

## OPENING WORDS

Wei Tang

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Good morning! Welcome to All Souls! My name is Wei Tang.

I have been a member of All Souls for 10 years. For people like me who did not grow up with any religious background, after immigrating to this new land, I was once introduced to a “church” and thought it was part of my “American dream” package. However, I got completely lost. Until one Sunday morning, I walked into a random glass roofed church near where I lived, I was immediately mesmerized by its beautiful music, poetic sermon and welcomed by the open-minded people. It was at Unitarian Universalist church in Rockville, Maryland. Twelve years since that day, I have found my way.

Here at All Souls, I have attended many activities and made many valuable friends. The sermons are enlightening, the music is magnificent. The more I am involved at All Souls, the better I understand the Church’s principles. The more comfortable I feel here, the better I love the congregation.

Today when I hear people in this country talk about the big challenge we are facing, I always keep an optimistic thinking. Unlike some countries, Love, equality, liberty, freedom these universal values are luxurious, people have to deal with lifetime dictatorship, still live in the darkness in the 21st century. Yes, we have so many disagreements and the country is very divided, but at least we share basic values and still have hope. A drop of water can reflect the sun shining. Our hope is the people we see in All Souls, the strong community we have built. The hope is on the way.