

**UU Church of Columbia, MO**  
Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister  
“Mapping Our Survival”  
Rev. Jordinn Nelson Long, Visiting Scholar  
September 21, 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** — “We Are” by Ysaye Barnwell – UUCC Choir

**Opening Words**

**\*Opening Hymn #1** – “May Nothing Evil Cross This Door”

*May nothing evil cross this door,  
and may ill fortune never pry about  
these windows; may the roar  
and rain go by.*

*By faith made strong, the rafters will  
withstand the battering of the storm.  
This hearth, though all the world grow chill,  
will keep you warm.*

*Peace shall walk softly through these rooms,  
touching our lips with holy wine,  
till every casual corner blooms  
into a shrine.*

*With laughter drown the raucous shout,  
and, though these sheltering walls are thin,  
may they be strong to keep hate out  
and hold love in.*

### **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 – “The Thread That Connects Us” with Jamila Batchelder**

### **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** – “The Way Knows the Way” by Lyndsey Scott

*You don't have to know the way  
The way knows the way  
You don't have to plan the way  
Trust the way, feel your way,*

*The way knows  
The way knows  
The way knows the way.*

**Reading** – “Church Going” by Philip Larkin

**Musical Interlude** – “Put Your Roots Down” – composer unknown – led by the UUCC Choir

Part 1:

*Put your roots down, put your feet on the ground  
You can hear what she says if you listen*

Part 2:

*'Cause the sound of the river as it moves across the stones  
Is the same sound as the blood in your body as it moves across your bones*

*Are you listenin?*

*Are you Listenin?*

**Reading** – from Robert Bellah

**Sermon** – “Mapping Our Survival” by Jordinn Nelson Long

**Hymn #1020 – “Woyaya”**

*We are going,  
heaven knows where we are going,  
but we know within.*

*And we will get there,  
heaven knows how we will get there,  
but we know we will.*

*It will be hard, we know,  
and the road will be muddy and rough,  
but we'll get there,  
heaven knows how we will get there,  
but we know we will.*

*Woyaya, Woyaya,  
Woyaya, Woyaya*

**Offertory – “Lead with Love” by Melanie DeMore – UUCC Choir**

***This morning's offering is a Faith-to-Action Collection for the Lajee Center.***

**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