

Soul Matters Monthly Theme: Building Belonging

MAYA ANGELOU: You only are free when you realize you belong no place — you belong every place — no place at all. The price is high. The reward is great...

BILL MOYERS: Do you belong anywhere?

MAYA ANGELOU: I haven't yet.

BILL MOYERS: Do you belong to anyone?

MAYA ANGELOU: More and more... I belong to myself. I'm very proud of that. I am very concerned about how I look at Maya. I like Maya very much.

Order of Service for September 7, 2025: Ingathering, Water Communion, Backpack Blessings: An Intergenerational Service

Congregational Greeting

Bell Chime

Welcome and Announcements

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: #1008 "When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place" (teal hymnal) words and music by Joyce Poley

Story: *All I Need to Be*, written by Rachel Ricketts, illustrated by Tiffany Rose

Blessing of the Backpacks

Meditation/Prayer: "The House of Belonging" written by David Whyte

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)

Offertory

Reading: A Blessing Called Sanctuary (by Jan Richardson)

Homily

Water Communion

Hymn: #168 "One More Step" (gray hymnal), words and music by Joyce Poley.

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, both a luncheon and a dessert spread for young adults, in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the Fellowship building.