

First Unitarian Church of Omaha
December 18, 2022
"Decoding Jesus"



LGBTQIA Welcoming Congregation

Welcome & Land Acknowledgment - Rev. Shari Woodbury

Prelude "Rondino on an Ancient Spanish Carol" by Penfield (Pat Will, organ)

Chalice Lighting - Vanessa Timberlake

*Spark of the spirit cupped in earth's embrace,
Light of love alive in all creation,
as we kindle this flame, we rekindle our connection
to the sacred web of life.*

Call to Worship - "Rest from Our Journeys" by Linda Hart

Opening Song - "Wonder of Winter" by Johnson

The Sanctuary Singers directed by William Miller (J Gawf, piano)

Time for All Ages - presented by Christina Strong

Singing the Children to Classes - #16 - 'Tis A Gift to Be Simple

New Member Ceremony - Rev. Woodbury & Melissa Gibson, Memb. Coord.

Community Offering - for Youth Emergency Services (YES)

Offertory - "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" by J.C. Bach (Pat Will, organ)

*To donate online, use this QR code (at right), or
go to <https://www.firstuomaha.org/donations>,
then scroll down to the selection for this month's
Share the Plate recipient and click the Donate
button, or just [click here](#). Thank you!*



*If you would like to share a Joy or Concern, you
may turn in yellow card, or write in chat, now.*

Care & Centering

Joys & Concerns - shared from yellow Communication Cards (in
pews), webform, Caring Team, and YouTube chat - Colin M.

Centering Song - #123 - Spirit of Life

Contemplation

Reading - excerpt from “The Mystical Core of Organized Religion” by David Steindl-Rast, adapted

Chant - “We Have Come from the Light” by Shari Woodbury - The Sanctuary Singers

Sermon - “Decoding Jesus” by Rev. Shari Woodbury with Ed Kelly, voice of Jesus

Closing Song - #238 - Within the Shining of A Star

Closing Words & Extinguishing of Chalice

Postlude: Chant Reprise (Pat Will, organ)



Gospel of Thomas manuscript from Codex II of Nag Hammadi Library

Coffee & Conversation - Common Room (basement)

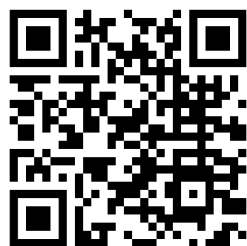
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

For families: *Childcare is offered during our Sunday services for infants through preschoolers (nursery in basement). Elementary and middle/high Sunday School classes begin after the Time for All Ages portion of our service. Children of all ages are always welcome to attend the full service with their families in our sanctuary. The service is also streamed in the Common Room downstairs (a convenient place to settle a fussy babe).*



Hearing Assist Devices are available in the foyer – along the east wall, or ask an usher / greeter to give you one.

Please make your body comfortable. Feel free to knit or handle fidget toys during the service. Throughout the service, you may sit or stand as works best for your body, too (no compulsory standing for hymns). Restrooms are behind the side door of the sanctuary as you go out, and just down the stairs from the foyer.



Coming up... to learn about [upcoming events](#), classes, and other happenings in the church and beyond, scan the QR code at left. Fill out a yellow [Communication Card](#) (or for those online, [Visitor Form](#)) if you would like to be added to the church's email list. You can also [follow us on Facebook](#) (go to Follow settings and choose Favorites) and opt in to text messages from the church via Remind (<https://www.firstuomaha.org/remind>). Prefer hard copy? Printouts of the latest Church News e-blast are available in the foyer.