

Order of Service May 12, 2024

The Activist Roots of Mother's Day

May Soul Matters Theme: Pluralism

Officiating: Rev. Diana McLean

Worship Associate: Linda Ganske

Pianist: Shay MacKay

Choir Director: Mark Brekke

Storyteller: Director of Children's Faith Development Macey Forsyth

Prelude/Opening Slideshow

Welcome and Announcements

Singing Bowl

Chalice Lighting

If you are viewing through Zoom, please type into the Chat that a chalice is lit on [your street], and join in saying these words:

We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the spirit, broaden the mind, nurture the earth, and build community. May this flame we kindle remind us to strive, today and every day, to love beyond belief.

Call to Worship

"Come Together in Praise and Thanksgiving" by Mary J. Harrington

Opening Hymn #368, "Now Let Us Sing" (words and music: anonymous)

Story

A Child's Garden: A Story of Hope, written and illustrated by Michael Foreman

Singing the Children Out

Joys and Sorrows

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Meditation

Singing Prayer: To the tune of **#1002** (words and music by Mimi Bornstein-Doble, adapted)

Offertory

Reading “Mother’s Day Proclamation” by Julia Ward Howe

Hymn #159, “This Is My Song” (words by Lloyd Stone and music by Jean Sibelius)

Reflection 1: Rev. Diana

Musical Interlude

Reflection 2: Choir Director Mark Brekke

Choir Anthem “The 23rd Psalm, Dedicated to My Mother”

words adapted from The Book of Psalms by Bobby McFerrin, music Bobby McFerrin, copyright 2003 ProbNoblem Music (BMI)

Chalice Extinguishing

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again. (Elizabeth Selle Jones)

Benediction

Singing Benediction: “Longtime Sun” the final three minutes of “A Very Cellular Song” written by Mike Heron and performed by The Incredible String Band on their 1968 album *The Hangman’s Beautiful Daughter*.

*May the longtime sun shine upon you
All love surround you
And the pure pure light that’s within you
Guide your way home.*

Zoom participants: Please feel free to stay online for a time of gathering to meet, talk, and connect. (If the group online is large enough, we will invite you to join breakout rooms for small group connection.)

In-person participants: Please stay for refreshments and conversation in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level following the worship service.