

**Soul Matters Monthly Theme: Cultivating Compassion**

**“Together we can bring change to the world, gradually replacing fear and hatred with compassion and love. Love for all living beings.”**

**— Jane Goodall**

**Order of Service for October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Foundational Compassion**

**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: #299:** “Make Channels for the Streams of Love” (Gray Hymnal) Words by Richard Chenevix Trench, Music by Annabel Morris Buchanan

**Story:** *I Am Love*, written by Susan Verde, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds

**Poem:** “Self-Compassion” by James Crews

**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:** *Gentleness in Living*, written by Richard S. Gilbert

**Story:** *In You I See*, written by Rachel Emily, illustrated by Jodie Howard

**Homily and Interactive Element**

**Hymn: #131:** “Love Will Guide Us” (Gray Hymnal) Words by Sally Rogers, Music by Betty A. Wylder

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