

Losing and Finding My Religion

Sunday, June 28, 2026 - 10:30 am

Sanctuary & YouTube Livestream

Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Evanston's Sunday Service

Ringing the Chime

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Eileen Wiviott, Senior Minister

Introit

What if God Was One of Us by Joan Osborne
Gregory Shifrin, piano

Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Eileen Wiviott

We name these realities with honor for all the ancestors, respect for our descendants,
and gratitude for the land we use as sacred space.

Chalice Lighting by Doug Erickson

*Our Yoga Group brought the flowers this morning. They light the chalice with the hope
that you too will benefit from the connection of mind, body & breath.*

***Covenant** by James Vila Blake

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

***Greeting in Gratitude**

***Hymn No. 1017** *Building a New Way*, words & music: Martha Sandefer
Charles M. Anderson, hymn leader; Gregory Shifrin, piano

We are building a new way (3x)
feeling stronger ev'ry day, We are building a new way.

We are working to be free (3x)
hate and greed and jealousy. We are working to be free.

We can feed our every need (3x)
Start with love, that is the seed. We can feed our every need.

Peace and freedom is our cry (3x)
Without these this world will die. Peace and freedom is our cry.

Time for All Ages *The Magnificent Redbud Tree* Rev. Eileen Wiviott
(adapted from Ancient Stories for Modern Times retold by Faye Mogensen)

Joys and Sorrows

For these joys we give our thanks, for these sorrows we give our love.

Prayer

Sung Response No. 413 *Go Now in Peace*; Words & music: Natalie Sleeth
UCE Choir and Congregation; Gregory Shifrin, piano

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.
May the love of God* surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

*Spirit of Love

Offertory

Rev. Eileen Wiviott

Today's offering will be shared with Deborah's Place, whose mission is to open doors of opportunity for women who are homeless. The supportive housing and services provided by Deborah's Place offers women a key to healing and moving on from the experience of homelessness.

Offertory Music

This Little Light of Mine; Traditional Spiritual arr. Ken Berg
Charles M. Anderson, vocals; Gregory Shifrin, piano

Reading

Religious Diversity by H.H. the XIV Dalai Lama

Kera Beskin

Anthem

Losing My Religion by R.E.M., written by Michael Stipe
Charles M. Anderson, vocals; Kevin Barrow, guitar

Reflection

Losing and Finding My Religion

Kera Beskin

Extinguishing the Chalice

by The Rev. Elizabeth Selle Jones

Rev. Eileen Wiviott

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 until we are together again.

***Hymn No. 1064**

Blue Boat Home, Peter Mayer; music: Roland Hugh Prichard
Charles M. Anderson, hymn leader; Gregory Shifrin, piano

Though below me, I feel no motion standing on these mountains and plains.
Far away from the rolling ocean still my dry land heart can say:
I've been sailing all my life now, never harbor or port have I known.
The wide universe is the ocean I travel and the earth is my blue boat home.

Sun my sail and moon my rudder as I ply the starry sea,
leaning over the edge in wonder, casting questions into the deep.
Drifting here with my ship's companions, all we kindred pilgrim souls,
making our way by the lights of the heavens in our beautiful blue boat home.

I give thanks to the waves up holding me, hail the great winds urging me on,
greet the infinite sea before me, sing the sky my sailor's song:
I was born up on the fathoms, never harbor or port have I known.
The wide universe is the ocean I travel, and the earth is my blue boat home.

Benediction

Rev. Eileen Wiviott

Today's worship leaders: Rev. Eileen Wiviott, *Senior Minister*; Kera Beskin, *Worship Associate*; Gregory Shifrin, *Piano*; Charles M. Anderson, *Vocals*; Kevin Barrow, *Guitar*; Adam Gough, *A/V Technician*.

* Please rise in body or spirit. We invite you to sing along.

Please join us in the back of the sanctuary after today's worship service for Kinship Time.