



I don't know exactly what a prayer is. I do know how to pay attention....how to kneel down in the grass, how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields..."

~ Mary Oliver, *"The Summer Day"*

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**Sunday, August 16th, 2026**  
**"On the Nature of Good and Evil"**

with Rev. Dr. Silvia Behrend

In our UU tradition we share these values Interdependence: Pluralism: Justice: Transformation: Generosity: Equity. I believe that Process theology offers us a relational model of how to engage in the world, understanding the human responsibility for co-creating the world. This requires that we name and accept the reality of Evil, as well as the reality of Good. When we understand what constitutes each, we can refuse to bow to dictates which go against our nature, aligning with the Good. We will explore the theological roots of Good and Evil and ways that we can consciously choose the Good.

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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**

*Hiroya Tsukamoto*  
*(he/him)*

**Morning Song**  
**"Bright Morning Stars"**

*Congregation*

Words: Matt Meyer / Music: Traditional

Bright morning stars a risin',  
bright morning stars a risin',  
bright morning stars a risin',  
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

Rise up from morning slumber,  
rise up from morning slumber,  
rise up from morning slumber,  
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

We'll raise a mighty chorus,  
We'll raise a mighty chorus,  
We'll raise a mighty chorus,  
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

Bright morning stars a risin',  
bright morning stars a risin',  
bright morning stars a risin',  
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

We'll sing out loud for justice,  
We'll sing out loud for justice,  
We'll sing out loud for justice,  
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

In faith we'll grow together,  
In faith we'll grow together,  
In faith we'll grow together,  
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

Bright morning stars a risin',  
bright morning stars a risin',  
bright morning stars a risin',  
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

**Welcome**

*Christine Parke  
(she/her)*

## **Chalice Lighting**

Words of *Rev. Dr. Silvia Behrend*

*Rev. Dr. Silvia  
Behrend (she/her)*

## **Opening Words**

Words of *Rev. Dr. Silvia Behrend*

*Rev. Dr. Silvia  
Behrend*

## **Opening Hymn**

*Congregation*

### **Hymn #1 “May Nothing Evil Cross This Door”**

Words: Louis Untermeyer / Music: Robert N. Quaile

May nothing evil cross this door,  
and may ill fortune never pry about  
these windows; may the roar  
and rain go by.

By faith made strong, the rafters will  
withstand the battering of the storm.  
This hearth, though all the world grow chill,  
will keep you warm.

Peace shall walk softly through these rooms,  
touching our lips with holy wine,  
till every casual corner blooms  
into a shrine.

With laughter drown the raucous shout,  
and, though these sheltering walls are thin,  
may they be strong to keep hate out  
and hold love in.

## **Story For All**

*“Fall from Grace”* by *Rev. Dr. Silvia Behrend*

*Rev. Dr. Silvia  
Behrend*

## **Musical Interlude**

*Troy Fisher (he/him)*

## **Share the Plate Offering**

*Christine Parke*

## **Offertory**

*Hiroya Tsukamoto*

**Ritual of Sharing from the Heart**

*Christine Parke*

**Prayerful Practice**

*Christine Parke*

**Musical Response**

*Hiroya Tsukamoto*

**Reading**

*Christine Parke*

“We Need One Another” by George Odell

**Part 1: A Theological Reflection**

*Rev. Dr. Silvia  
Behrend*

**Musical Interlude**

*Troy Fisher*

**Part 2: How to Good**

*Rev. Dr. Silvia  
Behrend*

**Closing Hymn**

*Congregation*

**Hymn #128 “For All That Is Our Life”**

Words: Bruce Findlow / Music” Patrick L. Rickey

For all that is our life we sing our thanks and  
praise;  
for all life is a gift which we are called to use  
to build the common good and make our own  
days glad.

For needs which others serve, for services we  
give,  
for work and its rewards, for hours of rest and  
love;  
we come with praise and thanks for all that is our  
life.

For sorrow we must bear, for failures, pain, and  
loss,  
for each new thing we learn, for fearful hours  
that pass:

we come with praise and thanks for all that is our life.

For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise;  
for all life is a gift which we are called to use  
to build the common good and make our own days glad.

### **Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice**

words from *Rev. Dr. Silvia Behrend*

*Rev. Dr. Silvia*

*Behrend*

### **Postlude**

*Hiroya Tsukamoto*

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### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What guides you in recognizing and naming evil?
2. How do you understand the impetus to the Good?
3. How do you know that you matter?

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**There is no after service forum today, forums will return in September.**

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**Next Sunday**, August 23rd, 2026, at 9 am (onsite only) & 10:45 am (online & onsite):

#### **“How the Light Gets In” with Rev. Carol McKinley**

“There is a crack, a crack in everything - that's how the light gets in,” writes Leonard Cohen in “Anthem.” As individuals and as a community holding love at the center, we can help that light get into our lives, and into the world.

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**Share the Plate Offering:** Our Share the Plate organization for July and August is Puget Sound Estuarium:

OUUC member Diana Larsen-Mills and her husband Ken Guza founded Puget Sound Estuarium in 2007. The Estuarium focuses on environmental learning, stewardship, and community engagement. Its

science-based programs serve learners from pre-kindergarten through adulthood, helping people understand and protect the waters, shorelines, species, and estuaries of the South Sound. The “Share the Plate” proceeds will enhance the Estuarium’s scholarship fund so that these learning opportunities will be accessible to all.

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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**This afternoon at 2 pm**, our guest musician, the very gifted guitarist and composer Hiroya Tsukamoto, will present a concert “Rainshadow” here at OUUC. He will premier music from his latest album. We are delighted to have him back with us in Olympia.

**Are you somewhere between 18 and roughly 50** and want to get to know some UU peers over lunch? Our Generation XYZ group meets today at 12:15 in the classroom wing. You can check in with Kedo Baye for more info. Join us for food and fellowship!

**Our FUUN team has created a scavenger hunt here at OUUC** that you can engage with this month. Look for scavenger hunt sheets in the Commons, and return them to be entered to win a prize in a drawing at the August 30th All OUUC Picnic. Please join us for some fun!

**All OUUC Congregational Picnic, August 30 at noon at Yauger Park.**

Come join the fun!

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

