

**Unitarian Universalist Church West – Order of Service – November 26, 2023**  
**“When Charity is Toxic”**                      **Rev. Julie Stoneberg**

- 1. Prelude** – “Vuelvo al sur” by Astor Piazzolla - performed by Ruben Piirainen, Music Director
- 2. Welcome** – Jeannie Baker, Board of Trustees Representative
- 3. Call to Worship** – “Come, Yet Again, Come” by Anne Slater - Rev. Julie
- 4. Singing Together** – #188 – “Come, Come, Whoever You Are”
- 5. Chalice Lighting** – “Chalice Lighting in Times of Conflict” by Amy Russell - Jeannie Baker and Rev. Julie

**South:** You who feel your heart is breaking, come in.

**North:** You who are confused and wondering. Come in.

**South:** You who are angry, in pain, or not wanting to be here. Come in.

**North:** You who are hopeful and energized. Come in.

**Leader:** Come into this community of your heart where you have been held in love and in comfort; where you have shared your joy and your spirit; where you have asked questions because you felt they needed asking; where you have found friendship and companions; where you have sometimes not agreed—and sometimes not felt comforted, and sometimes not felt heard.

**South:** Bring your broken heart and your grief. Share them.

**North:** Bring your confusion and your questions. Share them.

**South:** Bring your anger and your pain. Share them.

**North:** Bring your hope and your energy. Share them.

**Leader:** For here in this place, we can be together. We can gather in all the conflicting emotions tumbling around in our heads and our hearts. We bring them together here, and lay them on the altar of community. For community means that fragile, not-perfect human beings can come together in the name of peace and seek to find peace again.

- 6. Spoken Covenant** – “Words of Affirmation” by Lucas Hergert - led by Nathan Seelye

Love is the doctrine of this church

Our faith in each other is its sacrament

Working for justice and living with compassion is its prayer.

Reverently we covenant together

to side with love, to heal and not to harm,

and to share hope with each other and with the world.

- 7. Meditation** - “From Where Does Conflict Come” by David Miller - Rev. Julie
- 8. Sung Meditation** - #34 “Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire”
- 9. Joys and Concerns** - Rev. Julie
- 10. Singing Together** - #84 “How Far Can Reach a Smile?”
- 11. Reading** - “Impact > Intention” by Misha Sanders - read by Jackie Rivest

- 12. Message** - "When Charity is Toxic" - Rev. Julie
- 13. Interlude** - "Improvisation" - performed by Ruben Piirainen
- 14. Offering Words** – Healing Intergenerational Roots – Jeannie Baker
- 15. Offertory Music** - "Intermezzo" by Heinz Provost - performed by Ruben Piirainen
- 16. Singing Together** - #131 "Love Will Guide Us"
- 17. Closing Words & Chalice Extinguishing** – #453, Passover Haggadah (adapted) - Rev. Julie and Jeannie Baker
- 18. Postlude** - "Joy" by J.S. Bach/George Winston - performed by Ruben Piirainen, Music Director

***Our Split the Plate partner for  
November is Healing  
Intergenerational Roots  
How to Give:***

**IN-PERSON:** Loose cash and contributions (checks/cash) labeled "split" will be shared this month's Split the Plate partner organization.

**ONLINE:** Text "UUCW" to 73256 - OR – go to [uucw.org](http://uucw.org) and click "Donate"

**MAIL:** Mail a Contribution to UU Church West – 13001 W North Ave, Brookfield, WI 53005

**THANK YOU TO TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:**

Usher: Emily Clark  
Greeter: Susan Foley  
Newcomer Table: Susan Foley  
Coffee Volunteer: Joyce cable and Darthe Jennings  
Table Decoration: Julie Brown