



Our spiritual practice for April is **Joy**.

*“Happiness is attached to things being a certain way.  
But joy is about the bliss of being. It transcends highs and lows.”*

~ Martha Beck

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**Sunday, April 20, 2025**

**“Fear and Great Joy”**

with Rev. Mary Gear, Rev. Sara Lewis, and Troy Fisher

On this Easter Sunday leading to Earth Day, in a time of grief and fear,  
we celebrate the great joy of resurrection and new life.

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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**

*Troy Fisher (he/him)*

**Morning Song**

*Congregation &*

**“Rejuvenation!”**

*OUUC Choir*

Words & Music: Tobin Stokes

**Welcome**

*Anne Radford (she/her)*

**Chalice Lighting**

*Anne Radford*

“Hope Is Risen” by Elena Westbrook

**Opening Words**

*Rev. Mary Gear (she/her),*

“Rise!” by Rev. Gretchen Haley

*Rev. Sara Lewis (she/her),*

*and Troy Fisher*

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| <b>Opening Hymn</b>                                      | <i>Congregation</i>                           |
| <b>Hymn #38 “Morning Has Broken”</b>                     |   |
| Words: Elanor Farjeon / Music: Gaelic melody             |   |
| <b>Story For All</b>                                     | <i>Rev. Mary Gear</i>                         |
| “Gaia Story,” as written by Rev. Sara Lewis              |   |
| <b>Reflection: We Won’t Protect What We Don’t Love</b>   | <i>Rev. Sara Lewis</i>                        |
| <b>Musical Interlude</b>                                 | <i>Troy Fisher</i>                            |
| <b>Share the Plate Offering</b>                          | <i>Anne Radford</i>                           |
| <b>Offertory</b>   | <i>OUUC Choir</i>                             |
| “The Music of Living”                                    |   |
| Words: Anonymous / Music: Dan Forrest                    |   |
| <b>Ritual of Sharing From the Heart</b>                  | <i>Rev. Mary Gear</i>                         |
| <b>Prayerful Practice</b>                                | <i>Rev. Mary Gear</i>                         |
| <b>Musical Response</b>                                  | <i>OUUC Choir</i>                             |
| “Earth Song”   |   |
| Words & Music: Frank Ticheli                             |   |
| <b>Story For All</b>                                     | <i>Rev. Sara Lewis</i>                        |
| “Mary Magdalene’s Story,” by Tess Baumberger             |   |
| <b>Reflection: Fear and Great Joy</b>                    | <i>Rev. Mary Gear</i>                         |
| <b>Dirt Communion</b>                                    | <i>Rev. Sara Lewis and<br/>Rev. Mary Gear</i> |
| <b>Closing Hymn</b>                                      | <i>Congregation</i>                           |
| <b>Hymn #61 “Lo, the Earth Awakes Again”</b>             |   |
| Words: Samuel Longfellow / Music: Lyra Davidica          |   |
| <b>Closing Words &amp; Extinguishing the Chalice</b>     | <i>Anne Radford</i>                           |
| adapted from “Four Element Blessing”<br>by Eric Williams |   |

**Reflection questions:**

- What is it that you love and how do you take care of it?
  - How do you acknowledge and be with all the emotions of this time, yours and others?
  - How do you find hope right now?
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**At noon today, we will host a children's Easter Egg Hunt at Burri Park**, just down East End Street. Come to the park to hunt for eggs, and return to OUUC to trade the eggs for treats and prizes.

**Also today, at 12:15 pm, the Generation XYZ lunch will be hosted in Classroom 3.** All who are 18 to roughly-50ish are invited to lunch. See Kedo Baye with any questions.

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**Next Sunday, April 27, 2025, at 9 am (onsite only) & 10:45 am (online & onsite):  
"The Recombobulation Zone" with Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee**

One of the things we can all expect is that change will happen. This is true for our personal lives, our communities and our church life. Change is unsettling, but we can and will adapt, one way or another. We will talk about how we recombobulate ourselves after feeling discombobulated!

**After-Service Forum (12:15 pm on April 27, onsite & online):**

Board Sunday: OUUC Vision of Ministry

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Your generosity has resulted in the **most successful Stewardship Campaign in our history**. We are now **only \$30,000 away** from our ambitious goal to fully fund the vision we share for the coming year. **If you haven't pledged yet, or if you're able to increase your pledge, now is the time. Every pledge counts.** To learn more about this, talk to a member of the Stewardship team in the Commons after this service, contact Rosie in the office, or go to <https://www.ouuc.org/give/stewardship/>. **Thank you for your generosity!**

**Share the Plate Offering:** Our Share the Plate organization for March and April is Wild Grief:

Wild Grief facilitates peer groups for children and adults who are grieving a death, by creating the space for sharing, connection, and healing in nature. All programs are free, including all outdoor gear and food. Wild Grief models how: it's important to acknowledge death and engage with loss, grief support should be available to everyone, and healing is possible.

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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## **AUCTION 2025: LET OUR LIGHT SHINE!**

**Live Auction and Dinner: May 3, ASHHO Cultural Community Center, 5 PM**

**Online Auction: April 26 – May 4, 2025**

Everyone is welcome to the Live Auction and Dinner on Saturday, May 3. Tickets are \$10 to \$100—pay what you can. Visit <https://auctria.events/ouuc> and click "Buy Your Ticket." Childcare will be provided with pre-registration, simply select a youth ticket with childcare.

The online auction opens next Saturday, April 26 at 9 am. Check out the growing catalog of items, and get ready to bid.

If you would like to participate in the auction and need financial assistance, please contact Rev. Mary at [minister@ouuc.org](mailto:minister@ouuc.org).

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

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