



When we are afraid, we lose touch with our power and are more easily manipulated by any promise of safety. ~Tema Okun

Our spiritual practice for October is "Courage".

Sunday, October 11th, 2026
"Building Infrastructure"

With Rev. Mary Gear

One of the most important things about a faith community is that it helps build social infrastructure, places and relationships that help people form durable ties, develop trust, and care for one another. What does it mean to build infrastructure?

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 #40 "The Morning Hangs a Signal"

Words: William Channing Gannett / Music: William Lloyd

The morning hangs a signal upon the mountain
crest,
while all the sleeping valleys in silent darkness
rest.
From peak to peak it flashes, it laughs along the
sky,
till glory of the sunlight on all the land shall lie.

Above the generations the lonely prophets rise,
while truth flares as the daystar within their
glowing eyes;
and other eyes, beholding, are kindled from that
flame;
and dawn becomes the morning, when prophets
love proclaim.

The soul has lifted moments, above the drift of
days,
when life's great meaning breaketh in sunrise on
our ways.
Behold the radiant token of faith above all fear;
night shall release its splendor that morning shall
appear.

Welcome

*Whitney Godby
(she/her)*

Chalice Lighting

Whitney Godby

"Let Us Dare" words of Craig Rowland

Opening Words

Rev. Mary (she/her)

"Forged in the Fire of Our Coming Together" by
Rev. Gretchen Haley

Opening Hymn

Congregation

"We Will Carry Each Other"

Words & music: Soren Austenfeld

I am looking for shelter in a friend.
We can build a beginning but I do not know the
end
I am scared of breaking when I bend.

We will carry each other on the way:
My courage is your courage
when the journey is only getting longer.

My strength is your strength:
we will carry each other on the way.

There are prayers I don't know how to say.
But I still find solace when I close my eyes to pray
What I've lost and what I hope can stay

We will carry each other on the way:
My courage is your courage
when the journey is only getting longer.
My strength is your strength:
we will carry each other on the way.

I am full and I am running out,
I'm a flooding river and I'm living through the
drought,
I have firm conviction and my heart is full of
doubt.

We will carry each other on the way:
My courage is your courage
when the journey is only getting longer.
My strength is your strength:
we will carry each other on the way.

There are people I have never met,
There is something special, and I haven't found it
yet,
There's abundance, given freely, taken with no
debt!

We will carry each other on the way:
My courage is your courage
when the journey is only getting longer.
My strength is your strength:
we will carry each other on the way.

My courage is your courage
when the journey is only getting longer.
My strength is your strength:
we will carry each other on the way.

Reflection on Courage

*Rev. Crystal Zerfoss
(she/her)*

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Share the Plate Offering

Whitney Godby

Offertory

OUUC Choir

“Guide My Feet”

Spiritual from the collection of Willis Laurence James
Adapted and arranged: Adam and Matt Podd

Oo..... Ah..

Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (Ah...)

Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (Ah...)

I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race.
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

I'm so glad trouble don't last always
I'm so glad trouble don't last always
I'm so glad trouble don't last always
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

No I don't want to run this race in vain!
No I don't want to run this race in vain!
Ah...
Guide my feet.

Ritual of Sharing from the Heart

Rev. Mary

Prayerful Practice

Rev. Mary

Musical Response

OUUC Choir

"Earth Song"

Words & music: Frank Ticheli

Sing, Be, Live, See.
This dark stormy hour,
The wind, it stirs.
The scorched earth
Cries out in vain:

O war and power,
You blind and blur,
The torn heart
Cries out in pain.

But music and singing
Have been my refuge,
And music and singing
Shall be my light.

A light of song
Shining Strong: Alleluia!

Through darkness, pain, and strife,
I'll Sing, I'll Be, I'll Live,
See...
Peace.

Reading

Whitney Godby

"Outside/Inside" by Laura Bogle

Part 1: Havoc and Ruination

Rev. Mary

Musical Interlude

Troy Fisher

Part 2: Building Infrastructure

Rev. Mary

Closing Hymn

Congregation

Hymn #1014 "Answering the Call of Love"

Words & music: Jason Shelton

The promise of the Spirit:
faith, hope and love abide.
And so ev'ry soul
is blessed and made whole;
the truth in our hearts is our guide.

Chorus:

We are answering the call of love:
hands joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
we are answering the call of love.

Sometimes we build a barrier
to keep love tightly bound.
Corrupted by fear,
unwilling to hear,
denying the beauty we've found.

Chorus:

We are answering the call of love:
hands joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
we are answering the call of love.

A bright new day is dawning
when love will not divide.
Reflections of grace
in ev'ry embrace,
fulfilling the vision divine.

Chorus:

We are answering the call of love:
hands joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
we are answering the call of love

Closing Words & Extinguishing the Chalice

Rev. Mary

"A Shared Path" by Craig Rowland

Postlude

Troy Fisher

Reflection Questions:

1. What helps you feel connected?
2. Is there something that you have been afraid to share or reveal at OUUC?
3. Can you imagine what might help you feel that you could share it?

The After-Service Forum today at 12:15: The Library Levy

Next Sunday, October 18th, 2026, at 9 am (onsite only) & 10:45 am (online & onsite):

"Courage on the Threshold" with Rev. Mary & Isaac Castro

We explore the monthly spiritual theme of "Courage" in a time of in-between what has been and what is emerging.

After-Service Forum at 12:15: Meet Isaac Castro Pacific Western Region contact for OUUC

Share the Plate Offering: Our Share the Plate organization for September and October is Pizza Klatch:

Pizza Klatch is a support group for LGBTQ+ youth and their allies that is held in classrooms during lunchtime at participating local high schools, run by two trained adult co-facilitators who are members of the LGBTQ+ community or allies. The Mission of Pizza Klatch is to foster resilience in LGBTQ+ youth and create a safe and positive school experience through support, education and empowerment. The group's values include inclusiveness, continuing communication, community building, safety, and youth leadership."

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

At 12:15 today, please join us here in the sanctuary or back in the main Zoom room for a forum on the **library levy on the election ballot**.

At 2pm today all who are interested in knowing more about OUUC or becoming a member are invited to our **New UU/New Member class** series. Today's topic will be OUUC congregational history and the buildings and grounds.

Each week this year we will be highlighting opportunities for getting involved at OUUC. The Opportunity of the Week for this week is the Legacy Giving Team. This team's mission is to invite OUUC members to include the church in their will or estate plan to help sustain the future financial well-being of the

congregation. We also promote and steward gifts to OUUC's Endowment Fund. The fund's earnings provide a source of financial support for OUUC, now and for generations to come. The team is looking for members who enjoy writing, communication, inspiring others, and partnering with stewardship and other philanthropy-focused teams. **Contact Pam Toal if you are interested.**

Coming up this Thursday the 15th at 6:30pm we will have our drop in Soul Matters discussion circle. This is an opportunity to explore the spiritual theme of the month with others. You can **find printed soul matters packets in the Commons or email Rev Sara for a digital copy.**

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