIP CREATORS

Senior Minister Reverend Karen G. Johnston

Director of MusicLiam HartPianistSam WhitesellOrganistKarl FandrichMusiciansFUUSB Choir

Worship Associates Betsy Ferries (6pm), Mary Beth McNulty (8pm)

Tech Manager Michael Wright

Tech Team Adele deRosset, Keats Overman-Smith

Facilities Manager Devin Fallon

Caretakers Charlie Delaney, Darrell Fields, Bob Furrer

FlowersPeggy DerbyEvergreen WreathSarah Forbes

Thank you to our readers, ushers, candlelighters, operations staff, and Sanctuary decorators!

~ Thank you to everyone who remembered and celebrated a loved one this year with a wreath and greens for our Sanctuary and Meetinghouse.~