

Chalice Lighting Booklet



First
Unitarian Universalist
Church

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Our Flaming Chalice

This is the symbol of Unitarian Universalist Faith.
It represents the light of reason, the warmth of
community, and the flame of hope.

Draw a chalice on the table below.

Then say the chalice lighting below & draw a
flame to light the chalice.

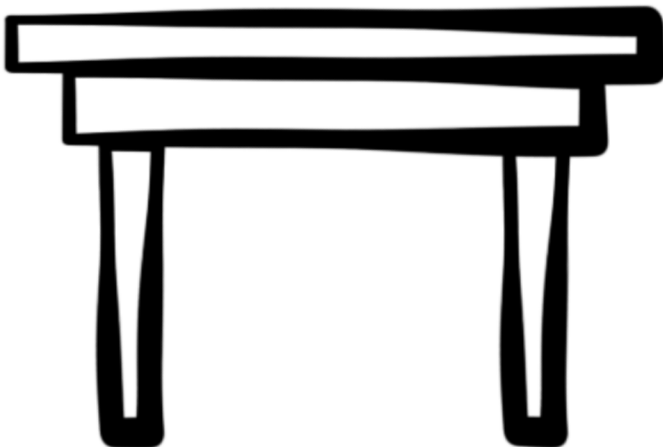
This is the
Unitarian Universalist Church.

This is the church of
the flaming chalice.

This is the church of
the open mind.

This is the church of
the loving heart,

where friends
come together & share.



Why a Flaming Chalice?

A flame within a chalice (a cup with a stem and foot) is a primary symbol of the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition. Many of our congregations kindle a flaming chalice in gatherings and worships and feature the chalice symbol prominently.

Hans Deutsch, an Austrian artist, first brought together the chalice and the flame as a Unitarian symbol during his work with the Unitarian Service Committee during World War II. To Deutsch, the image had connotations of sacrifice and love. Unitarian Universalists today have many different interpretations of the flaming chalice, including the light of reason, the warmth of community, and the flame of hope.

Our current official UUA logo (below) debuted in 2014, offering a visual representation of a modern and dynamic faith. Unitarian Universalist congregations are free to use the UUA's logo in their congregational work, but they are not required to do so. Because of this, you may see many different styles of flaming chalices and other images used by Unitarian Universalist congregations.



Light our Chalice

Every Sunday we start our time together for worship with Chalice Lighting words. These words along with the chalice flame serve as a reminder that we are here together in community and our time together is sacred.

We encourage our congregants of all ages to participate in this ritual we share with all Unitarian Universalist Congregations.

*It is really quite easy to participate
and light our congregational chalice!*

1) Contact Amy Nelson, in person or by email - dre@uurochmn.org.

2) Let Amy know what your availability is on a Sunday morning. You can do one service or both!

3) You can decide if you want to have the words provided for you or if you would rather choose one associated with the theme.

4) You may also just choose to light the chalice and allow someone else to read the words.

Using the Chalice Lighter & Candle Snuffer

1) On the chalice table, there is a small votive candle behind the large chalice. The worship associate should light the tea light prior to the service beginning.

2) If the wick is not sticking out of the end of the snuffer, push the small lever on the side of the snuffer to extend the wick.

3) Touch the wick on the snuffer to the small votive flame, then light the large chalice.

You may want to coordinate with the person doing the reading about when to light the chalice, or else simply light the large chalice at the end of the chalice lighting words.

4) Once the large chalice is lit, use the lever to pull the wick back down into the shaft to extinguish the flame - *then use the lever to push the wick back out so it doesn't stick to the inside of the shaft.*

5) Use the small bell-shaped candle snuffer to put out the votive flame.

Starting Your Chalice Lighting

The lead-in/introduction should be simple. Always try to credit the author. If there is no author listed, you may say 'anonymous' or 'unknown'.

"Today's chalice lighting words come from (author's name)..."

"We light today's chalice with these words from (author's name)..."

"Our chalice lighting words are an excerpt from (insert title here)"

Choosing Chalice Lighting Words

When it comes to choosing chalice lighting words, it is really up to you! Using our monthly theme is a great way to gather inspiration for choosing words. The UUA also has a fantastic resource in their Worship Web Library - <https://www.uua.org/worship>.

The reading can be taken from the back of the hymnal or excerpts from poems or prose. Chalice lighting words should not be more than 90 seconds in length.

Reading Chalice Lighting Words

- 1) If you choose your own words, and they are not in the hymnal, it is recommended to print them out (in a larger font) or download/screenshot it to your phone - cellular/wifi service may be spotty!
- 2) You are encouraged to come about 15 minutes prior to the service so you can practice at the pulpit.
- 3) Before the service, speak with a worship participant to determine when to go up to the chancel - typically it is toward the end of a musical selection, but can vary.
- 4) Reading the chalice lighting words -
 - a) speak slower than you think you should
 - b) speak directly into the microphone - you can move it down so it is directly in front of you or pull out the step under the pulpit
 - c) the camera is located above the picture of Eliza Tupper Wilkes
- 5) When you are done reading, exit the chancel and return to your seat.

Chalice Lighting Words

We light our flaming chalice today for the place of
quietness and holiness within each of us, and for
whatever helps us to feel peaceful inside.

- Ann Fields & Joan Goodwin

Glory be to the earth and the wind.
Glory be to the sun and the rain.
Glory be to the animals and children and all people.
Glory be to our holy flame which calls us
together as one.

-Bettye A. Doty

The language of reverence is, finally, the language of
humanity. The human experience of finding ourselves in
the presence of that intense, fleeting, and demanding
moment when the dull surfaces of things become
transparent to a significance almost greater than we can
bare belongs to all of us.

-Kendyl Gibbons

Be ours a religion which, like sunshine, goes everywhere;
its temple, all space;
its shrine, the good heart;
its creed, all truth;
its ritual, works of love;
its profession of faith, divine living.

-Theodore Parker

Chalice Lighting Words

Our 'grey' hymnal, *Singing the Living Tradition*, is also a great place to find chalice lighting words. Following the hymns, there is a section called "Opening Words", followed by "Chalice Lightings".

Don't limit yourself to just these two parts, either. In this section of the hymnal you will find a wide variety of short readings, categorized by theme.

Some readings found in *Singing the Living Tradition*

- 417 - Barbara J. Pescan
- 429 - William F. Schulz
- 448 - Christine Robinson
- 451 - Lesli Pohl-Kosbau
- 473 - James Vila Blake (below)

Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law.
This is our great covenant:
To dwell together in peace,
To see the truth in love,
And to help one another.

first	Each person is important
second	Be kind in all you do
third	We are free to learn together, and
fourth	Search for what is true
fifth	Each person has a voice
sixth	Build a fair and peaceful world
seventh	Care for the earth and all living things
work together for diversity and against racism & oppression	

open our minds to the mystery & wonder of the universe

learn from people who teach about
justice, compassion, & love

gather inspiration & wisdom from the world's religions



learn from Jewish & Christian teachings to
love our neighbors as ourselves

be guided by truth, reason, & science

celebrate the circle of life & live in harmony with the earth

