Grounded in love, UUCW is a joyful community committed to spiritual growth, inclusion, and justice.

Unitarian Universalist Church West – Order of Service – March 23, 2025

"Celebrating the Renewal of Spring: Reflect, Rebirth, Recommit"

Melissa Musante and the EarthSpirit Team

1. **Prelude** – "The Seven Herbs of Spring" (words by Rowan of Wild Vine, traditional Scottish melody) performed by Maria O'Connor and Ruben Piirainen
2. **Welcome** – Board of Trustees President, Eric Zeurn
3. **Introduction to Ostara** - Melissa Musante and Steve White
4. **Congregational song** - #1068 "Rising Green" by Carolyn McDade, led by Maria O'Connor
5. **Our Pledge • Our Community • Our Future -** Testimonial by Jim Fischer
6. **Reading** – by Mahada Thomas, Mother Tongue Ink – read by Mary Catanese
7. **Calling the Directions** - #1067 Mother Earth, Beloved Garden - led by Maria O'Connor, elements presented by Kim Rezarch, Amy Dedow, Sophia Pugens, Nicole Grandstrand
8. **Story for All Ages** – Egg-Laying Bunny: a folk story – read by David Stokes
9. **Reading** – "Spring Equinox" by Debra Hall, Mother Tongue Ink – read by Julie Mayhew
10. **Reflect:** Ritual Instructions – Melissa Musante
11. **Rebirth:** Excerpt from "Mad Rush" by Philip Glass – performed by Ruben Piirainen; dancers Sofia Pugens and Nicole Grandstand
12. **Recommit:** Weaving our Intentions
13. **Congregational Singing** - #86 "Blessed Spirit of My Life" - led by Maria O'Connor
14. **Offering Words** – Eric Zeurn
15. **Offertory Music** – "Roc'h ar Vugale" by Yann Tiersen, performed by Ruben Piirainen
16. **Offering Dedication**

    To the work of this community,
    which is to ground ourselves in love and joy
    and to act for inclusion and justice,
    we dedicate ourselves and these our offerings.

17. **Reading:** "A Moment for Knowing the Endless Now" by Earthdancer, Mother Tongue Ink – read by Jude Christensen, dancer Nicole Grandstrand

Our Split the Plate partner for March is BLUU – Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism.
How to Give:

IN-PERSON: Loose cash and contributions (checks/cash) labeled "split" will be shared this month's Split the Plate partner organization.

ONLINE: Text "UUCW" to 73256 - OR – go to uucw.org and click "Donate"

MAIL: Mail a Contribution to UU Church West – 13001 W North Ave, Brookfield, WI 53005

18. **Release the circle** – “The Earth, Water, Fire, Air” led by Melissa Musante and Maria O’Connor
(repeat chant until all the elements are back in place)

The earth, the air, the fire, the water
Return, return, return, return
The earth, the air, the fire, the water
Return, return, return, return

18. Postlude - “Life in the Trees” by Michael Manring, performed by Ruben Piirainen

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

Ushers:
Greeters: Julieann Gaetano,
Newcomer Table: Mark Steinberg
Coffee Volunteers: Cathy DeMers, Nancy Zoltowski
Chalice Table Decoration: Jude Christensen