

## Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

### *In the Darkness, Light!*

**Preservice Music** Ronnie Romano, Music Director

**Land Acknowledgment** Tom Morgan, Worship Associate

**Welcome & Pathways to Connection** Tom

**Gathering Song #235** *Deck the Halls*

**Call to Worship** *Winter Solstice*, Rebecca Parker Rev. Tricia

**Chalice Lighting** Written and read by Tom Morgan

We light this chalice in the spirit of the season

As we glimpse what emerges from the solstice night.

Just as the sun pauses at its southernmost angle,

We too will pause and breathe and be at peace.

For we know the dawn's horizon will brighten,

As the cold softens to warmth,

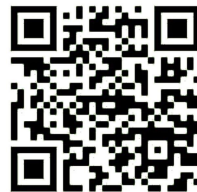
And the darkness yields to light.

**Reflection** Rev. Tricia

**Song** *Peace, Salaam, Shalom*

### **Offering**

Our December donee is **Charter House Coalition**. Please write checks to CVUUS. Cash and checks not otherwise specified will be split between CVUUS and the donee. You can donate online with the QR code. We will also be collecting for the **Holiday Staff Bonus**.



**Offering Music** Ronnie

**Receiving the Offering** *From You I Receive* #302

**Milestones & Passages** Tom

**Time for Reflection** Rev. Tricia

**Choir Anthem** *Shine* by James Stewart

**Reading** *The Shortest Day* by Susan Cooper Tom

**Sermon** *In the Darkness, Light!* Rev. Tricia Hart

**Hymn #55** *Dark of Winter*

**Benediction** Rev. Tricia

**Postlude** Ronnie

**Thank you!** Thanks to Worship Associate Tom Morgan; Tech Team Liam Battjes-Greenwood, Samantha Smith, Becky Strum, and Rich Wolfson; Zoom social host Steve Butterfield; our Choir; Flower Buds for beautiful seasonal decorations (Dinah Smith, Marnie Wood, Alice Berninghausen, Jess Danyow, others); Brett Millier and Jean Terwilliger for greeting; our Caring Network for help with social hour, Donna Blaszczyk and Kathryn Schloff for the December birthday cake, and all others who stepped up to help today.

**Contemplative worship opportunities:** Try the Taize service at St Stephen's Church on Tues. Dec 19 at 7:30 pm and **Vespers with Rev. Christina** on solstice Thur. Dec 21 at 7 pm where Ronnie is the accompanist on piano. Nourish your spirit!

**Christmas Eve Services Sunday Dec 24 ( Pageant at 4 pm and Traditional UU service at 6:30 pm)**—Both collect for CVUUS Discretionary Fund (in coordination with HOPE) and end with the lighting of candles and singing of Silent Night. No morning service. More on these and other December services and activities in the December newsletter available in the lobby and at [cvuus.org](http://cvuus.org).

**CVUUS Communication Assistant Sought** We are looking for someone to assist Laura in the office beginning in January for up to 5 hours per week at \$20/hour potentially on Tuesday and Thursdays from 1-3 pm but it could be structured as work done remotely once training is complete. You would help with processing emails and mail, composing the Blast and newsletter, keeping [cvuus.org](http://cvuus.org) up to date and preparing the final Order of Service. Let Laura ([office@cvuus.org](mailto:office@cvuus.org)) or the ministers know if you are interested.

**We want to keep you safe.** We'll resume locking our doors after worship begins with someone watching them & admitting latecomers and directing you to reserved seating in the back to minimize disrupting the service. See Alan Moore if interested.

#### **RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION (RE) FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

~ Nursery is open and staffed from 9:45-11:15 Sunday mornings

~ Weekly Sunday morning RE programs for preschool to grade 8

**Stay Connected! Weekly Blast (Wednesdays)** provides links to our upcoming worship service, past services, and events.

**Contact Us:** 2 Duane Court, Middlebury VT 05753

**Phone:** 802-388-8080; **Email:** [office@cvuus.org](mailto:office@cvuus.org)

**Facebook:** CVUUSVT; **Web:** [cvuus.org](http://cvuus.org)

**Ministers:** Rev. Christina Sillari, [revchristina@cvuus.org](mailto:revchristina@cvuus.org)

Rev. Tricia Hart, [revtricia@cvuus.org](mailto:revtricia@cvuus.org)

**Office Manager:** Laura Asermily, [office@cvuus.org](mailto:office@cvuus.org)

**Director of Religious Exploration:** Poppy Rees, [re@cvuus.org](mailto:re@cvuus.org)

**Bookkeeper:** Cara Mosier, [fm@cvuus.org](mailto:fm@cvuus.org);

**Music Director:** Ronnie Romano, [music@cvuus.org](mailto:music@cvuus.org)

**Hearing Assistance:** Headsets to amplify sound or for hearing the worship service audio while elsewhere in this building are available in the back of the Sanctuary by the sound system.



## **CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY**

**In the Darkness, Light!**

Worship Leader: Rev. Tricia Hart

Worship Associate: Tom Morgan

**December 17, 2023**

*Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society exists to spiritually nourish, challenge, and sustain people of all ages and circumstances, so that they might lead lives of meaning, integrity, and service.*