

UU Church of Columbia, MO
Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister
“Collective Flourishing: Lessons from the Three Sisters”
Monica Clark-Robinson, Intern Minister
September 14, 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 — Violet Vonder Haar

Opening Words

***Opening Hymn #21 – “For the Beauty of the Earth”**

*For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of human care, sister, brother, parent, child,
for the kinship we all share, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

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

Singing Our Children To Class

*Live in joy, go in peace
Hold all our love as we part*

*Live in joy, go in peace
Hold all our love in your heart*

Joys & Sorrows Prayer

Hymn #131 – “Love Will Guide Us”

*Love will guide us, peace has tried us,
hope inside us will lead the way
on the road from greed to giving.
Love will guide us through the hard night.*

*If you cannot sing like angels,
if you cannot speak before thousands,
you can give from deep within you.
You can change the world with your love.*

*Love will guide us, peace has tried us,
hope inside us will lead the way
on the road from greed to giving.
Love will guide us through the hard night.*

Reading – excerpt from *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Musical Interlude – Violet Vonder Haar

Sermon – “Collective Flourishing: Lessons From the Three Sisters” by Monica Clark-Robinson

Hymn #311– “Let It Be a Dance”

*Let it be a dance we do.
May I have this dance with you?
Through the good times and the bad times, too,
let it be a dance.*

*Let a dancing song be heard.
Play the music, say the words,
and fill the sky with sailing birds.
Let it be a dance.
Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance.
Learn to follow, learn to lead,
feel the rhythm, fill the need
to reap the harvest, plant the seed.
Let it be a dance.*

*Let it be a dance we do.
May I have this dance with you?
Through the good times and the bad times, too,
let it be a dance.*

*Everybody turn and spin,
let your body learn to bend,
and, like a willow with the wind,*

*let it be a dance.
Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance.
A child is born, the old must die;
a time for joy, a time to cry.
Take it as it passes by.
Let it be a dance.*

*Let it be a dance we do.
May I have this dance with you?
Through the good times and the bad times, too,
let it be a dance.*

*Morning star comes out at night,
without the dark there is no light.
If nothing's wrong, then nothing's right.
Let it be a dance.
Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance.
Let the sun shine, let it rain;
share the laughter, bear* the pain,
and round and round we go again.
Let it be a dance.*

Offertory – Violet Vonder Haar

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