

# 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.

### Call to Worship: Come Fall On Us

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

### Lighting of the Advent Candles: Hope and Peace

Loving God, we open ourselves to you this Christmas season. As these candles are lit, light our lives with your imagination. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Magnify your love within us. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

## Children's Minute

### Announcements

### Sermon

### Candles

**Remembering the Names:** Remembering the Names: Xiaojie Tan, Dontre Hamilton, Manuel Diaz, Eric Garner, Joshua Spottedhorse, Natasha McKenna, Loreal Tsingine, Laguan McDonald, Riah Milton, Walter Wallace Jr, Aidan Ellison, Ezell Ford, Corey Kanosh, Yong Ae Yue, Robert Fuller, Whispering Wind Bear Spirit, Jaswinder Singh, Daniel Prude, Jaida Peterson, Jonathan Price, Antonio Valenzuela, Andrew Brown Jr., Cornelius Fredericks, Brandon Laducer, and those we haven't named. We hold them and their families in our hearts.

**Prayer for Loved Ones:** John and Shannon, Vanessa, Mariah, victims of tornadoes in Kentucky, Amy, \*Kabore, Virginia, Dilan, Dustin, Pete and Joan, Lottie, Lina, Janee, Jesse, Ellie, Audrey, Anne, Dave and Heather, Kris, Kharin, Mike and Janine, Natalie, Linda, Ken and Eleanor, Eddie, Kevin, Holly Ann, Pat, Johnny, Amy, Mindy, William, Caleb, Anne, Laretta, Bob, Bishop Yvette Flunder, Bishop Bonnie Perry, Bishop Darrell Goodwin, Bishop Tim Wolfe, Lilliana, Leah, Alicia, Patrisse, Opal, Ozone House, immigrants and those we lift up in silence.

### The Lord's Prayer:

Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
 Your kin\_dom come, your will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our sins,  
 as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial,  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kin\_dom, the power, and the glory are yours. Now and forever. Amen.

## Communion

### Song: O Holy Night

(Cappeau)

O Holy Night, the stars are brightly shining  
 It is the night of our dear Savior's birth  
 Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
 'Til he appeared and the soul felt its worth  
 A thrill of hope, the weary soul rejoices  
 For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees, oh hear the angel voices  
 Oh night divine, oh night when Christ was born  
 Oh night divine, oh night, oh night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another  
 His law is love and His gospel is peace  
 Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother  
 And in His name all oppression shall cease  
 Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,

Let all within us praise His holy name  
Christ is the Lord, Oh praise His name forever  
His power and glory evermore proclaim  
His power and glory evermore proclaim

Fall on your knees  
Oh hear the angel voices  
Oh night divine  
Oh night when Christ was born  
Oh night divine  
Oh night divine

### **Benediction**

When Joseph, Mary, and Jesus were immigrants to Egypt- they were outsiders to the ways of Egyptians. They lived among people who had different beliefs, rituals, and other ways of existing than them. If we are viewed as different or "not from around here" we can relate to their struggles. But the Egyptians made a home for them, and we can do the same for others. There are always going to be times that people are displaced from their families or their homeland, and we can receive them as the Egyptians received the holy family. So then, let us welcome others as God, in Christ, has welcomed us.

**Go in peace, wash your hands, love your neighbor, you are not alone.**