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

A reading from Isaiah 9:

There will be no gloom for her that was in anguish. In the former times he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Advent Candle Lighting

Advent Prayer

Loving God, We thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us.

Show us the creative power of hope.

Teach us the peace that comes from justice.

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, That we may walk in the light of Christ.

Dismiss the Kids

Announcements

Sermon

Candles

Remembering the Names: Kesha Webster, Joshua Spottedhorse, Roberta Drury, Rayshard Brooks, Yong Ae Yue, Germane Reed, Heyward Patterson, Latoya James, Aidan Ellison, Adam Toledo, Cornelius Fredericks, Nicolas Chavez, Michael Brown, Suncha Kim, Amir Locke, Winston Smith, Cypress Ramos, Walter Wallace Jr, Malcolm Harsch, Ma'Khia Bryant, Robert Fuller, and those we haven't named. We hold them and their families in our hearts.

Prayer for Loved Ones: Ben and Eileen, Tarik (rhymes with Eric), John, Audrey, Brown and Evelyn, Manoj, John and Sue, the McCormick family, Lisa & Jason, MJ, Jack & Mai (pronounced "my"), Rhonda & family, Jim, Kurt, Deb and Jim, Dave and Heather, Kris, Kharin, Mike and Janine, Brian, Natalie, Linda, Ken and Eleanor, Eddie, Kevin, Holly Ann, Pat, Mindy, William, Caleb, Anne, Lauretta, 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.

Communion

a2blue.org

December 4, 2022

Call and Response:

Leader: The Lord be with you! **People:** And also with you. **Leader:** Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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.

Song: House of God, Forever

(Jon Foreman)

God is my shepherd

I won't be wanting, I won't be wanting

You make me rest

In fields of green, with quiet streams

Even though I walk

Through the valley, of death and dying

I will not fear

'Cause You are with me, You're always with me

Your shepherd's staff comforts me You are my feast in the presence of enemies Surely goodness will follow me, follow me In the house of God, forever

Song: Beautiful Things

(Lisa Gungor/Michael Gungor)

All this pain
I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life could really change, at all

All this earth
Could all that is lost ever be found?
Could a garden come up from this ground, at all?

You make beautiful things

You make beautiful things out of the dust

You make beautiful things

You make beautiful things out of us

All around,

Hope is springing up from this old ground Out of chaos life is being found, in you

You make me new, You are making me new You make me new, You are making me new

A Benediction of Peace

May you experience the presence of the Prince of Peace as you go about your week.

May that peace live in your heart and in your body. May it shape you and transform you into a people of peace, sharing with others out of your abundance. As you go out into the wonder of God's creations this Advent season, may you notice the Spirit teaching you about the peace of God.

A peace that acts out of compassion and not fear. A peace that understands there is no real peace without justice.

A peace that can find stillness within, even when surrounded by chaos.

Go in peace. Love your neighbors. You are not alone. Amen.

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