



## The Installation of the Reverend Shawn Gauthier as Minister of the Vancouver Unitarians

*In-person and live streamed from the Sanctuary – May 5, 2024*



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**Regular Office Hours:** Monday to Thursday, 9:30 am to 2 pm

**Tel:** 604-261-7204 | **Email:** [info@vancouverunitarians.ca](mailto:info@vancouverunitarians.ca)

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**4:00 PM, MAY 5, 2024**

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<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Selections (Bach to McDade)</i>	Elliott Dainow, piano
<b>Invocation</b>	<i>Ordination Gloria</i>	Music: M. Grigolia / arr. Elliott Dainow Lyrics: Mark Belletini With the Chalice Ensemble
<b>Words of Welcome &amp; Land Acknowledgement</b>		Tamiko Suzuki
<b>Processional Hymn</b>	<b>STLT #126: <i>Come Thou Fount</i></b>	
	Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune our hearts to sing thy grace. Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of life's perfection fills our hearts with joy and love, Teach us ever to be faithful, may we still thy goodness prove.	
	Come, thou fount of ev'ry vision, lift our eyes to what may come. See the lion and the young lamb dwell together in thy home. Hear the cries of war fall silent, feel our love glow like the sun. When we all serve one another, then our heaven is begun.	
	Come, thou fount of inspiration, turn our lives to higher ways. Lift our gloom and desperation, show the promise of this day. Help us bind ourselves in union, help our hands tell of our love. With thine aid, O fount of justice, earth be fair as heav'n above.	
<b>Call to Worship</b>		Rev. Debra Thorne
<b>Kindling the Chalice Flame</b>		Esmé Demers
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>I Believe</i>	Music: Kim André Arnesen Lyrics: Anonymous Jewish poem With the Chalice Choir
<b>Reading</b>	<i>Who Is a Unitarian Universalist Minister</i>	By Rev. Jack Mendelsohn Read by Rev. Christopher Wulff
<b>Offering</b>		Rev. Laura Imayoshi
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Sure on this Shining Night</i>	Music: Morton Lauridsen Lyrics: James Agee With the Chalice Ensemble

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**Sermon**

*Present Moment, Future Moment*

Rev. Shana Lynngood

**Anthem**

*Credo from  
Missa Brevis pro Serveto*

Music: Tobin Stokes  
Lyrics: Rev. Frances Dearman  
With the Chalice Choir

What do I know of the world?  
What does a fish know of water?  
What knows a bird of the air?  
Nothing but weather, nothing but waves.  
Nothing comes from nothing;  
I am born from the earth,  
from air and fire, from water and stars.  
And my life, which I owe to nature,  
being mortal, I shall return to the earth.  
I believe in spirit, breathing upon the waters.  
I believe in lovingkindness.  
I believe in life.

**Act of Installation**

Mairy Beam, President

**President:** We have gathered this afternoon to recognise and to consecrate a relationship that has already begun. In our liberal religious tradition, no right is more precious than the right of a congregation to choose its own ministers. It is with deep feeling, then, that we now formally recognise the relationship that exists between the people of our congregation and Rev. Shawn Gauthier, whom we have freely chosen and who has freely chosen us.

Shawn, we call you to live among us, to make our concerns your concerns, and to lead us, as you are able, in the paths of wisdom, compassion, and peace. We call you to preach the truth in freedom and love, and to minister to us in our times of sorrow and joy. We call you to help educate our children and counsel our youth. We call you to journey with us all on the path toward justice, helping us to live lives of service to one another and the wider world. We call you to lead us in a shared quest toward greater understanding of life's meaning and purpose, and, by your example and your ministry, to give substance to the principles of our free faith. Are you willing to take up this call?

**Minister:** Trusting not in my strength alone, but in the love and goodness inherent in the interdependent web of all existence, and in the assurance of your support, I accept this call with gratitude and with joy.

**President:** I invite the members of the congregation to please rise as you are able and join us in the Act of Installation.

**Members:** We, the Vancouver Unitarians, do hereby install you, Rev. Shawn Gauthier, as our minister. We pledge ourselves to remember that the work of this congregation belongs to us all. As we ask you to be charitable toward our failures, so we will remember that you, too, are human and can falter. We recognise that we bear a responsibility in your material welfare

and ongoing spiritual growth. We pledge ourselves to maintain the freedom of both pulpit and pew. And we pledge to assist and cooperate with you and with one another, as we grow in our common religious life.

**Minister:** With a deep sense of the responsibility entrusted to me, I take up the ministry to which you have called me. I pledge to serve you, to the best of my ability, so that together we might serve the wider world. I will work to build with you a religious community which shows by our example the joyous possibility of a more inclusive and loving community, as we care for one another and for this good green earth.

**Members and Minister:** We honour the past and celebrate the present. Inspired by the enduring principles of our liberal religious tradition, we covenant together to forge an honest, caring, and respectful partnership which empowers our congregation to carry the flame of peace and love into the future.

### **Installation Blessing**

Rev. Debra Faulk

### **Presentation**

Mairy Beam, Cheryl Amundsen,  
Michael O'Neil, Catherine Stewart

### **Hymn**

**STLT #318:** *We Would Be One*

We would be one as now we join in singing  
Our hymn of love, to pledge ourselves anew  
To that high cause of greater understanding  
Of who we are, and what in us is true.  
We would be one in living for each other  
To show to all a new community.

We would be one in building for tomorrow  
A nobler world than we have known today.  
We would be one in searching for that meaning  
Which binds our hearts and points us on our way.  
As one, we pledge ourselves to greater service,  
With love and justice, strive to make us free.

### **Collegial Welcome**

Rev. Meg Roberts

### **Charge to the Minister**

Rev. Claire Feingold Thoryn  
Rev. Julia Hamilton  
Rev. Angela Herrera Koren  
Rev. Paul Sawyer

### **Charge to the Congregation**

Rev. Anne Barker

### **Recessional Hymn**

**STLT #298:** *Wake Now, My Senses*

Wake, now, my senses, and hear the earth call;  
feel the deep power of being in all;  
keep, with the web of creation your vow,  
giving, receiving as love shows us how.

Wake, now, my reason, reach out to the new;  
join with each pilgrim who quests for the true;  
honour the beauty and wisdom of time;  
suffer thy limit, and praise the sublime.

Wake, now, compassion, give heed to the cry;  
voices of suffering fill the wide sky;  
take as your neighbour both stranger and friend,  
praying and striving their hardship to end.

Wake, now, my conscience, with justice thy guide;  
join with all people whose rights are denied;  
take not for granted a privileged place;  
God's love embraces the whole human race.

Wake, now, my vision of ministry clear;  
brighten my pathway with radiance here;  
mingle my calling with all who will share;  
work toward a planet transformed by our care.

**Benediction**

Rev. Shawn Gauthier

**Valediction**

*Carry the flame of peace and love, until we meet again (x2)*

**Postlude**

*Arabesques*

Robert Schumann and Claude Debussy  
Elliott Dainow, piano

***Following the service, you are cordially invited to a  
reception in the Hewett Centre***

## **With Deepest Gratitude**

*Our most heartfelt thanks to the Search Committee, the Installation Team, and to all the participants, friends, and special guests, as well as the staff and members of our congregation, for making this a special day in the life of our congregation. **Thank you!***

### **Participants in the Service**

**Cheryl Amundsen** serves as the Vice-President of the Board of Trustees of the Vancouver Unitarians.

**Rev. Anne Barker** is the Canadian Unitarian Council's Congregational Life Lead for the BC & Western Regions.

**Mairy Beam** serves as the President of the Board of Trustees of the Vancouver Unitarians.

**Donna Brown** is the Choir Director of the Vancouver Unitarians Chalice Choir and Chalice Ensemble.

**Elliott Dainow** is the Music Director of the Vancouver Unitarians.

**Esmé Demers** was a member of the Ministerial Search Committee and is a member of the Vancouver Unitarians Youth Group.

**Rev. Debra Faulk** retired as Minister of the Calgary Unitarians and currently serves on the Board of the Canadian Unitarian Council.

**Rev. Claire Feingold Thoryn** is the Lead Minister of the Follen Church, Unitarian Universalist, in Lexington, Massachusetts.

**Rev. Julia Hamilton** is the Lead Minister of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, California.

**Rev. Angela Herrera Koren** is the Senior Minister of the First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**Rev. Laura Imayoshi** was ordained by the Vancouver Unitarians in 2007 and serves as the Director of Programs and Services at AIDS Vancouver.

**Rev. Shana Lynngood** is a Co-Minister of the First Unitarian Congregation of Victoria, British Columbia.

**Michael O'Neil** was a member of the Ministerial Search Committee and serves on the Board of Trustees.



**Rev. Meg Roberts** is the Minister of the Beacon Unitarian Church in New Westminster, British Columbia.

**Rev. Paul Sawyer** is the Minister of the First Universalist Society of Hartland, Vermont.

**Catherine Stewart** is an artist and the creator of the stole being presented in today's service.

**Tamiko Suzuki** is the Chair of the Worship Services Team of the Vancouver Unitarians.

**Rev. Debra Thorne** retired in 2023 as Minister of the First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo, British Columbia.

**Rev. Christopher Wulff** is a Vancouver-based minister supporting the ministry of several of our congregations in British Columbia and beyond.

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## VANCOUVER UNITARIANS MINISTER & STAFF

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<b>MINISTER</b>	Rev. Shawn Gauthier
<b>DIRECTOR OF LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT</b>	Kiersten Moore
<b>DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION</b>	Casey Wallace
<b>MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH COORDINATOR</b>	Derrick O'Keefe
<b>CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR</b>	Olivia Hall
<b>OFFICE COORDINATOR</b>	Marcus Hynes
<b>BOOKKEEPER</b>	Gordon Lowe
<b>CHOIR DIRECTOR</b>	Donna Brown
<b>MUSIC DIRECTOR</b>	Elliott Dainow
<b>TECH DIRECTOR</b>	Christian Malcolm
<b>HEAD CARETAKER</b>	Paul Nash
<b>CASUAL CARETAKERS</b>	Chelsey Silveira, Vivian Davidson, Edgar Silveira, Abubakar Formuly, Mojave Adin
<b>LAY CHAPLAINS</b>	Laureen Stokes, Cheryl Amundsen, Ariel Hunt Brondwin
<b>MINISTER EMERITUS</b>	Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson

### Vancouver Unitarians

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