

## **Martha Woodward- Speaker**

**Gathering Music** – "A Rose is Gently Blooming" Brahms

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Greet your Neighbors**

**Prelude** – "Now Tell Us, Gentle Mary" French Carol, arr. Fanck

**Lighting the Chalice**

We gather this hour as do all people of faith---with joys and sorrows, gifts and needs. We light this beacon of hope, sign of our quest for truth and meaning, in celebration of the life we share together.

**Opening Words** – #543 Winter

**\*Opening Hymn** – #231 Angels We Have Heard On High

**\*Affirmation of Fellowship:**

May we be reminded here of our highest aspirations, and inspired to bring our gifts of love and service to the altar of humanity.

May we know once again that we are not isolated beings but connected in mystery and in miracle, to the universe, to this community and to each other.

**Candles of Joys and Concerns**

**Words for Reflection** – "To Drive the Cold Winter Away"

**Meditation/Prayer**

**Offertory Music** – "Sarabande, Minuet, and Gigue" Handel

**\*Offertory Response (to "Old Hundredth")**

From all that dwell below the skies  
Let faith and hope and love arise  
Let beauty, truth and good be sung  
Through every land, by every tongue.

**\*Hymn** – #225 O Come, O Come Emmanuel v. 1 & 2

**Sermon**– To Drive the Cold Winter Away

**\*Closing Hymn** – God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen (see program insert)

**\*Extinguishing the Chalice**

Let this flame remain with us, a symbol of the holiness we seek, dispelling the gloom, lighting a path to faith and hope, its radiance calling us to wholeness, casting the light of freedom, justice and peace upon the world.

**Postlude** – "Happiness at Christmas" Mendelssohn

**Closing Words** – #719 George Eliot

**\*Congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit**

**Everyone is invited for refreshments and conversation immediately following the worship service.**

## **UPCOMING SERVICES**

**December 17- Traditional Holiday Service**

**December 24- KUUF Story Time**

**December 31- Fiona Petersen**

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

**December 13- Meditation at the Wells'**

**December 17- Holiday Gathering at Joanna Henderson's**

## KUUF PURPOSE

...to worship and create a welcoming and supporting community  
...to support and care for one another,  
...to explore, reflect and grow spiritually,  
...to understand our differences,  
...to feel safe to share our deeply held thoughts and values,  
...to be intentionally inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian  
and transgender people,  
...to support collective service to the larger community and to  
celebrate  
together our traditions and our lives with all their sorrows and  
joys.

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Assisting Ministers: Guests

Pastoral Care: Kathryn Vashro – (208) 440-1855

Music Director: Martha Woodward

## TRUSTEES

Jim Vashro (President)

Joanna Henderson

Nancy Stone (Secretary)

Lois Magenau

Bill Hickey (Treasurer)

Donna Peirce

Roger Wells

Mailing Address:

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Visit our website: [www.kuufnh.org](http://www.kuufnh.org)

Call our answering machine at (603) 526-8213 year round,  
for snow cancellations or other updates.

# **Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**



**Andover, New Hampshire  
Sunday, December 10, 2023**