

TODAY'S SERVICE

CULTIVATING CONNECTION WITH SELF, OTHERS, THE WIDE WORLD, AND GOD

FEEL FREE TO USE PRONOUNS OF YOUR CHOICE FOR ALL SONGS AND PRAYERS

Chimes

Gathering Statement

We gather this morning to connect with the Divine, with ourselves, with each other, and with the Oneness of all Creation. We gather because inclusive community built around shared stories and rituals inspires us to pursue justice and live out our values.

Song: Come Fall On Us

(Benoit Pasley Henry, Robin D Pasley)

A thankful heart

Prepares the way for you my God

A thankful heart

Prepares the way for you my God

Come fall on us, we fall on you

A thankful heart will be our rhythm

Come fall on us, we fall on you

A thankful heart will be our song

Sarum Prayer

God be in my head

and in my understanding;

God be in my eyes

and in my looking;

God be in my mouth

and in my speaking;

God be in my heart

and in my thinking;

God be at my end

and at my departing

Children's Minute

Selections from Psalm 12 & 13, two songs of lament in troubled times

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I bear pain in my soul,

and have sorrow in my heart all day long?

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";

my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.

May the Lord cut off all flattering lips,

the tongue that makes great boasts,

those who say, "With our tongues we will prevail;

our lips are our own—who is our master?"

"Because the poor are despoiled, because the needy groan,

I will now rise up," says the Lord;

"I will place them in the safety for which they long."

Announcements

Liturgy to Name and Honor Our Losses During Pandemic:

Opening Prayer

God, as we come to this hour,

We bring with us our own unique experiences and emotions.

May we bring our whole selves before you.

Collectively we cry:

Gather us into your love, O God.

We who are weary and we who are hopeful

we who rejoice and we who mourn

we who have felt sustained by your hand

and we who are wondering where you are

we who are anxious and we who are calm

we who are peaceful and we who are angry

we who feel nothing and we who feel everything

we who are certain and we who are filled with doubt

And we who are everything in between

May we, who have gathered, bringing all that we are and all that we have experienced,

feel sustained by your love and this family of faith.

May we honor this moment as sacred as we bring

ourselves before you and one another in this bold act of worship.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Jesus, Man of Sorrows, Acquainted with Grief,
you know what deep sadness is.

We bring our pain, anger, confusion, and emptiness to you.
 We may always feel, in some way, these heartaches.
 In turning to you, we know that loss won't disappear from our lives,
 but that you share it with us and can renew us.
 Remember our numbness and our tears.
 Reassure us of your love and goodness.
 As a community, we gather around our losses, and around each other.
 We wait and hope in you.
 Hear our prayers and be God-With-Us.
 Amen.

Remembering the Names: Clarence Leading Fighter, Delaina Ashley Yuan, Freddie Gray, Mario Gonzalez, Diamond Sanders, Philando Castille, Sandra Bland, Adam Toledo, Amarjeet Johal, Daoyou Feng, Andre Hill, Hyun Jung Grant, Anthony Alvarez, Akai Gurley, Tamir Rice, Iris Santos, Paul Castaway, Malcolm Harsch, Elijah McClain, Ramon Timothy Lopez, Antonio Martin, Germane Reed, Jonathan Tubby, and those we haven't named.

Prayer for Loved Ones

Bev, Kristina, Brian and Sarah, Kyrsten, Abby, Amber, Alyssa, Ebony, Peter and Paula, Sylvia, Aleah, Erin, Lauren, Anna, Mike, John, Tracy, Keane, Christine, Abbie, Ed and Rachel, Pastor Bruce Reyes-Chow and Robin, Kabore, Jodi, Dilan, Gabriel, Josh, Andy, Kharin, Mike and Janine, Natalie, Linda, Ken and Eleanor, Eddie, Kevin, Holly Ann, Pat, Mindy, William, Caleb, Anne, Laretta, Bob, Bishop Yvette Flunder, Bishop Bonnie Perry, Bishop Darrell Goodwin, Bishop Phyllis Pennese, Brown, Lilliana, Leah, Alicia, Patrisse, Opal, Ozone House, immigrants and those we lift up in silence.

Candle Lighting for Lost Loved Ones:

Mourner's Kaddish

It is a fearful thing to love
 what death can touch.

A fearful thing to love,
 hope, dream: to be --
 to be, and oh! to lose.

A thing for fools this, and
 a holy thing,
 a holy thing to love.

For
 your life has lived in me,
 your laugh once lifted me,
 your word was gift to me.

To remember this brings a painful joy.
 'Tis a human thing, love,
 a holy thing,
 to love
 what death has touched.

Song; The Road, the Rocks, and the Weeds

By John Mark McMillan

Come down from the stars
 Show your human scars
 Tell me what it's like to believe
 Through my Christ haunted thoughts
 That the losses you bought
 Are the nights that you peopled with your dreams

Well, I've got no answers
 For heartbreaks or cancers
 But a Savior who suffers them with me
 Singing goodbye, Olympus
 The heart of my Maker
 Is spread out on the road, the rocks, and the weeds

Come down from your mountain
 Your high-rise apartment
 And tell me of the God you know who bleeds
 And what to tell my child
 When they ask so many questions
 And I fail to fill their heaviness with peace

When I've got no answers
 For hurt knees or cancers
 But a Savior who suffers them with me
 Singing goodbye, Olympus
 The heart of my Maker
 Is spread out on the road, the rocks, and the weeds

And Aphrodite would not weep
 Nor Zeus would suffer for the weak
 But have you come to stand inside my pain?
 And all the things I've begged you for
 Eternity and evermore
 Are hidden with me here beneath the rain
 The Rain

So shall I plant sequoias
And revel in the soil
Of a crop I know I'll never live to reap?

Then sow my body to my Maker
And my heart unto my savior
And spread me on the road, the rocks, and the weeds
Spread me on the road

Communal Prayer Call & Response

Leader: The highest skies are in love with You.

The great Earth opens its palms in peace.

Everyone: Our truest being is anchored in Your goodness.

You are God, Compassionate being of three.

Leader: Everything praises You, sound its true note.

All the Enlightened chant praises.

Everyone: Every being takes its refuge in You

And the light of Your Holy Compassion frees us
all.

Leader: Everything looks to you, without thinking.

Shower us with Your Healing Rain!

Everyone: Help us to overcome, give life to what has

withered,

And water the roots of kindness in us.

Song: Shiloh

By Audrey Assad

Deep down your eyes look

Haunted by grey ghosts

You live in your stories

Hunted by shadows

When pain comes to show you

What you'd rather not know

What will your heart do?

What will you let go?

May loving kindness

Calm the raging of the wound

May your healing

Be a clearing in the wood

May you breathe in

Deeper than you ever could before

See what you've lived through

So you can grieve it

And draw it towards you

Catch and release it

And now as your tears flow

Let them be cleansing

Washing your heart so

You can be mending

May loving kindness

Calm the raging of the wound

May your healing

Be a clearing in the wood

May you breathe in

Deeper than you ever could before

In every season

For every seed there's a time to grow

A time to grow through yesterday's curtains

Maybe you'll open a window, a window

So everything broken

Everything bleeding

Can be made whole

Can be made whole

Where everything shattered

Baby, you'll find your Shiloh

Your Shiloh

May loving kindness

Calm the raging of the wound

And may your healing

Be a clearing in the wood

May you breathe in

Deeper than you ever could before

Benediction

Go on your way rejoicing; Surrounded as you are by such a great cloud of witnesses, take courage as you face each new challenge, and comfort when you pick yourself from a fall, In whatever good you choose to do, precede it with hope, accompany it with prayer, and follow it with thanksgiving.

Go in peace. Wash your hands. Love your neighbors. You are not alone.

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