

You are welcome at our church.

You are welcome here whatever your age, your gender, your ethnic or religious background, or your sexuality.

You are welcome here with your doubts, your fears, and your questions.

You are welcome here whether you have come alone, or with friends, family, or with another group.

You are welcome here wherever you have come from, and for however long you wish to stay.

You are welcome here no matter what.

You are welcome to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 11.15am.

You can find out more about us by speaking to someone, by phone on 0161 761 3785, by email at buryunitarianchurch@gmail.com, on our website at www.bury-unitarian-church.org.uk, or on our Facebook page (Bury Unitarians).

If you would like to know more about Unitarianism in general, there is excellent information available online at www.unitarian.org.uk.

What will happen in the service?

The service is normally led by our Minister, but sometimes by members of the congregation or visiting worship leaders.

You'll be greeted at the door and given an order of service and a hymn book. The stewards will be able to help you.

We normally start by lighting a Chalice Candle, to symbolise that we are gathered.

Nothing in the service is compulsory: our services normally contain hymns, one or more readings, a sermon, prayers, and time to reflect. We sing the Lord's Prayer together.

You won't have to wonder when to sit, or stand, or what to do – everything is made clear in the order of service you will normally be given. If there is no order of service, things will be explained.

Although a collection is received from the congregation during the service, there are many reasons why someone might just pass the collection box along: we respect all those reasons.

After the service we gather for tea, coffee, and conversation.

In a Unitarian service you will never be told what to believe. The person leading the worship will quite likely talk about what they believe, but you will never be 'wrong' in your own beliefs. If you don't agree with the worship leader's point of view, be assured that you will not be alone in that: we actively welcome debate and loving disagreement, once the service is over.

Other questions:

Can I bring my children?

Yes. We welcome children at Bury Unitarian Church. At the moment we don't have specific activities for them, but we have a space in the worship area where you can play with them, and – if the service gets too much for them – there are books and colouring things in the church lounge.

Are you accessible to people with disabilities?

We hope so. We have wheelchair access; including a large lift to the first floor hall; an adapted toilet; and a hearing loop. We always provide large-print versions of written material, and we are fidget-friendly. If you have other specific needs, please speak to us about how we can try to meet them.

Am I allowed to disagree with what I hear in church?

Absolutely. We actively encourage discussion after the service.

Do you offer rites of passage?

We offer baptisms and baby namings, weddings, and funerals, and we're open to discussing other special services. Please talk to us!

As an LGBTQIA+ person, will I be welcome?

We actively affirm and delight in our LGBTQIA+ members. We offer same-sex marriages and we welcome you as you are.



Welcome to worship at Bury Unitarian Church



You may never have been to a service here before. You may never have been to a Unitarian service before. You may never have been in a church before.

And you probably have some questions.

We hope that this leaflet will answer some of them: but we hope you won't read it instead of talking to us!