



May Spiritual Theme: Pluralism

*Inclusivity is not “how do we make you a part of what we are?”
but “how do we become more of what you are?”*

~ angel Kyodo williams Sensei

Sunday, May 26, 2024

“Your body is a poem; Your body is a prayer”

with Rev. Liz Ullery Swenson

*“...dismiss whatever insults your own soul; and your very flesh shall be a
great poem, and have the richest fluency...”*

~ Walt Whitman, preface to Leaves of Grass

Reclaiming and reconnecting with the Divine nature within us
through theopoetics and an embodied theology.

Prelude *Troy Fisher (he/him)*

Morning Song *Troy Fisher*

Hymn #311 “Let It Be a Dance”

Words & Music: Ric Masten, arr. by Betty A. Wylder

Welcome *Anne Kohlbray (she/her)*

Lighting the Chalice *Anne Kohlbray*

Rev. Liz shares these words from WildWood
Gathering’s liturgy, which they say as they light their
candle each Sunday.

Opening Words *Rev. Liz Swenson*
by Rev. Liz Ullery Swenson *(she/her)*

Opening Hymn *Troy Fisher*

Hymn #313 “O What a Piece of Work Are We”

Words: Malvina Reynolds / Music: The Southern
Harmony, harmony by Charles H. Webb

Story For All *Rev. Liz Swenson*

The Knowing by Ani DiFranco

Musical Interlude *Troy Fisher*

Share the Plate Offering *Anne Kohlbray*

Offertory *OUUC Choir*

“Teach Your Children”

Words & Music: Graham Nash, arr. Philip Lawson

Ritual of Sharing From the Heart *Rev. Liz Swenson*

Prayerful Practice *Rev. Liz Swenson*

Musical Response *OUUC Choir*

“Psalm of Life”

Poetry: Mattie J.T. Stepanek

Music: Craig Hella Johnson

Reading *Anne Kohlbray*

by Rubem A. Alves, from his essay *Theopoetics: Longing
and Liberation* published in Struggles for Solidarity:
Liberation Theologies in Tension

Sermon: “Your body is a poem; Your body is a prayer” *Rev. Liz Swenson*

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.

Closing Hymn

Troy Fisher

Hymn #1001 “Breaths”

Words: Adapted from poem by Birago Diop

Music: Ysaye M. Barnwell

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

Rev. Liz Swenson

by Rev. Liz Ullery Swenson

Postlude

Troy Fisher

Reflection questions:

Our bodies are a site and source of spiritual knowing and divine encounter and “are a life-giving source of our knowledge of God.”

- How have you encountered the divine in your body?
- What knowledge of God have you learned from your body?
- How does your body pray?

No After-Service Forum today in honor of Memorial Day.

Next Sunday, June 2, 2024:

“Honoring Our Young Ones” with Rev. Mary Gear & Rev. Sara Lewis

This Sunday we dedicate a baby into the care of the congregation and recognize several of our youth as they graduate from high school, bridging from childhood to adulthood. Come join us as we honor our young ones.

June 2 After-Service Forum (11:30 am): Budget Expo, with the OUUC Board and Rev. Mary, to cover all the details of the proposed OUUC budget for July 2024 - June 2025. If you would like to know all the details about the proposed budget, this meeting is for you! Bring your questions and concerns to the meeting so they can be addressed before the annual meeting on June 9.

Share the Plate Offering: Our Share the Plate organization for May and June is the Crisis Clinic of Thurston & Mason Counties.

The Crisis Clinic of Thurston & Mason Counties is committed to building a community that is better prepared to understand and respond compassionately to people in crisis. Your help will support 24/7 Crisis Intervention Services, the Teen/Youth Helpline, and presentations to middle and high schools throughout Thurston and Mason Counties in Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

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.

After the service on June 9, please plan to attend the OUUC Annual Congregational Meeting. The Board will provide finger food after the service so everyone can be fully present for the annual meeting. This is when members will be asked to vote on the budget as well as elect new Board and Leadership Development Committee members. This year, we'll also vote on proposed changes to the OUUC covenant. While only members can vote, everyone is welcome to attend the meeting. If you are not sure if you are a voting member of OUUC, please contact Rosie at office@ouuc.org. We hope to see you there.

For the full agenda and more info on each topic to be addressed at the June 9 Congregational Meeting, visit the OUUC.org website and click the related slider image, or go to: <https://www.ouuc.org/2024-congregational-meeting/>

For more info on Rev. Mary's sabbatical: <https://www.ouuc.org/sabbatical/>

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

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