

**EAST SHORE UNITARIAN CHURCH**

12700 SE 32<sup>ND</sup> STREET, BELLEVUE, WA  
(425) 747-3780 · WWW.ESUC.ORG



**“The Fire of Commitment”**  
December 1, 2024



*We practice love, explore spirituality,  
build community, and promote justice.*



*Thank you for silencing all electronic devices. Please ask any usher for an assisted listening device, a large print hymnal, or a braille hymnal.*

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## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

December 1, 2024

**Centering Music**

Eric Lane Barnes

**Ring the Bell**

**Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**

Rev. Dr. María Cristina

**Greeting Our Neighbors**

**\* Opening Hymn #1010**

*We Give Thanks*

**Chalice Lighting & First Advent Candle of Hope**

RE Children & Youth

We light this chalice to remind ourselves to treat all people kindly because they are our siblings in spirit;

To take good care of the earth because it is our home;

And to try to live lives filled with goodness and love because that is how we will become the best people we can be.

**Time for All Ages**

*Be The Light*

Rev. Dr. María Cristina

by Lea Morris

RE Children & Youth

**Children's Recessional**

*This Little Light Of Mine*

(Verse 1) This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

(Verse 2) Esta lucecita yo la haré brillar, esta lucecita yo la haré brillar, esta lucecita yo la haré brillar, brillará, brillará, brillará, brillará!

**Pastoral Prayer/Joys & Sorrows**

**Silent Meditation**

**Musical Meditation**

*I am Sending You Light*

Melanie DeMore

**Reflections**

Women Helping Women

Laurie Wick

Earth & Climate Action

Mark Norelius

**\* Hymn #1014**

*Answering the Call of Love*

**Reflections**

Indigenous Connections

Carrie Bowman

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\* Please rise in body or spirit.

## East Shore Unitarian Church Covenant

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.

## Gifts of the Congregation

Grace Colton

*Text ESUC plus any dollar amount to 73256 to give to ESUC using your text messaging. Standard text message rates apply. You can also scan this QR code, use [esuc.org/give](http://esuc.org/give) or mail in a check to ESUC any time!*



## Congregational Meeting Announcement (December 8)

### Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth,  
the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment.  
These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

### Benediction

#### Postlude #1028

*The Fire of Commitment*

**Worship Volunteers:** Greeters: Keely Cofrin Allen | Ushers: Mary Anderson, Carla Hellekson | Zoom Tech Assistant: Ralph Lutz | ACE Team: Dennis Fleck, Ralph Lutz, Steve Wellons | Coffee Hour Host: Julie Heise

### Next Sunday, December 8 at 10:30 a.m.

*"Las Posadas"*

Rev. Dr. María Cristina & Dushyant Dhalia, preaching

*Las Posadas is a Latin-American Christmas tradition that lifts up the experience of migration and invites us to recommit being a living sanctuary for all migrants and refugees. This Sunday we welcome Dushyant Dhalia, who will be sharing his migration experience to the United States from India and towards Unitarian Universalism as a Hindu.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Giving Tree is Here!** The Giving Tree is beautifully decorating our church foyer! We know it "feels early" but our gift deadline is December 8! Please check out the tags, pick your favorite items and return the unwrapped gift to ESUC! Elves are here to assist. For more details on our agencies checkout out the November Beacon issue!

## TODAY AT EAST SHORE

**Religious Exploration (R.E.) for Children & Youth: In the Education Building:** Kids will gather to begin work on the upcoming Winter Holiday Pageant. Additional rehearsal scheduled for Thursday, December 12 at 5:30pm. On December 15, come at 8:30am in PAJAMAS (that's for our pageant costume!) for a pancake breakfast and rehearsal. Contact [education@esuc.org](mailto:education@esuc.org) for more info.

**Coffee Hour: 11:30 a.m. Outside:** After worship, enjoy a casual time to get to know the East Shore community of friends and members. Head to the foyer for coffee, tea and more!

**The Gift of Aging: Sunday, December 1, 11:45 a.m. (Multiplatform):** The Gift of Aging discussion group will be meeting in person and on zoom on beginning December 1 and continuing once a month through May. We'll be reading the book *Aging as a Spiritual Practice* by Lewis Richmond. Please let Rev. María Cristina ([minister@esuc.org](mailto:minister@esuc.org)) know if you have any difficulty accessing the book.

**Millennial Meetup: Sunday, December 1, 12:00 p.m. (In Person):** Are you a Millennial (born between 1981ish-1996ish)? Nicole Duff is putting together an outing right after worship in Factoria. This is just an opportunity to be social and get to know one another. We will have them the first Sunday of each month. If interested, please contact Nicole.

**Black Lives Matter Flash Stance: 12:30 p.m. in Bellevue:** Join fellow UU activists for our Black Lives Matter Flash Stance in person in Factoria on the corner by Dacell's Jewelers. All are welcome!

**YRUU High School Youth Group: 6:00 p.m. in the Education Building:** Our high school group meets every Sunday night for dinner, community building, and meaningful activities. Questions? Contact our program Director at [education@esuc.org](mailto:education@esuc.org).

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK (MORE AT ESUC.ORG)

**Grounds Work Party & Holiday Luncheon: Tuesday, December 3, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (In Person):** Come any time and help out for any amount of time that you are able to the East Shore grounds where we will be weeding, pruning shrubs, raking leaves, and pulling ivy.

**Fourth Wednesday Book Club: *The Speed of Dark*: Wednesday, December 4, 7:00 p.m. (Virtual):** Join us to discuss *The Speed of Dark* by Elizabeth Moon. In the near future, disease will be a condition of the past. Unfortunately, a generation left behind will be made contributing members of society, but they will never be normal. All are welcome! Join via Zoom: 896 7249 9304, Passcode: 403930.

**Authentic Selves Book Discussion: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. (Virtual):** The UUA's Common Read, *Authentic Selves*, is a sweeping compilation of life stories and portraits of trans and nonbinary people, as well as their partners, parents, children, siblings, and chosen family members. Please plan to attend this Building Beloved Community event. Register on Realm or, by emailing Grace Colton.

**Humanist Discussion Group: Thursday, December 5, 7:00 p.m. (Virtual):** Join our monthly gathering of humanists for a discussion. Topics provided. Led by John Thompson. Join via Zoom Meeting ID: 897 8229 3617, Passcode: 230276.

**Congregational Meeting: Sunday, December 8, 11:45 a.m. (Multiplatform):** After worship, members of ESUC will vote on the budget and amendments to our articles of incorporation and bylaws. Childcare and a light lunch will be provided. A mailing with details has been sent to members.