

Inviting the Bell

**Chalice Lighting** by Nadine McSpadden  
*During our darkest moments, still, there is hope.  
When facing our biggest challenges, still, there is hope.  
When all we can do is put one foot in front of the other,  
still, there is hope. We are the hope—for ourselves and for one  
another. Always, there is hope.*

**\*Passing the Peace** “Peace be with you”

**\*Hymn #95** "There is More Love Somewhere"  
(verses 1-2)

Welcome

**Covenant** by James Vila Blake  
*Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law.  
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.*

**\*Hymn #95** “There is More Love Somewhere”  
(verses 3-4)

**Solstice** Andrea LeMeuse  
CUUPS

**Story** Winter: A Solstice Story  
*by Kelsey Gross and Renata Liwska*

Children’s Benediction

Spotlight

Joys and Sorrows

Moment of Silence

**Sung Response #1002** “Comfort Me”  
(verses 1-2)

Offering

**Reflection** Elijah Evans

**Music** “This Holiday” UU Singers  
*By Steve Milloy*

**Sermon** “The Sun Also Rises” Rev. Steve

**\*Hymn #1000** “Morning Has Come”  
(verses 1, 3)

**\*Extinguishing the Chalice** by Rev. Tandi Rogers  
*May we choose hope, even when it trembles.  
May it be the kind of hope that plants seeds,  
Waits in the dark, and trusts the stirring.  
Hope that doesn’t deny despair, but dares to outlast it.*

\*Spoken Benediction

**\*Sung Benediction** “Hymn of Valor”

*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

Minister	Rev. Steve Sieck
Celebrant:	Elijah Evans
Storyteller:	Faithyna Leonard
Song Leader:	Sarah Guenther
Musicians:	Bruce Martin, piano; UU Singers, Karen Kraemer, director
Pastoral Care Associate:	Laura Berardi
AV Tech:	Eileen Jackson
Hospitality Team Lead:	Shelly Kaldenberg

## TODAY'S FORUM

### Know Your Rights Training-

What rights do residents of the United States have when dealing with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)? Join Tom Rendon of Allied Congregations for Immigrant Support for a presentation on the basic protections afforded all U.S. residents through our Bill of Rights and laws. Knowing these rights can better protect people during encounters with ICE personnel.

**ONLINE GIVING.** Support various programs with online donations! Scan the QR code and select a fund:



### Your Pledge

- **Basket Donation**
- **Faith in Action Partners** (donations split evenly among partners)
- **Endowment**
- **and more!**

**FAITH IN ACTION.** Our 2025-26 Faith in Action Partners are the **YMCA Supportive Housing Campus** and **Refugee and Immigrant Voices in Action**. You can now give to these groups through our online giving or by using the envelopes located in the auditorium. All donations will be split evenly.

### Accessibility:

- **Assistive Listening Devices, full-page magnifiers, large-print hymnals and hymnals in Braille:** These are available just inside the Auditorium doors, on the shelves to your left.
- **Disability parking and accessible entrances:** Parking is available outside the west doors just past the drop-off lane in the right lane, or in the lot just south of the church on Casady Drive.

**Lift to all building levels:** Main floor on the east side of the coat room.

# Welcome

to the

## First Unitarian Church of Des Moines

*Love radically. Grow ethically and spiritually. Serve justly.*



2025 December 21 ~ 9:30-10:45  
1st Sunday of Winter



Waxing Crescent