



Our spiritual practice for March is **Paying Attention**.

*Paying attention is a form of reciprocity with the living world, receiving its gifts with open eyes and open heart.”*

~Robin Wall Kimmerer

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**Sunday, March 15th, 2026**  
**“Paying Attention to Covenant ”**

With Rev. Mary Gear

In Unitarian Universalist congregations, we are united by values and covenants instead of creeds. What does it mean to be and live in covenant?

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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.

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**Prelude**

*Troy Fisher (he/him)*

**Morning Song**

*Congregation*

**Hymn #1000 “Morning Has Come”**

Words & music: Jason Shelton

Morning has come, arise and greet the day!  
Dance with joy and sing a song of gladness!  
The light of hope here shines upon each face.  
May it bring faith to guide our journey home.

A new day dawns, once more the gift is giv'n.  
Wonder fills this moment shared together.  
The light of peace here shines upon each face.  
May it bring faith to guide our journey home.

Open our eyes to see that life abounds;  
open hearts to welcome it among us.  
The light of love here shines upon each face.  
May it bring faith to guide our journey home.

**Welcome**

*Curt Hill (he/him)*

**Chalice Lighting**

“Drawn Together”

*Curt Hill*

By Jennifer Gracen

**Opening Words**

“It Is Not Always Easy to Find Love at the Center”

*Rev. Mary Gear*

by Esther Hurlburt

*(she/her)*

**Opening Hymn**

*Congregation*

**“For the Weaving of Our Lives”**

**[melody is: “For The Beauty of the Earth”]**

Words: Amanda Udis-Kessler / Music: Conrad

Kocher, abridged

For the weaving of our lives on the loom of joy  
and grace,

Warp of love that holds our hearts, weft of  
faith we add each day:

All creation hears our song. We are woven  
kind and strong

.For the thread that each of us offers to the  
world's design,  
Fabric of a thousand hues, heart and hand and  
soul and mind:  
All creation hears our prayer as we weave a  
world of care.

For the web that binds us all gently in its  
tangled skein,  
Baby's cry and prophet's call, strands of peace  
and strands of pain:  
Dear creation, may that we yet repair your  
tapestry.

**Stewardship Moment**

*Tiffany Felch (she/they)*

**Musical Interlude**

*Troy Fisher*

**Share the Plate Offering**

*Curt Hill*

**Offertory**

*OUUC Choir*

“Do Not Leave Your Cares At the Door”

Words: adapted from Norman V. NAYLOR / Music:  
Elizabeth Alexander

Do not leave your cares at the door.  
Do not leave them there when you come into  
this place. Be open to forgiveness and  
transformation —  
Come on in; you are welcome here;  
And do not leave your cares at the door.

Bring your pain and sorrow and joy,  
There's a place for them upon the altar of life.  
Be open to forgiveness and transformation —  
Come on in; you are welcome here;  
So do not leave your cares at the door.

This is a place of grace,  
Of losing and finding our way upon a winding  
road, Meeting and parting, stumbling and  
starting over. Every journey is sacred here,  
even yours.  
So come on in and

Do not leave your cares at the door.  
Do not leave them there when you come into  
this place. Be open to forgiveness and  
transformation —  
Come on in; you are welcome here;  
And do not leave your cares at the door.

Amen.

**Ritual of Sharing from the Heart**

*Rev. Mary*

**Prayerful Practice**

*Rev. Mary*

**Musical Response**

*OUUC Choir*

**Hymn #398 “To See the World”**

Words: William Blake / Music: Norway, arr. By  
Edvard Grieg

To see the world in a grain of sand,  
and a heaven in a wildflower,  
hold infinity in the palm of your hand,  
and eternity in an hour.

**Reading 1**

*Curt Hill*

OUUC Covenant

Slides- Lightfoot McBride

**Part 1: Creating Covenant**

*Rev. Mary*

**Musical Interlude**

*Troy Fisher*

**Reading 2**

*Curt Hill*

OUUC'S Behavioral Covenant  
Slides- Lightfoot Mcbride

**Part 2: Paying Attention to Covenant**

*Rev. Mary*

**Closing Hymn**

*Congregation*

**“Love, Come Take Me Home”**

Words: Jan Elicker / Music: Clif Hardin

I've been a traveler on a lonesome road.  
Its winding has drawn me away so far from  
home.  
I turn my footsteps, and hurry on.  
But still at the end of the day I am so alone.

[chorus]

So, love come take me home.  
Show me the way.  
I've wandered for too long,  
love come take me home to stay.

One day I'll find an open door,  
and open arms inviting me in to belong once  
more.  
A touch, a smile, a friendly face  
will make strangers family in that welcome  
place.

[chorus]

So, love come take me home.  
Show me the way.  
I've wandered for too long,  
love come take me home to stay.

No more a traveler, No more to roam,  
a circle created by love will be my home.  
We'll share that circle and open it wide,  
so all weary wandering souls can be safe  
inside.

[chorus]

So, love come take me home.  
Show me the way.  
I've wandered for too long,  
love come take me home to stay.

**Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice**

*Rev. Mary*

words of Rev. Julián Jamaica Soto

**Postlude**

*Troy Fisher*

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**Reflection Questions:**

1. What covenants/agreements do you have in your life?
2. What do you do to live up to your covenants/agreements?
3. What do you do when you don't live up to your covenants/agreements?
4. What do you expect of others when they don't live up to their covenants/agreements?

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**Today's After-Service Forum (12:15 pm, onsite and online):**

**"How to Respond to Hard Things" Part 2** with Rev. Mary Gear & Rev. Sara Lewis

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**Next Sunday, March 22nd 2026, at 9 am (onsite only) & 10:45 am (online & onsite):**

**"Spotting the Men" with Dale Rhodes**

"Are Men OK?" was The Nation magazine's title in April 2025. It highlights content and conversation not enough of us are engaged in,

even within our personal spheres. ‘Where are the men?’ is a frequent question in certain circles, often left unanswered. Let’s explore how we all might better “spot” the men in our own lives—...”

**After-Service Forum on March 22nd, at 12:15 pm (onsite & online):**

Board forum on stewardship budget

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**Share the Plate Offering:** Our Share the Plate organization for March & April is POWER:

Parent's Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights, is an organization of low-income parents and allies who advocate for a strong social safety net while working towards a world where children and their caregiving are truly valued, and the devastation of poverty has been eradicated. They work to provide grass-roots support for members of our local community through mutual aid, support groups, and legislative advocacy.

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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**If you would like more information about the OUUC Covenants visit:**

<https://www.ouuc.org/about/who-we-are/covenants/>

**We are off to a great start with the 2026-2027 Stewardship drive,** for the budget year beginning in July. If you haven't pledged yet, we invite you to carefully consider the role the church plays in your life and the value it adds to you, our church community and the community we serve. May our love drive our desire to support OUUC to its fullest potential. To give visit <https://www.ouuc.org/give/stewardship/>

**Change to Beverages in the Sanctuary Policy!** In order to be more welcoming, we will now allow **cups with lids** inside the sanctuary. Bringing your own

cup is encouraged. If you do not have your own cup, some disposable cups will be provided.

**The OUUC Buddhist-inspired Meditation Group** is holding its Spring retreat next Saturday, March 21 from 1p to 4:30p in the main sanctuary. For more information or to say you're coming, please contact Curt Hill at [chill528@gmail.com](mailto:chill528@gmail.com).

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