Readings for Sunday, April 12, 2020

**Opening Words** 

## Our Souls Speak Spring

Evin Carvill Ziemer (UU Minister in New York)

If we lived in another climate

Our souls might speak other languages

We might speak oasis or permafrost, dry season or monsoon

But our souls speak spring

Our souls speak green shoots pushing through last year's leaves

Our souls speak flower buds stretching to sun

Our souls speak mud puddle and nest building, damp earth and worm castings, tiny green leaves and frog choruses

We speak spring because spring sings in us

We gather to nurture our faith in our own growing

Our own courage to push through

Our own blossoming in beauty

Our own small part in the spring of this world

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Closing Words

## These Hands Connect Us To One Another

Amy Bowden Freedman (UU Minister in Concord, MA)

Keith Kron (Director of the Transitions Office for the UUA)

Become aware of the hands that you are holding: their warmth, texture, and weight.

As an infant, these same hands reached out for the nourishment of milk.

As a child, these hands shakily wrote a name on paper for the first time.

These hands have wiped away tears, clenched in anger,

waved hello and good-bye countless times, and embraced loved ones.

And now these hands are the tangible link that connects us to one another.

Look and see those around you who have experienced so much that is life.

These hands have worked, are working, and will work to make the world a better place.

Go in peace; go in love; work for justice.