## MT. DIABLO UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH Wednesday, December 24, 2025 - 8PM "The Star on the Far Horizon." WELCOME!

**GATHERING MUSIC** 

Julie Homi, collaborative pianist

PRELUDE ""Hallelujah Chorus" (adapted) (G.F. Handel arr. Adam and Matt Podd)

MDUUC Chalice Choir Jyvonne Haskin, director Julie Homi, collaborative

pianist

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT

Rev. Leslie Takahashi, Lead Minister

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

The Persyn-Eslick Family

CAROL "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear" (#244, STLT)

Jyvonne Haskin, vocals Julie Homi, collaborative pianist

READINGS FROM THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Kelly Handler

MUSICAL GIFT "Personent Hodie" (arr. John Rutter, English lyrics by Jane Joseph, adapted)

MDUUC Chalice Choir

RESPONSIVE READING "Magnificat" (#619, translated by W. Frederic Wooden)

Aiden McMahon, Intern

Minister

CAROL "Away in a Manger" (traditional)

Jyvonne Haskin, songleader

Julie Homi, piano

Rev. Rodney Lemery

PRAYER FOR THIS NIGHT

MUSICAL GIFT "Wonderful Christmas Time" (Paul McCartney)

Steve Hirsch, vocals Jyvonne Haskin, vocals

Juli Homi, piano

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Rev. Leslie Takahashi

OFFERTORY "O Holy Night" (traditional) & "Odetta Beautiful Star" (R. Fisher Boyce / Adger M. Pace)

Jyvonne Haskin Julie Homi, piano

Each week during the Offertory we light two pillar candles to acknowledge that we are living in a nation at war. The candles represent our wishes for all whose lives are endangered by the conflict, and our hopes for peace. While the offering is received you are invited to come forward and select a stone to place in the column of water representing our community life, sharing it as a sign of remembrance and hope. Feel free to watch and hold your intention as your stone settles into the water's embrace.

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

SHARED READING "Christmas on the Border, 1929" by Albert Rios

Aiden McMahon Rev. Rodney Lemery MUSICAL GIFT "Christmas Is A Feeling" (Natalie Sleeth)

MDUUC Chalice Choir Julie Homi, piano

MESSAGE "On Bringing Wisdom"

Rev. Leslie Takahashi

CAROL "There's a Star in the East on Christmas Morning" (#255)

Jyvonne Haskin, songleader Julie Homi, piano

A BLESSING OF LIGHT

Rev. Leslie Takahashi Rev. Rodney Lemery

CAROL "Silent Night" (#251)

Jyvonne Haskin, songleader Julie Homi, piano

BENEDICTION Rev. Leslie Takahashi

POSTLUDE "We Three Kings of Orient" arranged by Julie Homi

Julie Homi, piano

### NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE: Sunday, December 28, 2025 - "Keep It All The Year."

Charles Dickens' famous tale marks the transformation of its main character by his promise "I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year long." For those of us not quite ready to let the holidays go, what lessons might we carry with us through the coming year?

Please join us for our virtual coffee hour after the service at: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/99389517494">https://zoom.us/j/99389517494</a> or dial in (669) 900-9128 then enter Meeting ID: 993 8951 7494 #

Thanks to our AV Tech staff.

To Give or Pledge go to: <a href="https://www.mduuc.org/give">https://www.mduuc.org/give</a>

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#### **LIVING OUR VALUES**

https://mduuc.org/living-our-values/

At Mt. Diablo UU Church we strive to bring to life our Unitarian Universalist values as we seek truth and work for justice and bridge the divisions that wound the human family. Please visit our "Living our Values" page to locate virtual and physical ways you can be a part in building a better world. If you have suggestions for items on this page, please email them to livingourvalues@mduuc.org.

Please consider taking 20-30 minutes of your day to review our Living our Values web page to participate in a number of cyberactivist activities that can collectively make a difference in our local and world communities. This week we have a number of Climate Justice and Racial Justice petitions and calls to action that could really use your help!