



# TOUCHSTONES

## *Worship Resource Packet*

### Worship Resources for Justice

*Please attribute the authors of these resources in the Order of Service and in the service itself.*

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#### **2.0: Chalice Lighting**

##### **2.1:** *For the freedom of faith* by Rev. Heather K. Janules (85 words)

Our prophets died for the freedom of faith;  
We are here in their spirit.  
We are here to practice and sustain our living tradition;  
To light a chalice,  
Claiming for justice  
The heat and power of fire.  
In our free faith,  
We are here,  
Seeking freedom from despair,  
The freedom to be loved as ourselves,  
And the freedom to grow beyond imagination.  
We are here,  
Gathered in the name of all that we find holy.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of gathering here.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/110089.shtml>

##### **2.2:** *Chalice Lighting* by Rev. Steve Stock (56 words)

We light this chalice to celebrate the inherent worth and dignity of every person; to reaffirm the historic pledge of liberal religion to seek that justice which transcends mere legality and moves toward the resolution of true equality; and to share that love which is ultimately beyond even our cherished reason, that love which unites us.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/inherent-worth-dignity>

**2.3:** *Take from life its coals, not its ashes* by Rev. Laurel S. Sheridan (34 words)

Take from life its coals, not its ashes.  
Fan the flames of love and justice;  
join hands and hearts in common endeavor;  
and there will be no limit  
to what we can achieve together.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/110092.shtml>

**2.4:** *Blessed is the fire* by Rev. Eric A. Heller-Wagner (66 words)

Blessed is the fire that burns deep in the soul. It is the flame of the human spirit touched into being by the mystery of life. It is the fire of reason; the fire of compassion; the fire of community; the fire of justice; the fire of faith. It is the fire of love burning deep in the human heart; the divine glow in every life.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/blessed-is-fire>

**2.5:** *The Chalice is a Symbol* by Rev. Debra Faulk (80 words)

A chalice lit in our midst is a symbol of our liberal faith,  
A faith built on the foundation of freedom, reason and tolerance  
A faith sustained by acts of kindness and justice  
A faith that visions a world flourishing, with equality for all her people  
A faith that demands the living out of goodness  
A faith that requires thoughtfulness  
A faith of wholeness  
This tiny flame is the symbol of the spark of all this within each of us.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/chalice-symbol>

**2.6:** *May We Be Keepers of Thy Flame* by Rev. Richard S. Gilbert (89 words)

O flaming chalice, symbol of a free faith,  
Burn with the holy oil of helpfulness and service.  
Spread warmth and light and hope;  
Warm hearts grown cold with indifference;  
Light dark places with justice; rekindle hope in despair.  
May we bring fuel for thy fire of love.  
May the oil of loving kindness flow from us to thy leaping flame.  
May hands of service shelter thee,  
That no winds of hate may extinguish thy brightness.  
May thy light and warmth be eternal.  
May we be keepers of thy flame.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/may-we-be-keepers-thy-flame>

**2.7:** *Out of the Flames* by Rev. Sara Eileen LaWall

Out of the flames of fear  
We rise with courage of our deepest convictions  
to stand for justice, inclusion and peace  
Out of the flames of scrutiny  
We rise to proclaim our faith  
With hope to heal a fractured and hurting world

Out of the flames of doubt  
We rise to embrace the mystery, wonder and awe  
of all there is and all that is yet to be

Out of the flames of hate  
We rise with the force of love  
Love that celebrates our shared humanity  
Out of the flames we rise

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/opening/out-flames>

**2.8:** *A Spark of Hope* by Melanie Davis (37 words)

If ever there were a time for a candle in the darkness, this would be it. Using a spark of hope, kindle the flame of love, ignite the light of peace, and feed the flame of justice.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/spark-hope>

**2.9:** *We light our flaming chalice* by Rev. Elizabeth M McMaster (36 words)

We light our flaming chalice  
To illuminate the world we seek.  
In the search for truth, may we be just;  
In the search for justice, may we be loving;  
And, in loving, may we find peace.

Source: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/we-light-our-flaming-chalice>