



### January Theme: Love

*Joy is the gift of love. Grief is the price of love.  
Anger is the force that protects that which is loved.*

~ Valerie Kaur

---

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

**“What Does Faith Mean?”**

with Rev. Mary Gear

The Christian Bible says that the three gifts of the Spirit are faith, hope, and love. We explore the last of these by asking what faith means for Unitarian Universalists.

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

**Morning Song** *Troy Fisher*

**Hymn #1068 “Rising Green”**

Words & Music: Carolyn McDade, arr. Jim Scott

**Welcome** *Anne Radford (she/her)*

**Lighting the Chalice** *Anne Radford*

“The Chalice is a Symbol” by Debra Faulk

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

“In Faith” by Rev. Sunshine Jeremiah Wolfe

**Opening Hymn**

**Hymn #1043 “Székely Áldás” (Székely Blessing)**

Words: Traditional Transylvanian

Music: Elizabeth H. Norton

**Story For All**

“The Goddess and the Redbird”

by Rev. Christina Leone Tracy

**Musical Interlude**

**Share the Plate Offering**

**Offertory**

“Faith is the bird that feels the light”

Words: Rabindranath Tagore

Music: Elizabeth Alexander

**Ritual of Sharing From the Heart**

**Prayerful Practice**

“May Our Lives Be Blest” by Paul Beattie

**Musical Response**

“Hold Fast to Dreams”

Words: Langston Hughes / Music: Susan LaBarr

**Reading**

from Faith Without Certainty: Liberal Theology in the 21st Century by Rev. Paul Rasor

**Part 1: Faith without Certainty**

**Musical Interlude**

**Reading**

“Nada te Turbe” (Don't Despair) by Rev. Susan

Manker-Seale from Voices from the Margins

*Troy Fisher*

*Rev. Sara Lewis*

*Troy Fisher*

*Anne Radford*

*OUUC Choir*

*Rev. Mary Gear*

*Rev. Mary Gear*

*OUUC Choir*

*Anne Radford*

*Rev. Mary Gear*

*Troy Fisher*

*Anne Radford*

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.

## Part 2: Faith, Hope, and Love

Rev. Mary Gear

### Closing Hymn

Troy Fisher

#### Hymn #123 "Spirit of Life"

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

### Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

Rev. Mary Gear

from Reinhold Neibuhr

### Postlude

Troy Fisher

---

#### Reflection questions:

- How would you define faith?
- Do you feel it's possible to have faith without certainty?
- What do you have faith in?

---

**After-Service Forum (11:30 am today):** A discussion with the OUUC Board of Trustees on the role of the board and the role of the minister

---

#### Next Sunday, February 4, 2023: "On Justice" with Rev. Mary Gear

We explore the February spiritual theme of "Justice." What does justice mean for Unitarian Universalists, and what's love got to do with it?

**Feb. 4 After-Service Forum:** Proposed OUUC behavioral covenant

---

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

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

**Share the Plate Offering:** Our Share the Plate organization for January and February is the Medical Equipment Bank.

The mission of the Medical Equipment Bank is to receive donated medical equipment and supplies, and provide them to seniors, their families and individuals with disabilities who cannot afford to purchase on their own. The Equipment Bank provides support and equipment to individuals as they move toward building physical and mental strength, independence and overall well being so they can remain in their homes. The Medical Equipment Bank is completely supported by volunteers, donated equipment, supplies, grants and cash donations.

If you write a check, please note "pledge" if it is a pledge payment. Other donations will benefit the Share the Plate program. ***Please note our new address and update your online billpay services as needed.***

- Checks can be mailed to OUUC at: 2306 East End 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.

---

**Emmy award-winning folk singer and guitarist Carrie Newcomer** will be here at OUUC on Saturday, Feb. 10 for a daytime workshop and evening concert, and then she will lead our worship service on Sunday, Feb. 11. In the workshop on Saturday from 10-1, Carrie will use music, poetry, reflective writing, and conversation to explore what keeps us resilient and hopeful as we work to build a kinder and more just world. Pianist Gary Walters will join Carrie for a concert at 7 pm on Saturday evening. Both events are in-person only, here in our sanctuary, and open to all. For more info and to get your tickets, visit the link below, or contact OUUC member Liz Clement.

<https://www.ouuc.org/carrie-newcomer/>

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.