



Our spiritual practice for January is **Story**.

*“I now see how owning our story and loving ourselves through that process is the bravest thing that we will ever do.” ~ Brené Brown*

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**Sunday, January 12, 2025**  
**“Caste, Class, and Capitalism”**  
with Rev. Mary Gear

What was the story you were told about poverty and wealth, class and privilege? As we continue our exploration of the spiritual practice of story, we draw on religious teachings to inform our story of who we are and how we are valued.

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

**Morning Song** *Congregation*

**Hymn #1074 “Turn the World Around”**  
Words & Music: Harry Belafonte and Robert Freedman  
Arranged: Jason Shelton

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

**Lighting the Chalice** *Anne Kohlbray*  
with the words of Rev. Wayne Arnason

**Opening Words** *Rev. Mary Gear*  
“We Join Together As One Congregation”  
by Michelle LaGrave *(she/her)*

**Opening Hymn** *Congregation*

**“Here Together”**  
Words & Music: David M. Glasgow

**Life in Poverty** *Tess M. Schulze*  
*(she/her)*

**Musical Interlude** *Troy Fisher*

**Share the Plate Offering** *Anne Kohlbray*

**Offertory** *Troy Fisher*

“Better Angels”  
Words & Music: Kiya Knightwood

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

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

**Musical Response** *Congregation*

**Hymn #34 “Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire”**  
Words: Hal Hoopson  
Music: Trad. English melody, adapt. by Hal Hopson

**Reading 1** *Anne Kohlbray*  
from Keeping a Rendezvous by John Peter Berger

**Part 1: Class and Capitalism** *Rev. Mary Gear*

**Musical Interlude** *Troy Fisher*

**Reading 2** *Anne Kohlbray*  
excerpts adapted from A Theology of Liberation  
by Gustavo Gutiérrez

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

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

### Hymn #1027 “Cuando el Pobre” (When the Poor Ones)

Words: Spanish - Jose Antonio Oliver; English - Martin A. Seltz / Music: Jose Antonio Olivar and Miquel Manzano

*Congregation*

## Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

adapted from “For Citizenship” by John O’Donahue

*Rev. Mary Gear*

## Postlude

*Troy Fisher*

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### Reflection questions:

- What is your class?
- How do you know?
- How is it to hear about and talk about class?

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### Today’s Faith in Action Forum at 12:15 pm (online & onsite):

**Classism 101** — presented by Rev. Mary, Anne Hundley, and Tim Ransom

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### Next Sunday, January 19, 2024: “The Power of History” with Rev. Mary Gear at 9 am (onsite only) and 10:45 am (online & onsite)

This Sunday, we honor the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and prepare for the inauguration and term of a new president. Come for connection and renewal of spirit as we ready for what is ahead.

### January 19 Skill-BUILDER Forum at 12:15 pm (online & onsite): Facilitation and Conflict Management

For more details on the new Sunday schedule: <https://www.ouuc.org/2services/>

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### Find more details on these and other announcements in the Weekly Update:

<https://www.ouuc.org/weekly-update/>

**Share the Plate Offering:** Our Share the Plate organization for January and February is New Horizon Communities.

Panza, now doing business as New Horizons Communities, provides permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness. They create and manage tiny home villages that foster community, encourage personal growth, and promote access to the care and services residents need. Founded with OUUC leadership in 2007 to support a tent camp for homeless adults hosted by local churches, Panza created Quixote Village, a permanent supportive community for the homeless in Olympia. Now, as New Horizon Communities, this nonprofit has built two additional villages, especially for veterans, in other communities.

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: 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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**In support of our upcoming Stewardship Drive, OUUC is hosting Gather, Grow, & Guide Sessions throughout January.** During these 90 minute sessions, we will share our stories, watch a brief video from Rev. Mary on the five ways to grow, and finally, we will ask you for guidance on how we can achieve the goals we set for 2025. Let’s come together in the homes of members (or online) to connect and gather our power. There will be snacks! Sign-up today as spots are filling: <https://www.ouuc.org/gather-grow-and-guide/>

**Next weekend, join us for OUUC Days of Service in honor of MLK Day.** There are many ways to participate, including making signs Thursday evening, coming to the People’s March on Saturday, bringing food for our food drive on Sunday, and more. We are working on a Day of Service with Quixote Village — more details soon. Check the announcements for more info or contact Rev. Sara ([DCFD@ouuc.org](mailto:DCFD@ouuc.org)) with questions.

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