


# Order of Service — August 24th, 2025, Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church

## "The Many Faces of Forgiveness"

*"Do you think you can take over the universe and improve it? I do not believe it can be done."  
— Lao Tzu - Ch. 29 of the Tao Te Ching*

<b>Gathering Music</b>	Kevin Mathie, Music Director
<b>Greetings and Announcements</b>	Tracy Watson, Worship Associate
<b>Land Acknowledgement</b>	Tracy Watson
<b>Call to Worship</b>	Erik Halseth, Minister
<b>Chalice Lighting</b>	Tracy Watson
<b>Covenant</b>	
<i>Love is the doctrine of this church. The quest for truth is its sacrament And service is its prayer. To dwell together in peace, To seek knowledge in freedom, To serve humanity in fellowship Thus do we covenant.</i>	<i>La doctrina de esta iglesia es el amor La búsqueda de la verdad es su sacramento Y el servicio es su oración. Vivir juntos en paz Buscar el conocimiento en libertad Servir a la humanidad en comunión Este es nuestro pacto</i>
<b>Hymn:</b> #1007 There's a River Flowin' in My Soul	Kevin Mathie
<b>Welcome</b>	Tracy Watson
<b>Time for All Ages:</b> Muddy Water	Erik Halseth
<b>Unitarian Universalist Affirmation</b>	Erik Halseth
<i>We are Unitarian Universalists: A people of open minds, loving hearts and welcoming hands.</i>	
<b>Sharing the Plate: Haven Hills</b>	Tracy Watson
As part of our commitment to serve our community, we share half our offering with local organizations whose work furthers our mission. Contribute at <a href="https://emersonuuc.org/donate/">emersonuuc.org/donate/</a> , use the Breeze mobile app or scan the QR code in the order of service which takes you to that app, and select "Sunday Offering Shared with Charity." You can also send a check to the church office payable to Emerson UUC, with "Share the Plate" in the memo.	
<b>Congregation Response</b>	
<b>Reading</b>	Tracy Watson
<b>Embracing Meditation</b>	Erik Halseth
<b>Meditative Music</b>	Kevin Mathie
<b>Sermon</b>	Erik Halseth
<b>Hymn:</b> #6 Just as Long as I Have Breath	Kevin Mathie
<b>Extinguishing the Chalice &amp; Benediction</b>	Erik Halseth
<b>Postlude</b>	

*A special thank you to our Tech Associates:  
Adam & Conrad Nisenholz, and House Dow.*

**Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church**  
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**This Week at Emerson**

**Sunday, August 17 - 10:30 AM**  
Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary/[Zoom1](#))

**Thursday, August 28 - 6:00 PM**  
Deep Breaths Meditation (Sanctuary/[Zoom1](#))

**Friday, August 29 - 7:00 PM**  
Improv for Your Soul (Sanctuary)

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**Family Retreat/Cluster Camp Registration is Open!**

Plan to join members of Emerson and other UU area congregations for a weekend of fun and fellowship from September 26 to September 28, 2025 at Camp de Benneville Pines near Big Bear Lake. Use these registration materials to make your reservation. Please see this week's eblast for a link to the registration materials. Financial assistance is available. Please let Leslie Reuter (818-451-9175, call or text) know if you have any questions or need information.

*Leslie also plans to lead a field trip to an Apple orchard Sunday afternoon following our camp weekend for those who join us. See Emerson Fall Auction events for more details.*

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**Book Reading Event**

Public Reading of Trumped Up: Trump's First Term and the Beginning of America's End by Spike Dolomite, Saturday, August 30, 2 - 4 p.m. in the sanctuary RSVP to [spikedolomite@gmail.com](mailto:spikedolomite@gmail.com). Books available for \$20 (cash, check, PayPal or Zelle) [www.spikedolomite.com](http://www.spikedolomite.com)

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**EMERSON AMBLERS UPDATE**

This Monday, August 25, in order to avoid heat and crowds we will meet at 4 pm at Northridge Mall. (Enter parking structure at Shirley & Prairie and meet near Old Navy and Macy's downstairs.) Everyone is welcome to join us for our easy-going stroll & conversation. Please contact LindaBeth Nelson for more information. [Lindabn@mindspring.com](mailto:Lindabn@mindspring.com)

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**Lots of new announcements in our most recent E-Blast!** Make sure to request a copy if you do not receive it by email or check out our website for the most up to date information!

**Ongoing Clubs and Activities**

**Elemental Centering Meditation Meeting**  
Third Sunday - After Service (Emerson Garden)

**Deep Breaths: Meditation during a Stressful Season**  
Second & Fourth Thursdays - 6:00 PM  
(Sanctuary/Zoom 1)

**Environmental Justice Ministry**  
Second Sundays - 12:00 PM (Sanctuary)

**Exploratory Pagan Group**  
First Tuesdays - 7:00 PM (Zoom 2)

**First Sunday Potluck**  
First Sundays - After the Service (Pavilion)

**Mostly Veggie Lunch Club!**  
First Wednesdays - 11:45 AM - 2:00 PM (Offsite)

**Emerson Book Group**  
Third Mondays - 7:00 PM (Zoom 2)

**Improv for Your Soul**  
Every Friday - 7:00 - 8:30 PM (Sanctuary)

**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
First Tuesdays - 6:00 PM (Zoom 1)

**Emerson Amblers**  
Every Monday - 6:30 PM **New Time**

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**August Share the Plate Recipient:  
Haven Hills**

Since 1977 Haven Hills has lifted up survivors of domestic violence to transform their lives. They offer shelter, crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy, and activities supporting increased economic opportunity for over 2,500 women and men each year. In doing so, they help survivors of domestic violence find the strength within themselves to break the cycle of abuse and build a new, productive, and joyful life for themselves and their children.  
<https://havenhills.org/>



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**Emerson Hiking Network**

Jim Wallis is putting together a network of people who would like to hike together. Please contact him if you are interested. See the eBlast and website for more information.