

Welcome to Sunshine Cathedral

Sunshine Cathedral is a different kind of church where the past is past and the future has infinite possibilities.

We are a community committed to learning, to growing, to loving, to sharing. We hold a variety of beliefs, and individual beliefs are likely to change over time. We affirm that each of us is made in the divine image, that we are intrinsically good and blessed to be a blessing to our world.

Sunshine Cathedral is a learning community and a teaching community. We challenge one another to apply critical thinking and practical reason to the myths and metaphors of ancient scriptures. Our commitment isn't to dogmatic certainty but to living lives that are hope-filled, peace-loving, and justice-seeking. We affirm that all people have sacred value.

If you are in the Ft. Lauderdale, Florida area please visit us in person. All of us who make up this extraordinary, joyful, and blessed community welcome you. We invite you to consider making this church your spiritual home.

Safe Space

We are committed to making Sunshine Cathedral a safe place to worship, learn, grow, and become a profoundly spiritual community. To keep this a safe and welcoming space, please respect the following:

- As individuals, we do not own the pews. We may have our preferred seats, but if someone (especially a newcomer or someone we don't know) is in our preferred seat, let's show hospitality by simply sitting somewhere else. Never ask someone to move from "your" seat. Seating is on a first come basis and we want all people to feel very welcome when they arrive here for the first time.
- People come to church to worship, to pray, to reflect, to be *built* up, but usually not to be *picked* up. If you meet someone at church and something romantic develops, that is a blessing, but don't give them your phone number, stalk them on Grindr, make suggestive comments to them, or touch them in overly familiar ways during worship. Meeting people is great, but pursuing them when they are here for worship is off-putting. Please respect the space as well as people's personal boundaries.
- Sexist, racist, ableist, or ageist comments are never appropriate, even in jest.
- If the room is full and someone comes in late, make space for them on your row and even share your bulletin if they don't have one.
- During the exchange of peace, smile at and shake hands with everyone around you. We don't want anyone to feel left out.

- If you see someone you don't know, introduce yourself. Maybe they usually come to the other service, maybe they usually sit on the other side of the room, or maybe they are new. In any case, notice them and extend a kind gesture.
- We have children in our midst. Do not say or do anything you wouldn't want your children, grandchildren, or nieces/nephews to see or hear.
- As transgender and gender non-conforming people find us we want to offer them support in their courageous transitions. Do not ask them personal questions, but simply offer them the same warm welcome you'd want your best friend to receive.
- We have heterosexual and homosexual people as well as bisexuals, intersex, and questioning individuals. Be mindful of our diverse population and make sure that everyone knows they are welcome just as they are.
- Most of our congregants are Christian, but not all. Everyone, regardless of their personal spirituality, is welcome to call Sunshine Cathedral home. 90% or more of our congregants may identify as Christian, but those who are Jewish, Humanist, Buddhist, or other are still part of our family and we value their experiences and their contributions. Never let your spiritual identity become an insult to someone else's. There is room for all of us at the Table of Divine Love.

Thank you for helping Sunshine Cathedral be the most welcoming, more affirming, most joyous, and safest place possible. As the MCC motto says, "We are stronger together."