



Our spiritual practice for December is **Choosing Hope**.

“Hope just means another world might be possible, not promised.”

~Rebecca Solnit

Sunday, December 21st, 2025

“Solstice: Flames of Magic”

with Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee

We will celebrate the Winter Solstice during this service. As we share the time of the shortest day, we will explore the hope and the stories that light our way forward.

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

“Turn Around: A Solstice Song”

Words & Music: Donia Prince

Welcome

Whitney Godby (she/her)

Chalice Lighting

Whitney Godby

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle: Love

*Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee
(she/her)*

Opening Words

By Rev. David Breeden

Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee

Opening Hymn “Green”	<i>Congregation</i>
Words: Peter Mayer / Music: Traditional French carol, harmony by Martin Shaw	
Share the Plate Offering	<i>Whitney Godby</i>
Offertory	<i>Troy Fisher</i>
Ritual of Sharing from the Heart	<i>Whitney Godby</i>
Prayerful Practice	<i>Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee</i>
Musical Response Hymn #73 “Chant for the Seasons”	<i>Congregation</i>
Words: Mark L. Bellertini / Music: Czech folk song, arranged by Grace Lewis-McLaren	
Reading 1	<i>Whitney Godby</i>
<i>Winter Solstice</i> by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker	
Sermon Part One: Flame of Magic	<i>Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee</i>
Musical Interlude	<i>Troy Fisher</i>
Reading 2	<i>Whitney Godby</i>
<i>A Winter Blessing</i> by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker	
Sermon Part Two: The Primal Flame	<i>Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee</i>
Closing Hymn Hymn #1063 “Winter Solstice Chant”	<i>Congregation</i>
Words & music: Phillip Palmer, arr. Jeannie Gange	
Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice	<i>Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee & Whitney Godby</i>
Postlude	<i>Troy Fisher</i>

Reflection Questions:

1. Solstice means a turning, tilting of the earth back toward the light of longer days. What does this mean in your life?
 2. Do you have a story of a moment of magic that you can share?
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Today's After-Service Forum (12:15 pm, onsite and online):

No After-Service Forum – Happy Holidays!

This Wednesday, Dec 24th, 2025, at 5:30 pm (online & onsite) & 9:00 pm (onsite only):

“Silent Night, Holy Night: A Candlelight Christmas Eve Service”

with Rev. Mary Gear, Rev. Sara Lewis, Troy Fisher, and the OUUC Choir

All are welcome to our candlelight service to celebrate Christmas Eve. The 5:30 PM service will feature our OUUC choir and be onsite and on Zoom. The 9:00 PM service will feature guest musicians, and be onsite only.

Next Sunday, Dec 28th, 2025, at 10:00 am (**Outside Onsite Only**):

“Fire Communion For The New Year”

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 2025, and enter 2026 with new intentions. No nursery care; we'll be onsite only. **Please join us outside and dress for the weather!**

After-Service Forum on December 28th, at 12:15 pm (onsite & online):

No After-Service Forum – Happy Holidays!

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
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Today at 12:15pm, the Gen XYZ group will meet for lunch in classroom 3. Anyone between 18 and 50-ish is welcome to come for food and fellowship. You can connect with Kedo Baye for more information.

Today in between services, the Cookie Brigade has their annual Holiday Cookie Box Sale! The suggested donation is \$25 per box of homemade cookies, and 100% of sales goes to the OUUC General Fund. The Cookie Brigade is making the world a better place with butter and sugar.

Today in the commons, look for the Cottage Meeting postcards and the Welcome Team table!

Tonight at 7pm join us for the second performance of our wonderful choir's concert: Tuvayhun-Beatitudes For a Wounded World.

On December 25th and January 1st there will be **NO** Thursday dinner.

From December 25th to January 3rd the OUUC office will be closed.

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/>