



October 2, 2022

On Covenant

This month we explore covenant, a foundation of Unitarian Universalism. As we enter into a period of revisiting our OUUC covenant, let's build our covenanting knowledge and muscles.

*Please help us ensure a meaningful experience for all in attendance online and in-person.
Kindly silence your cell phones and turn off wifi on your device.*

Prelude

Troy Fisher (he/him)

Morning Song

Troy Fisher

Hymn #108 "My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

Words: Early Quaker song / Music: American gospel tune

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing!

What though the tempest 'round me roars, I know the truth, it liveth.
What though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love prevails in heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing!

When tyrants tremble as they hear the bells of freedom ringing,
when friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing!
To prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging;
when friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing!

Welcome

Janet Spencer (she/her)

Chalice Lighting

Words by Erika J. Hewitt

Janet Spencer

Opening Words

from Andrea Hawkins-Kamper

Rev. Mary Gear (she/her)

Opening Hymn

Hymn # 1028 "The Fire of Commitment"

Words: Mary Katherine Morn / Music: Jason Shelton

Troy Fisher

From the light of days remembered burns a beacon bright and clear
Guiding hands and hearts and spirits Into faith set free from fear.

Chorus:

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul a blaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within,
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free,
Calling pilgrims still to witness to the life of liberty.

Chorus

From the dreams of youthful vision comes a new, prophetic voice,
Which demands a deeper justice built by our courageous choice

Chorus

Story: The Rules Makes the Game

by Laura Bogle

Rev. Sara Lewis (she/her)

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Share the Plate

Janet Spencer

Offertory

Troy Fisher

Ritual of Sharing from the Heart

Rev. Mary Gear

Prayer

Rev. Mary Gear

Musical Response

Hymn #53 'I Walk the Unfrequented Road'

Troy Fisher

Words: Frederick Lucian Hosmer / John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part II

I walk the unfrequented road with open eye and ear;
I watch afield the farmer load the bounty of the year.

I filch the fruit of no one's toil — no trespasser am I —
and yet I reap from every soil and from the boundless sky.

I gather where I did not sow, and bend the mystic sheaf,
the amber air, the river's flow, the rustle of the leaf.

A beauty springtime never knew haunts all the quiet ways,
and sweeter shines the landscape through its veil of autumn haze.

I face the hills, the streams, the wood, and feel with all akin;
my heart expands; their fortitude and peace and joy flow in.

Reading

Unlocking the Power of Covenant from the Unitarian Universalist
Association Commission on Appraisal

Janet Spencer

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

"On Covenant"

Rev. Mary Gear

Hymn

Troy Fisher

Hymn #318 "We Would Be One"

Words: Samuel Anthony Wright / Music: Jean Sibelius, arr. From The Hymnal

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 bends 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.

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

by Burton D Carley

Rev. Mary Gear

Announcements

Janet Spencer

Unison Benediction

Words: Rev. Mary Gear / Music: Troy Arnold Fisher

Troy Fisher

*May you know the Spirit in you.
May you know the Spirit in me.
With loving and healing, doing and being,
May you know the Spirit in All.*

Postlude

Troy Fisher

Reflection Questions:

What covenants do you recognize in your life?
Have you participated in the creation of a covenant before?
Will you help create an expanded OUUC covenant this Fall?

Next Sunday: "Celebrating Our Differences" with Rev. Mary Gear

We are different and we are one. We explore this paradox and how we bridge differences in a world that seems so divided. This service includes music and a sermon requested by Atley and Sheila Ralston in honor of their OUUC annual auction purchases.

Share the Plate Offering: For the month of September, our Share the Plate recipient is the Olympia Free Clinic.

If you write a check, be sure to make a notation indicating "pledge" if it is a pledge payment. Other donations will benefit the Share the Plate program. Checks can be mailed to OUUC at 2315 Division St NW Olympia WA 98502. Donate online at <https://onrealm.org/OUUC/give/offering>

Donate by text. Text "OUUC offering" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.