

**Soul Matters Monthly Theme:** What does it mean to be a Community of People Finding Our Center?

“A miracle is when the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. A miracle is when one plus one equals a thousand.”

— Frederick Buechner (1926-2022), a White, American author, Presbyterian minister, preacher, and theologian

**Order of Service for January 29, 2023:** The Miracle I Offer

Rev. Barbara Gadon, Preaching  
Diane Dobitz, Worship Associate  
Director of Children’s Faith Development Macey Forsyth, Storyteller  
Nancy Cramblit, Musician  
Diane Langland, Greeter  
Andy Roberts and Kat Clements, Tech Squad  
Dennis Cramblit, Hearing Assist  
Keri Johnson and Korinne Spicer, Nursery  
Deb Fitzloff and Macey Forsyth, Children’s Chapel  
Nancy Blethen and Sue Wiltgen, Hospitality

**Announcements Slideshow** To “Alla Turca” from Sonata No. 11 in A major, K.331 (1783) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791), an Austrian composer. Performed by Tzvi Erez (b.1968), an Israeli–Canadian pianist. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQh1zztmpEk>

**Greetings from the Whole Congregation** (everyone on Zoom is invited to unmute)

Let’s all make a joyful noise!

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Bell Chime**

**Chalice Lighting:** For those attending by Zoom, please type into the Chat that a chalice is lit on [your street]:

*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.*

**Hymn: #1010** “We Give Thanks” (teal hymnal), words and music by Wendy Luella Perkins

<https://farfringe.com/stj1010-we-give-thanks/>

**Reading:** “Poem of Perfect Miracles” (1855) by Walt Whitman (1819-1892), a White American poet, essayist, journalist, and humanist Transcendentalist.

<https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1856/poems/24>

**Story:** “Dragons and Giants” in *Frog and Toad Together* (1973) by Arnold Lobel (1933-1987), a White American author and illustrator of children's books.

**Sending the Young Ones to Faith Development Activities**

**Prayer/Meditation**

**Sorrows and Joys**

**Singing Prayer:** To the tune of #1002 (teal hymnal) by Mimi Borstein

*Comfort me, share my joy/ Comfort me, Oh my soul. (2x)*

**Giving/Offertory:** To “Prelude” by JS Bach

*We take a Second Collection this month for Partners for Housing*

**Sermon with Video and Slides**

**Hymn: #1014** “Answering the Call of Love” (teal hymnal, with title and words revised by the writer), words and music by Jason Sheldon <https://farfringe.com/stj1014-answering-the-call-of-love/>

**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.*

**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 long time sun shine upon you/All love surround you*

*And the pure, pure light that’s within you/ Guide your way home (2x)*

**In-person:** Hospitality in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level, as well as a Listening Circle about our Worship and Ritual Ministry with the Committee on Shared Ministry.

**On Zoom:** A time to meet, talk, and connect.

If you would like to know more about organ donation, here are some links:

<https://www.donatelifemidwest.org/donation-education/>

<https://www.life-source.org/ambassadors/>

<https://registerme.org/>