



## October Theme: Heritage

When we lie about the past, we steal from the future.

~Abigail Bengson

**Sunday, October 1, 2023**

**“Claiming Our Heritage”**

with Rev. Mary Gear

In order to be fully and wholly who we are, we must know our whole story and history, even the parts that we don't like so much. This applies to individuals and communities and nations seeking to heal and move into an unknown future. How do we recover and reclaim our heritage?

**Prelude** *Troy Fisher (he/him)*

**Morning Song** *Troy Fisher*

**“My Roots Go Down”**

By Sarah Pirtle

**Welcome** *Liz Clement (she/they)*

**Lighting the Chalice** *Liz Clement*

with the words of Rev. Elizabeth Strong

**Opening Words** *Rev. Mary Gear (she/her)*

by Rev. Katie Romano Griffin

**Opening Hymn** *Troy Fisher*

**Hymn #1051 “We Are...”**

Words & Music: Ysaye M. Barnwell

**Story For All**

“Finding Your Way Ethelred Brown”

by Janeen K Grohsmeyer

*Rev. Sara Lewis*

**Musical Interlude**

*Troy Fisher*

**Share the Plate Offering**

*Liz Clement*

**Offertory**

*Troy Fisher*

**Ritual of Sharing From the Heart**

*Rev. Sara Lewis*

**Prayerful Practice**

*Rev. Sara Lewis*

**Musical Response**

*Troy Fisher*

**Hymn #123 “Spirit of Life”**

Words & Music: Carolyn McDade,  
harmony by Grace Lewis-McLaren

**Reading 1**

*Liz Clement*

adapted from “Our Faith's Complacency in Racism”  
by Rev. Nathan Ryan

**Part 1: Naming Our Heritage**

*Rev. Mary Gear*

**Musical Interlude**

*Troy Fisher*

**Reading 2**

*Liz Clement*

“Hidden Histories” by Shige Sakurai

**Part 2: Claiming Our Heritage**

*Rev. Mary Gear*

**Closing Hymn**

*Troy Fisher*

**Hymn #1001 “Breaths”**

Words: Adapted from poem by Birago Diop  
Music: Ysaye M. Barnwell

At OUUC, masks are welcome and optional. Please join us online if you don't feel well.  
Kindly put your cell phones into Airplane Mode to help us ensure a meaningful experience for all in attendance online and in-person.  
Hearing assistance devices are available in the sanctuary at the tech desk.

## Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

from "On the Pulse of Morning"

by Maya Angelou

*Rev. Mary Gear*

## Postlude

*Troy Fisher*

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### Reflection questions:

- Are there historical or current public figures that you think we don't tell the whole truth about? Why do you think we do so?
- Are there heroes that you hold in esteem who have a complicated history? How do you reconcile that?

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**After-Service Forum (11:30 am today):** How We Hold Each Other in Covenant, with Rev. Mary, Rev. Sara, the Healthy Congregations Team, and the Safer Congregations Team

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**Next Sunday, October 8, 2023:** "A Tapestry of Accountability" with roddy bell-shelton biggs (they/them)

As Unitarian Universalists, we are called to be the weavers of a Tapestry of people. To be such weavers takes courage. Join us as we explore how being the weavers of such a tapestry might transform our faith, community, and ourselves. Where might we still need some work, and where might we find the courage to continue the work?

roddy has provided a pre-recorded sermon for this service, and all other worship leaders are expected to be live onsite in the sanctuary, including the choir.

**Oct. 8 After-Service Forum:** Environmental Action Team (EAT) sponsored forum with guests speaking about the Port of Olympia

**Share the Plate Offering:** Our Share the Plate organization for September and October is The Black Power Pathways, a Mutual Aid Fund.

<https://blackpowerpathways.com/>

The Black Power Initiative's mission is to empower and create financial access for Black people to have the power to determine the destiny of our Black Community. With this ultimate vision, one small but significant first step is to provide emergency financial support in the form of small, low barrier cash grants to Black people in need to keep people from slipping through the cracks in this inequitable system. They also are a project of Black Power Pathways, formerly known as A Pathway to Hope, their Black-led start-up non-profit with the long term mission of helping formerly incarcerated people find paths to community support, housing and economic stability.

If you write a check, please note "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. Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

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**Interested in Membership at OUUC?** This year we are trying something new in place of our New Member Classes and offering a gathering twice a month for those interested in knowing more about Unitarian Universalism, OUUC, and membership at OUUC. The gatherings are all on Saturdays, **10:00 - 11:30 am, starting this coming Saturday, October 7.** For more information, reach out to Rev. Sara Lewis.

**Find more details and announcements in the Weekly Update:**

<https://www.ouuc.org/who-we-are/publications/weekly-update/>

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