



December Theme: Transformation

You can't have a physical transformation until you have a spiritual transformation.

~ Corey Booker

Sunday, December 24, 2023

"Holiday Stories and Songs"

with Rev. Mary Gear, Rev. Sara Lewis, and Troy Fisher

On this Christmas Eve morning, we'll celebrate the season
with songs and stories of the winter holidays.

Prelude *Troy Fisher (he/him)*

Holiday Songs *Troy Fisher*

Hymn #239 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Words & Music: African American spiritual,
arr. by Paul Sjolund

Hymn #253 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Words & music: John Francis Wade,
tr. by Frederick Oakeley

Welcome *Anne Kohlbray
(she/her)*

Lighting the Chalice *Anne Kohlbray*
with words adapted from Tess Baumburger

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

with words from Rev. Erika Hewitt

*Rev. Sara Lewis
(she/her)*

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Opening Words

"Waiting For Now" by Mandie McGlynn

*Rev. Mary Gear
(she/her)*

Holiday Songs

Troy Fisher

Hymn #225 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Words: Latin c. 9th cent., trans. composite based on
John Mason Neale / Music: Adapt. by Thomas
Helmores, harmony by John Weaver

Hymn #254 "Sing We Now of Christmas"

Words: Traditional French Carol / Music: Medieval
French carol, harmony by Marcel Dupre

Christmas Story 1

Anne Kohlbray

"A Visit from St. Nicholas" by Clement Clarke Moore

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Share the Plate Offering

Anne Kohlbray

Offertory

Troy Fisher

Ritual of Sharing From the Heart

Rev. Mary Gear

Prayerful Practice

Rev. Mary Gear

Holiday Song

Troy Fisher

Hymn #241 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti, new words by
John Andrew Storey / Music: Gustav Theodore Holst

Christmas Story 2

Rev. Sara Lewis

"Christmas Day in the Morning" by Pearl S. Buck

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.

Musical Interlude	<i>Troy Fisher</i>
Christmas Story 3 "More Than a Bike" by Megan Foley	<i>Rev. Mary Gear</i>
Holiday Song Hymn #235 "Deck the Hall with Boughs of Holly" Words: Traditional Welsh / Music: Old Welsh carol	<i>Troy Fisher</i>
Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice with the words of Rexford J. Styzens	<i>Rev. Mary Gear</i>
Postlude	<i>Troy Fisher</i>

Reflection questions:

- What stories and carols do you like this time of year?
 - How do you mark the coming of the dark and the return of the light?
 - What do you hope to get for Christmas this year?
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No After-Service Forum today - enjoy your afternoon.

Come back later today for "Silent Night: A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service"

5:30 PM: with the OUUC Choir, online (at the usual Sunday Morning Zoom link) and onsite (followed by cookies and fellowship)

9 PM: with guest musicians, onsite only

Children are always welcome at worship. No nursery care is provided for the evening services.

Find a summary of all Holiday services, events, and special giving opportunities here: <https://www.ouuc.org/holiday-services-and-events/>

Share the Plate Offering: Our Share the Plate organization for November and December is The Olympia Coalition for Ecosystems Preservation, or OlyEcosystems (<https://olyecosystems.org/>).

OlyEcosystems is an all-volunteer conservation organization. It focuses on protecting, preserving, and restoring important habitat in Olympia and areas of important habitat connectivity with ecosystems in Olympia. Offerings from Share the Plate will support building steps, for people to witness restoration and re-growth, in the Cooper Crest Preserve.

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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Next Sunday, December 31, 2023:

"Pausing at the Threshold: A New Year's Fire Communion" with Rev. Sara Lewis

Please join us for a very different kind of worship experience as we hold outdoor worship stations to pause, release what we want to release from 2023, and enter 2024 with new intentions. We will also have a social fire pit for visiting and chatting. *Dress for the weather!*

Find more details on these and other announcements in the Weekly Update:

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

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