

# Unitarian Universalist Society of Wellesley Hills



**February 18th, 2024**  
Holding On To Hope

**Worship Leader:** The Rev. Mark Robel

**Director of Music:** Suzanne Cartreine

**Director of Congregational Life & Learning:**  
Michael Packard

**Technology Coordinator:** John Foreman

**Greeters and Ushers:** Kathy White and Anne Stoner

**Hospitality Coordinators:** John and Naomi Cameron

**Minister Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. John H. Nichols

[www.uuwellesleyhills.org](http://www.uuwellesleyhills.org)

## CANDLES OF JOYS & SORROWS

You are invited to light a candle for any joy or sorrow.

**PRELUDE** Partita on "Spanish Hymn": Prelude,  
Chorale, Bicinium, Trio, Aria

James Woodman

**\*HYMN # 107** "Now Sing We of the Brave of Old"

**WELCOMING WORDS**

**COMMUNITY GREETING**

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE** Spirit of Life  
Carolyn McDade

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**UNISON CHALICE LIGHTING**

**We light this chalice to illuminate  
our faithful way forward as an  
inspirational community of hope.  
Together, we seek spiritual growth.  
We strive for just and responsible action.  
We dedicate ourselves to leading lives of  
compassion and purpose.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**STORY FOR ALL AGES** Pandora's Gift

**WORDS OF OFFERING**

*Our collection today and next Sunday go to give aid to  
children in the Middle East. Please donate online using the  
["Give"](#) page on our UUSWH website.*

**OFFERTORY** A Simple Song from Mass  
Leonard Bernstein

**\*RECEIVING THE OFFERING**

**#380 "Old Hundredth"**

*Rejoice in what we know and share,  
in love and beauty everywhere,  
Rejoice in truth that makes us free,  
and in the good that yet shall be.*

**COMMUNAL PRAYER**

**SILENT REFLECTION**

**KINDLED LAMPS & KINDRED SOULS**

**SUNG MEDITATION #1009** "Meditation on Breathing"

*When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.  
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love. (3x)*

**READING**

**MUSICAL REFLECTION** "Someday" from *The  
Hunchback of Notre Dame*  
Stephen Schwartz/Alan Menkin

**SERMON** "Holding On To Hope"

**\*HYMN # 159** "This Is My Song"

**\*EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

**Extinguishing this flame which has burned bright  
in our midst, we revere what has been kindled within  
each one of us — warmth in community, the light of  
truth, a perpetual spark of hope.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**SUNG BENEDICTION** Peace Be With You  
Ralph Vaughan Williams

**POSTLUDE** Partita on "Spanish Hymn": Fughetta,  
Canon James Woodman

\* Please rise as you are able

## Plate Collection

The monthly plate collection theme for February is refugees, and for today and next Sunday our plate collections will be split evenly between two organizations helping children in Palestine and Israel that are displaced or suffering because of the war. Both organizations - the Palestine Children's Relief Fund and IsraAID - have been vetted by Rev. Mark, the Social Action Council, and a rabbi at Temple Beth Elohim.

The **Palestine Children's Relief Fund** is a non-political humanitarian organization delivering crucial and life-saving medical relief and humanitarian aid, including essential surgeries to children in need.

**IsraAID's Emergency Response Fund** is providing emergency medical care, mental health support, essential items, and water, sanitation, and hygiene solutions in Israel. They are also currently providing shelter for evacuees from the conflict.

## This Week

All are welcome to join **UU Wellesley Hill's choir**. We rehearse Wednesdays 7:00—8:45 p.m. and sing for most Sunday services. **Our next rehearsal will be on Wed. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**

## Just Desserts

Join us on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for a discussion about Welcoming the Stranger: **Promoting Immigration Justice in Our Midst**, presented by Michael Gilman, Leadership Team Member of the Immigration Justice Group at Temple Beth Elohim. All are welcome! Desserts will be served at 7:00, and the program will be from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in our Parish Hall.

## Announcements

Our Blue Sky Task Force wants to hear from you.

The Task Force is hosting a series of feedback sessions, which began two weeks and will go through the end of February. The next series of sessions are **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m.** in the Sharp Room and on **Monday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in Zoom. Thank you all for your feedback thus far, and please do not hesitate to reach out to a Task Force Member.

Nancy Geiser's family has donated a copy of her book of poetry to the church. Those who knew her well, know that she was a person of many talents. You can borrow the book from the church vestibule and please return it there within a week so that others may enjoy it as well.

We are now collecting plastic bags in three bins around our campus. This is part of a challenge to collect 1,000 pounds in the span of one year—if successful, we will receive a bench made from composite plastics. Two of our collection bins are outside, so feel free to bring in your contributions at any time. See the bins to know what items are accepted.

## Sunday Morning Volunteers

Please sign up for worship (usher or greeter) and/or fellowship (hospitality) duties either by writing in the poster in Parish Hall or by entering into the shared electronic sign-up sheet, available on the member page of our website.

## Mark Your Calendar

The **Nancy Geiser Memorial Service** will be on **Saturday, March 2nd at 11:00 a.m.** in our sanctuary, with a reception to follow in Parish Hall.

On Sunday, March 3rd, we will welcome musician, storyteller, and justice advocate Reggie Harris to lead our worship service at 10:30 a.m. and return for a concert at 3:00 p.m.

## Our Spring Common Read Discussion

The Social Action Council has selected the book for our Spring Common Read. It will be *Pageboy: A Memoir*, written by actor Elliot Page. Get your copy now! The discussion will happen in Zoom on Tuesday, March 26th at 7:00 p.m.

## Rummage Sale

Our annual Rummage Sale will be on Saturday, April 20th. Rummage week will start Saturday, April 13th. Please contact a committee member to see where you can help. If you have donations, please try to save your items until Sorting Sunday, April 14th. Bringing items sorted by category would also be appreciated.



**UU Wellesley Hills**

Whatever path has brought you here,  
UU Wellesley Hills welcomes you



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