



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY
FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF
SAN JOSE

Birthday

“...if from life you take the best,
And if in life you keep the jest,
If love you hold;
No matter how the years go by,
No matter how the birthdays fly—
You are not old.”
- H.S. Fritsch



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Preliminaries Opening reading and final reading (Sophia Loren).

Opening
- Hymnal #544, adapted
What shall we do with this great gift of Time, this year?
The new year can be new ground for the seeds of your dreams.
Take the step forward onto new ground,
Plant your dreams well, faithfully,
and in joy.

Singing
Feel free to harmonize or add verses—just not lyrics such as “You look like a monkey, and you smell like one, too.” ;>)

Happy Birthday to you,
We celebrate you.
We wish you a fun year,
And a happy one, too.

Sharing – Birthday Person
Please share the past year’s greatest joy(s) and a wish for this next year of your life. (UUA guidelines state that saying your wish in this sort of ritual will not prevent it from coming true.)

Sharing - Group
Going ‘round the circle, please share a wish for the Birthday Person.

Reading
- Sophia Loren
There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will have truly defeated age.

Closing / Extinguishing the Chalice
Have the Birthday Person blow out the chalice after the others finish this “toast.”

To all the days here and after:
May they be filled with fond memories, happiness,
and laughter.

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