

**UU Church of Columbia, MO**  
Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister  
**“Stop and Smell the Roses”**  
May 4, 2025

**Gathering Song** – “When You Arrive” by Anni Zylstra

*When you arrive  
We all arrive  
So come on in  
Let’s begin*

*This place awaits  
The love you bring  
So welcome home  
And let us sing*

**Welcome**

**Prelude** – “Slow Burn” by Kacey Musgraves – Performed by Kylie Evans & Katie Guinn

**Opening Words**

**\*Hymn #38** – “Morning Has Broken”

*Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God’s feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!*

### **Chalice Lighting & Words of Affirmation**

*Love is the spirit of this church, 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.*

### **Centering Moment**

### **Stones of Joy and Sorrow**

### **Joys & Sorrows Prayer**

**Response** – “The River” by Garth Brooks – performed by Kylie Evans & Katie Guinn

**Reading** – “Today” by Billy Collins

**Sermon** – “Stop and Smell the Roses” by Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon

**\*Hymn #368** – “Now Let Us Sing”

<i>Now let us sing, sing, sing</i>	<i>Sing to the power of the faith within.</i>
<i>Now let us sing, sing, sing</i>	<i>Sing to the power of the faith within.</i>
<i>Lift up your voice, be not afraid;</i>	<i>Lift up your voice, be not afraid;</i>
<i>sing to the power of the faith within.</i>	<i>sing to the power of the faith within.</i>

*Sing to the power of the hope within ...*

*Sing to the power of the love within. ...*

*Sing to the power of the joy within. ...*

**Offertory** – “Take It Easy” by The Eagles – performed by Kylie Evans & Katie Guinn

*This morning’s offering will be a Faith-to-Action collection for Children’s Grove.*

**Give by text to 573-405-1202**

Faith-to-Action: Enter amount, with or with a dollar sign, then a space, then the code **f2a**

General collection: Enter amount, with or without a dollar sign

Pledge: Enter amount, then a space, then the word pledge

**Or give online at** <https://uucomo.org/give/>

## **Closing Words**

### **\*Sung Benediction**

*Now on leaving one another,  
May we give of hand and heart.  
Let us share our benediction,  
Lovingly before we part.*

\* Please stand or remain seated as you feel most comfortable.

Is there a way we can make our worship service or community more accessible to you?  
Let us know. Email the minister at [minister@uucomo.org](mailto:minister@uucomo.org) or call 442-5764.

**Church Staff:** Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister; April Rodeghero, Church Administrator; Jamila Batchelder, Director of Religious Education; Violet Vonder Haar, Director of Music Ministry; Phylshawn Johnson, Sound Technician