



Our spiritual practice for April is **Embracing Possibility**.

"Ask what's possible, not what's wrong. Keep asking."

~Margaret J. Wheatley

Sunday, April 19th, 2026
"The Possibility of Reconnection"

with Rev. Mary Gear

We celebrate Earth Day with the possibility of reconnection to the interdependent web of all life. We welcome the coming of Spring with a Dirt Communion and an invitation to plant seeds of hope.

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

"Keepers of the Earth"

Words & music: Joyce Poley

We are blessed by ev'ry river,
Ev'ry river makes us whole.
With its riches and its beauty,
Ev'ry river feeds our soul.

And we are called as keepers of the earth,
We are called to speak its sacred worth.
For our children and our children's children,
We are called as keepers of the earth.

We are blessed by ev'ry mountain,
Ev'ry mountain makes us whole.
With its riches and its beauty,
Ev'ry mountain feeds our soul.

And we are called as keepers of the earth,
We are called to speak its sacred worth.
For our children and our children's children,
We are called as keepers of the earth.

We are blessed by ev'ry forest,
Ev'ry forest makes us whole.
With its riches and its beauty,
Ev'ry forest feeds our soul.

And we are called as keepers of the earth,
We are called to speak its sacred worth.
For our children and our children's children,
We are called as keepers of the earth.

We are blessed by ev'ry ocean,
Ev'ry ocean makes us whole.
With its riches and its beauty,
Ev'ry ocean feeds our soul.

And we are called as keepers of the earth,
We are called to speak its sacred worth.
For our children and our children's children,
We are called as keepers of the earth.

Welcome

Anne Kohlbry (she/her)

Chalice Lighting

Anne Kohlbry

“Committed to Respond”

By Rev. Shirley Ann Ranck and Jerrie Kishpaugh
Hildebrand

Opening Words

Rev. Mary (she/her)

“Come Into This Place” by Margaret Weis

Opening Hymn

Congregation

Hymn #1068 “Rising Green”

Words & music: Carolyn McDade, arr. Jim Scott

My blood doth rise in the roots of yon oak, her
sap doth run in my veins.

Boundless my soul like the open sky where the
stars forever have lain.

Where the stars, where the stars, where the
stars forever have lain.

My hands hold the weavings of time without
end, my sight as deep as the sea.

Beating, my heart sounds the measures of old,
that of love’s eternity.

That of love, that of love, that of love’s eternity.

I feel the tides as they answer the moon,
rushing on a far distant sand.

Winging my song is the wind of my breast and
my love blows over the land.

And my love, and my love, and my love blows
over the land.

My foot carries days of the old into new, our
dreaming shows us the way.

Wondrous our faith settles deep in the earth,
rising green to bring a new day.

Rising green, rising green, rising green to
bring a new day.

Story for All

Rev. Sara Lewis

The Soil That Sustains Us By Ariel Aaronson-Eves

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Share the Plate Offering

Anne Kohlbray

Offertory

OUUC Choir

“Our Love Can Mend a Broken World”

Words: William Penn & Tom Trenney / Music: Tome
Trenney

The world seems so eager to threaten,
but love remains patient and kind.
The world strives for wealth, might, and power,
but love longs for soul, heart, and mind.

The world plays a loud, clanging cymbal,
but love sings its still, small voice.
The world delights in bearing false witness,
but love, in the truth, will rejoice!

Let's see what love can do to mend a broken
world.
Let's see what love can do to mend a broken
world.

The world makes our genders unequal,
but love treasures every design.
The world lets our colors divide us,
but love makes the rainbow its sign.

The world harms with guns and with weapons,
but love gives the captive release.
The world often hungers for violence,
but love always thirsts for our peace.

Let's see what love can do to mend a broken world.

Let's see what love can do to mend a broken world.

The world shuns the immigrant's hunger,
but love feeds the poor refugee.

The world argues, "They're not my children,"
but love says, "My child, come to me."

Let's see what love can do to mend a broken world.

Let's see what love can do to mend a broken world.

Our love can mend the world.

Ritual of Sharing from the Heart

Rev. Mary

Prayerful Practice

Rev. Mary

Musical Response

Congregation

"Becoming"

Words & music: Mary Grigolia

I am who I'm becoming, I am all I have done.
I am what I am dreaming, I've only just begun.

You are who you're becoming, you are all you
have done.
You are what you are dreaming, you've only just
begun.

We are who we're becoming, we are all we have
done.
We are what we are dreaming, we've only just
begun.

Reading*Anne Kohlbray*

“Lamentation” by OUUC Member Curt Hill

Homily: The Possibility of Reconnection*Rev. Mary***Ritual: Dirt Communion***Rev. Mary & Rev. Sara***Closing Hymn***Congregation***“For the Weaving of Our Lives”**

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.

Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice*Rev. Mary*

“Committed to Respond” by Rev. Shirley Ann Ranck
and Jerrie Kishpaugh Hildebrand

Postlude*Troy Fisher*

Reflection Questions:

1. What helps you reconnect with yourself? Others? The Earth?
 2. What is in the soil that helps you grow and thrive?
 3. What are your thoughts and feelings about dirt?
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Today's After-Service Forum (12:15 pm, onsite and online):

Skill Builder: Appreciating Volunteers with Rev. Sara Lewis

Next Sunday, April 26th 2026, at 9 am (onsite only) & 10:45 am (online & onsite):

"Stories Shared, Communities Enriched" with Rev. Carol McKinley

Our Unitarian Universalist tradition teaches that truth is not sealed; it is also true that our lives' meanings are not sealed. Our stories deepen narratives of families and communities, helping us to better understand and appreciate this life we share.

After-Service Forum on April 26th, at 12:15 pm (onsite & online):

TBA

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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Today and next Sunday we invite everyone who would like a **new photo** taken for the directory to have their photo taken on the patio after either of the services.

Are you somewhere between 18 and roughly 50? Want to get to know some UU peers over lunch? Our Generation XYZ group meets **today at 12:15** in the classroom wing. Join us for food and fellowship!

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.

Purchase tickets for your chances to win the beautiful quilt donated to the auction by the Sewing Ministry between services in the Commons.

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