

**Order of Service: May 24, 2026**  
**“Memory, Mourning, and the Work of Peace”**

**Worship Leader:** Diane Dobitz

**Pianist:** Jo Breckenridge

**Storyteller:** Director of Lifespan Faith Formation, Macey Forsyth

**Sound Booth:** Cathi Fouchi and Jennifer Timmerman-Brown

**Readers:** John & Karen Knox

**Prelude/Opening Slideshow**

“There is More Love Somewhere”

Words & music: African American Hymn

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Singing Bowl**

**Chalice Lighting**

If you are viewing through Zoom, please type into the Chat that a chalice is lit on [your street], and join in saying these words:

*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.*

**Call to Worship**

**Opening Hymn:** # 123 (Gray Hymnal) “Spirit of Life” (Sing Twice)

Words & music: Carolyn McDade

**Story for All Ages:** Sitti’s Bird: A Gaza Story *By: Malak Matar*

**Singing for the Children**

**Joys and Sorrows**

**Singing Prayer:** To the tune of hymn #1002 ~ Words and music by Mimi Bornstein-Doble, adapted

*Comfort me, Share my joy*

*Comfort me, O my soul (repeat both lines once)*

## **Offertory**

“The Battle Hymn of the Republic”

**Reading:** Abraham Lincoln’s 1863 Gettysburg Address

## **Reflection**

**Reading:** Julia Ward Howe’s “Appeal to Womanhood Throughout the World,” written in 1870

## **Reflection**

**Reading:** President Dwight D. Eisenhower’s “Cross of Iron Speech” given on April 16, 1953

## **Reflection**

### **Reflection & Discussion Questions:**

- A. Honoring Those Who Died in Military Service
- B. Acknowledging the Human Cost of War
- C. Recommitting Peace, Justice, and Compassionate Citizenship

**Closing Hymn:** # 121 (Gray Hymnal) “We’ll Build a Land (Verses 1 & 2)

Words: Barbara Zanotti Music: Carolyn McDade

## **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.*

## **Closing Blessing**

**Singing Benediction:** “May the Longtime Sun” (*sing through twice*)

*May the Longtime Sun Shine Upon You  
All love surround you  
And the pure, pure light that’s within you  
Guide your way home*

## **Postlude**