

Soul Matters Monthly Theme: What does it mean to be a Community on the Path of Vulnerability? Instead of asking ourselves, ‘How can I find security and happiness?’ we could ask ourselves, ‘Can I touch the center of my pain? Can I sit with suffering, both yours and mine, without trying to make it go away? Can I stay present to the ache of loss or disgrace - disappointment in all its many forms - and let it open me?’

—Pema Chodron (b. 1936), an American ordained nun in the Tibetan-Buddhist tradition

Order of Service for March 26, 2023: Vulnerability and Transitions

Rev. Justin Schroeder, Preaching
Susan Stevens Chambers, Worship Associate
Director of Children’s Faith Development Macey Forsyth, Storyteller
Nancy Cramblit, Musician
Andy Roberts and Kat Clements, Tech Squad
Dennis Cramblit, Hearing Assist
Keri Johnson and Julia Hamann, Nursery
Danielle Stedman, Children’s Chapel and Youth Group
Nancy Blethen and Sue Wiltgen, Hospitality

Announcements Slideshow To “Blackbird” (1968) by Paul McCartney and John Lennon, performed by The Gray Havens (2018) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_oGZg3s1SQ

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: #361 “Enter, Rejoice, and Come In” (gray hymnal), words and music by Louise Ruspini <https://farfringe.com/stlt361-enter-rejoice-and-come-in/>

Reading

Story: *The Rabbit Listened* (2018) written and illustrated by Cori Doerrfeld (b 1979), a White American writer and illustrator from Minnesota <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-p41dl2n57A>

Sending the Young Ones to Faith Development Activities

Prayer/Meditation: #501 by the Rev. Frederick E. Gillis (gray hymnal)

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: "Aria: My Heart Ever Faithful" (1725) by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n23E4ug1weU> (WA)

Reading

Sermon Transitions and Vulnerability

Hymn: #6 "Just as Long as I have Breath" (gray hymnal), words by Alicia S. Carpenter and music by Johann G. Eberling, with Harmony revised by John Edwin Giles.

<https://farfringe.com/stlt6-just-as-long-as-i-have-breath/>

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. Green Sanctuary is facilitating a program on regenerative agriculture at noon in the Sanctuary.

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