



### April Theme: Interdependence

*“You carry Mother Earth within you. She is not outside of you. Mother Earth is not just your environment. In that insight of inter-being, it is possible to have real communication with the Earth, which is the highest form of prayer.”*

~ Thich Nhat Hanh

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

**“The Interdependent Web”**

with Rev. Mary Gear

Our theology claims that we are part of an interdependent web of existence, and we humans are just one part. How do we live and work for justice in a culture that worships rugged individualism?

**Prelude** *Troy Fisher (he/him)*

**Morning Song** *Troy Fisher*

**Hymn #1052 “The Oneness of Everything”**

Words & Music: Jim Scott

**Welcome** *Anne Radford (she/her)*

**Lighting the Chalice** *Anne Radford*

“One Love” by Rev. Hope Johnson

**Opening Words** *Rev. Mary Gear (she/her)*

“We Are One” by Rev. Carol Thomas Cissel

**Opening Hymn** *Troy Fisher*

**Hymn #134 “Our World Is One World”**

Words & Music: Cecily Taylor, arr. Richard Graves

**Stewardship Testimonial** *Wendy Steffenson*

*(she/her)*

**Musical Interlude** *Troy Fisher*

**Share the Plate Offering** *Anne Radford*

**Offertory** *Troy Fisher*

**Ritual of Sharing From the Heart** *Rev. Mary Gear*

**Prayerful Practice** *Rev. Mary Gear*

“Breath With Me” by Rev. Matt Alspaugh

**Musical Response** *Troy Fisher*

**Hymn #1060 “As We Sing of Hope and Joy”**

Words & Music: Elizabeth Alexander

**Reading 1** *Anne Radford*

from the Final Proposed Revision to Article II,  
UUA's Article II Study Commission, October 2023

**Part 1: Theology** *Rev. Mary Gear*

**Musical Interlude** *Troy Fisher*

**Reading 2** *Anne Radford*

from “Finding Hope in Uncomfortable Truth” by Alice  
Kurima Newberry, in UU World (2022 Fall/Winter)

**Part 2: Relationships** *Rev. Mary Gear*

<https://www.ouuc.org/congregational-covenant/>

**Musical Interlude** *Troy Fisher*

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 online and in-person.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the sanctuary at the tech desk.

### Reading 3

“The Task of the Religious Community”

by Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison Reed

*Anne Radford*

### Part 3: Justice

*Rev. Mary Gear*

### Closing Hymn

#### Hymn #175 “We Celebrate the Web of Life”

Words: Alicia S. Carpenter / Music: Melchior Vulpius

*Troy Fisher*

### Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

“A Variation on Deuteronomy 6:11” by Rev. Peter Raible

*Rev. Mary Gear*

### Postlude

*Troy Fisher*

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### Reflection questions:

- Are there practices that help you remember what you are connected to?
- Have there been times or places when you’ve felt very connected to something greater than yourself?

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**Today’s afternoon event (12-2pm, online & onsite):** “Communicate to Connect” workshop by the Dispute Resolution Center, sponsored by the OUUC Healthy Congregations Team, light lunch served before.

<https://www.ouuc.org/drc-workshop/>

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### Next Sunday, April 14, 2024:

“Freedom and Connection” with Rev. Monica Jacobson-Tennessee

Author Mia Birdsong writes “Being free is, in part, achieved through being connected.” This framing has much to offer us, as covenantal people of a free faith. Come explore the life-giving possibilities and power held in freedom paired with connection and interdependence.

**April 14 After-Service (11:30 am):** Faith in Action Forum with the Estuarium

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**Share the Plate Offering:** Our Share the Plate organization for March and April is the Hawk Foundation.

The Hawk Foundation for Research and Education in African Culture dedicates itself to the promotion of education, holistic health and trauma healing in the African American community, with recognition that when one is healed it touches those around them. The Hawk provides African and African American music and history education for their various Thurston County School partners. Also, they provide evidence based African drum facilitation with juvenile detention centers.

If you write a check, please note "pledge" if it is a pledge payment. Other donations will benefit the Share the Plate program.

- Checks can be mailed to OUUC at: 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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**“Interdependent Web of Life” children’s class begins this week.** Kids ages 5-10 can register for this 8 week class all about our interconnected world and our human place in nature. Classes are 6:30-7:30 pm, following the Thursday dinner.

**We need your help to reach the stewardship goal this month.** As of Saturday, 4/6, there are 206 pledges committing to \$457,012, still short of our goal of \$571,446. Thank you to those who have pledged so far! We hope to finish receiving pledges in the next few weeks so we can plan the budget and programs for next year, so if you have not pledged yet or if you have questions, visit the Stewardship table in the Commons after the service, or visit the website: <https://www.ouuc.org/giving/pledging/>

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