

UU Church of Columbia, MO
Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister
“Grief, Praise & Belonging”
Caya Tanski, Lay Leader
Aug. 2, 2026

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 – Board member

Prelude – Singing bowls (Sydney Hemwall) and Guided Meditation (Caya Tanski)

Opening Words

Video – Our Universe/Cosmic Eye

***Opening Hymn** – Wake Now My Senses - Hymn #298

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.*

Mission statement (in unison) – *In the spirit of courageous love, we forge a community of radical welcome and deep connection that moves us together to heal the world.*

Centering Moment – Connecting with the Earth

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 – “Breathe”

*When I breathe in, I breathe in Peace
When I breath out, I breathe out Love*

Reading – “To Live in This World” —Jennifer Eichstedt

Song Circle – “Ancestral Wisdom” – written and composed by Violet Vonder Haar

Sermon – “Grief, Praise & Belonging” – Caya Tanski

Hymn – “Forget your perfect offering” – based on the lyrics of Leonard Cohen – led by Sydney Hemwall

Offertory – “Us” – written and composed by Syd Hemwall

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