

UU Church of Columbia, MO
Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister
Flower Ceremony
May 11, 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 – “Yonder Come Day” trad. Arranged by Adam and Matt Podd – UUCC Choir

Opening Words – by Thomas Rhodes

The Story of the Flower Ceremony

Flower Processional – “Dazzling Bouquet” by Bret Hesla – performed by the UUCC Choir

Chorus:

*Mine is the church where everybody's welcome.
I know it's true 'cause I got through the door.
We are a dazzling bouquet of every kind of flower.
Jump in the vase, 'cause we've got space for more.*

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.*

Stones of Joy and Sorrow

Joys & Sorrows Prayer

***Hymn #123 – “Spirit of Life”**

*Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.*

Meditation – “Protect, Nourish, Celebrate”

***Hymn #346 – “Come, Sing a Song with Me”**

*Come, sing a song with me,
come, sing a song with me,
come, sing a song with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

*Come, dream a dream with me,
come, dream a dream with me,
come, dream a dream with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

*Come, walk in rain with me,
come, walk in rain with me,
come, walk in rain with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

*Come, share a rose with me,
come, share a rose with me,
come, share a rose with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

Consecration of the Flowers – Unison Reading #724 by Norbert Capek

Infinite Spirit of Life, we ask thy blessing on these, thy messengers of fellowship and love. May they remind us, amid diversities of knowledge and of gifts, to be one in desire and affection, and devotion to thy holy will. May they also remind us of the value of comradeship, of doing and sharing alike. May we cherish friendship as one of thy most precious gifts. May we not let awareness of another's talents discourage us, or sully our relationship, but may we realize that, whatever we can do, great or small, the efforts of all of us are needed to do thy work in this world.

Presentation of the Flowers

Litany of Blooming

Response: *May our lives bloom like the flowers*

Offertory – “Heart Full of Flowers” by Copper Wimmin – performed by Violet Vonder Haar, Kylie Evans, & Katie Guinn

This morning's offering will be for the work of the congregation.

Give by text to 573-405-1202

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 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