

**Resources:**

The hymns can be found in *Singing the Living Tradition* published by the Unitarian Universalist Association, Boston, 1993.

The chalice lighting, prayers, and readings are from *One and Universal* edited by John Midgley, published by Skinner House Books, Boston, 2002 for the ICUU. [www.uua.org/skinner](http://www.uua.org/skinner)

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\* The asterisk used in this curriculum in Unitarian\*Universalism stands for “and/or” to include Unitarian, Universalist and Unitarian Universalist groups that are part of our international movement. The flower shape of the asterisk helps remind us that we are part of an ever-changing garden.



**Unitarians and Universalists Around the World**

We affirm our belief in religious community based on liberty of conscience and individual thought in matters of faith, the inherent worth and dignity of every person, justice and compassion in human relations, responsible stewardship of the earth’s living system and our commitment to democratic principles.

*based on the Principles of the ICUU*

**Call to Worship**    *Ringing of the bell*

**Preliminaries**    Announcements, volunteers to light the chalice, lead readings, etc.

**Chalice Lighting**    O God of life, we come to your refuge. We pray to you. As  
*Samina Tufail Gill*    you have made the earth to give crops, the sun to give light  
*Pakistan*                and heat, moon and stars for guidance, and the same air to  
breathe for all human beings, we pray that you will shower  
the blessing of love and unity for all humanity.

**Hymn**                From you I receive,  
*(#402) Sung at most*    To you I give,  
*ICUU gatherings*        Together we share,  
And from this we live.

**Check-In**            *Take a minute or two to share briefly the high or  
low point of your life this past week.*

**Reading**            **The Ground in Which We Sow**  
*Clifford M. Reed*    As sowers we go out to sow, to sow the seed of our liberal  
*United Kingdom*    faith. But we are conscious that the ground in which we  
sow can vary from place to place.  
For some, the hard, stony ground of the secularized society.  
For some, the fertile ground of people seeking refuge from  
regressive religion.  
For some, the unbroken ground where our seed is new  
and the task is to just get rooted at all.  
Some face the choking weeds of religious and political  
hostility; others are plagued by parasitic growths that sap  
their strength.  
Everywhere the ground is different, but the seed we sow is  
resilient. It has survived and thrived in many fields. It has  
sprouted anew where once it was uprooted and trampled.  
For our seed to flourish it must adapt to new environments,  
changing climates; it must have an inner diversity,  
the ability to exploit new niches, new opportunities.  
For our seed to flourish we must nurture the germ at its  
core – the open heart and the open door; the germ of  
the open, loving spirit.  
This is the spirit that creates communities for meeting  
human need, free from the narrowing creed, the rigid  
ideology, the oppressive institution.  
Our seed, when truly rich in the values we affirm, will root  
and grow – yielding harvest for the human spirit and the  
world's wholeness.

**Sitting in Silence**

**Hymn**  
*(#212 Jacob's Ladder)*

**We Are Dancing Sarah's Circle**  
We are dancing Sarah's circle. We are dancing Sarah's  
circle.  
We are dancing Sarah's circle, sisters, brothers, all.

Here we seek and find our history. Here we seek and find  
our history. Here we seek and find our history, sisters,  
brothers all.

We will all do our own naming. We will all do our own  
naming. We will all do our own naming, sisters, brothers  
all.

**Sharing**

*How did the seed of our faith get sown in you and under what conditions has it  
grown? How has it been nurtured? In other words, describe your journey as a  
Unitarian\*Universalist.*

*Listen deeply as members share their reflections. Do not respond at this time; just  
listen.*

**Discussion**

*This is a time to supportively respond to something another person said or to relate  
additional thoughts that may have occurred as others shared.*

**Hymn**  
*(#346)*

**Come, Sing a Song with Me**  
Come, sing a song with me; come, sing a song with me;  
Come sing a song with me that I might know your mind.  
And I'll bring you hope, when hope is hard to find;  
And I'll bring a song of love, and a rose in the wintertime.

Come share a rose with me; come share a rose with me;  
Come share a rose with me, that I might know your mind.  
And I'll bring you hope, when hope is hard to find;  
And I'll bring a song of love and a rose in the wintertime.

*(Add your own verses)*

**Extinguishing the Chalice**

*Unitarian Brotherhood*  
*Church of Nigeria*  
*(adapted)*

Let us have the mind to help each other in all our days,  
in order to show our belief as true lovers of religious  
freedom.