



Our spiritual practice for November is **Nurturing Gratitude**.

“If you find yourself... hearing, again, the earth's great, sonorous moan that says... all you love will turn to dust... Do not raise your small voice against it... Instead, curl your toes into the grass... Walk through the garden's dormant splendor. Say only, thank you.”

~Ross Gay

Sunday, November 30, 2025

“Plant Seeds of Justice”

with Rev. Mary Gear and Rev. Sara Lewis

We kick off the annual Guest at Your Table effort in support of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's (UUSC) justice work around the world. Join us as we celebrate putting our faith in action historically and now.

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, onsite and online.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the sanctuary at the tech desk.

Prelude

Troy Fisher (he/him)

Morning Song

Congregation

Hymn #1028 “The Fire of Commitment”

Words: Mary Katherine Morn and Jason Shelton

Music: Jason Shelton

Welcome

*Vanessa Nagel (she/her)
& Janet Spencer (she/her)*

Chalice Lighting

“Who We Are Called to Be” by Pat Uribe-Lichty

Vanessa Nagel &

Janet Spencer

Lighting the First Advent Candle: Hope

Ritual by Rev. Rosemary Morrison

Rev. Mary (she/her) &

Rev. Sara Lewis (she/her)

Opening Words

“The Bright Thread of Hope”

by Rev. Gretchen Haley

Rev. Mary Gear

Opening Hymn

Hymn #1017 “Building a New Way”

Words & music: Martha Sanderfer, arr. Jim Scott

Congregation

Story for All

Based on “Planting Seeds of Justice” Reflection

Adapted from a story by Rev. Sara LaWall

Rev. Sara Lewis

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Share the Plate Offering

Vanessa Nagel &

Janet Spencer

Offertory

Troy Fisher

Ritual of Sharing from the Heart

Rev. Mary Gear

Prayerful Practice

Rev. Mary Gear

Musical Response

Hymn #108 “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

Words: Early Quaker song / Music; American gospel
tune

Congregation

Reading

“Desert Flowers”

by Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti

Vanessa Nagel &

Janet Spencer

Sermon Part One: Planting Seeds

Rev. Sara Lewis

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Reading

By Rev. James Luther Adams

Vanessa Nagel &

Janet Spencer

Sermon Part Two: The Power of Community

Rev. Mary Gear

Closing Hymn

“We Shall Be Known”

Congregation

Words & music: Karisha Longaker of MaMuse

Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice

Rev. Mary Gear

“Plant the Seed” by Heather Vickery

Postlude

Troy Fisher

Reflection Questions:

1. Who in the past planted the seeds that have nurtured you?
 2. What seeds in your life have you planted? Tended? Harvested?
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Today's After-Service Forum (12:15 pm, onsite and online):

Reflections on Growing Up in Nazi Germany with Harriet Ammann

Harriet was born in Nazi Germany and then came to America with her family. Come hear about Harriet's family story and the wisdom and lessons she has to share from this experience.

Next Sunday, Dec 7th, 2025, at 9 am (onsite only) & 10:45 am (online & onsite):

“Choosing Hope” with Rev. Mary Gear

We explore the spiritual theme for this month, Choosing Hope. Is hope a choice and how can we choose it when things seem hopeless?

After-Service Forum on December 7th, at 12:15 pm (onsite & online):

What Makes a Healthy Congregation?

Share the Plate Offering: Our Share the Plate organization for November and December is Rebuilding Together Thurston County (RTTC):

RTTC provides free, critical home repairs and improves accessibility for low-income homeowners, typically seniors, persons with disabilities, military veterans, or families with young children. Volunteers preserve existing affordable housing and help people to remain living in their homes.

If you write a check, please note "PLEDGE" if it is a pledge payment. All other donations in the basket will benefit the Share the Plate program.

- Checks can be mailed to: 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

OUUC was participating in food collection for immigrant families living in our community. Thank you all for your generous contributions of food in our recent food drive. The organizers have been overwhelmed with donations and we are **pausing the collection** of food for now. Thank you for your generosity.

We are collecting gift cards for families at our neighborhood elementary school, LP Brown. We want cards in amounts of \$25, which can be brought to Rev Sara. **We are also collecting new toys and books for the Joy and Justice Toy Drive,** which can be brought to a collection box in the Commons anytime OUUC is open.

Today we launch Guest At Your Table, our annual fundraiser drive for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Collect a donation envelope in the Commons or use this donation link to make a donation: <https://donate.uusc.org/give/75595>

Find more details on these and other announcements in the Weekly Update: <https://www.ouuc.org/weekly-update/>