

Soul Matters Monthly Theme: What does it mean to be a Community of Wonder?

**Let me keep my mind on what matters,/which is my work,
which is mostly standing still and learning to be/astonished.**

--Mary Oliver (1935-2019), White American poet

Order of Service for December 18, 2022: Why Should We Wonder?

Rev. Rita Capezzi, Officiating

Diane Dobitz, Worship Associate

Deb Fitzloff and Director of Children's Faith Development Macey Forsyth, Readers

Karen Knox, Child Wrangler and Dresser

Nancy Cramblit, Musician

Bob Finley, Greeters

Kat Clements and Jeff Lowry, Tech Squad

Dennis Cramblit, Hearing Assist

Nancy Blethen and Sue Wiltgen, Hospitality

Korinne Spicer, Nursery

Announcements Slideshow to "Christmas is Coming" (1965) composed by Vince Guaraldi (1928-1976), a White American jazz pianist and composer, performed with his Trio for a *Charlie Brown Christmas*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVB18xbRMI4>

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.

Giving to "The Little Drummer Boy" (1941) written by White American composer, pianist, and teacher Katherine Kennicott Davis (1892-1980)

Guided Meditation: Words from Rev. Rita based on the book *Owl Moon* (1987) by Jane Yolen (b. 1939), a White American writer of fantasy, science fiction, and children's books

<https://www.amazon.com/Owl-Moon-Jane-Yolen/dp/0399214577>

Sorrows & Joys

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

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

Opening Words: Why Wonder?

--All Carols from the Gray Hymnal--

Hymn: #253 "O Come All Ye Faithful" (verses 1 & 2)

No-Rehearse Pageant with script by Norman Allen

Scene 1: "What's up with that?"

Hymn #246 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verse 1)

Scene 2: "You try it!"

Hymn #237 "The First Nowell" (verse 1)

Scene 3: "What's that noise?"

Hymn #239 "Go Tell It on the Mountain!" (verses 1 & 3)

Scene 4: "Talking with angels"

Hymn #231 "Angels We Have Heard on High" (verses 1 & 3)

Scene 5: "Hearts full of love"

Hymn #245 "Joy to the World" (all 3 verses)

Closing Words: Why Should We Wonder?

Closing Hymn: #235 "Deck the Hall" (all 3 verses)

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 of the Fellowship building. Zero Waste Mankato will provide a presentation for us

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