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# TODAY'S SERVICE

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

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

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## Chimes

### Gathering Statement

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

### CALL TO WORSHIP: Praise

I'll praise in the valley  
 Praise on the mountain  
 I'll praise when I'm sure  
 And praise when I'm doubting  
 I'll praise when outnumbered  
 Praise when surrounded  
 'Cause praise is the water  
 My enemies drown in  
 As long as I'm breathing  
 I've got a reason to  
 [Chorus]  
 Praise the Lord  
 Oh, my soul  
 Praise the Lord  
 Oh, my soul  
 I'll praise when I feel it  
 And I'll praise when I don't  
 I'll praise 'cause I know  
 You're still in control  
 Because my praise is a weapon  
 It's more than a sound  
 Oh, my praise is the shout  
 That brings Jericho down  
 As long as I'm breathing  
 I've got a reason to  
 [Chorus]  
 [Bridge]  
 I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign  
 Praise 'cause You reign  
 Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the grave  
 I'll praise 'cause You're faithful  
 Praise 'cause You're true  
 Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than You  
 (repeat) [Chorus]

## 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

## SCRIPTURE READING:

### A Reading from Matthew 2:

After Jesus was born, some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked people, "Where is the child who has been born to be the king of the Jews? We saw the star that shows he was born. We saw it rise in the sky in the east and have come to worship him."

King Herod had a private meeting with the wise men from the east. He learned from them the exact time they first saw the star. Then he sent them to Bethlehem. He said, "Go and look carefully for the child. When you find him, come tell me. Then I can go worship him too."

After the wise men heard the king, they left. They saw the same star they had seen in the east, and they followed it. The star went before them until it stopped above the place where the child was. They were very happy and excited to see the star.

The wise men came to the house where the child was with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened the boxes of gifts they had brought for him. They gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But God warned the wise men in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they went home to their own country a different way.

**Those who have ears, let them hear.**

## Greet Your Neighbor

## Dismiss the Kids

## Announcements

## Sermon

## Candles

**PRAYERS FOR LOVED ONES**

Cheryl, Mandy, Adam, Andrew, Helen, Tim and Kristy, Gwen and John, Taylor and Damian, Laynie, Emma, Dark Angel, Joseph, Nicole, Wendi, Constance, Erica, Ashton, Landon, the Sarr family, Aine, George, Laura, Diane, Rae, Christina, Haevyn, Mindy, Calob, Janine, Bishop Yvette Flunder, Bishop Bonnie Perry, Bishop Darrell Goodwin, Bishop Tim Wolfe, Leah, David, Hope Clinic, JFS, Ozone House, immigrants, the Ypsilanti Youth Choir and those we lift up in silence.in silence.

**WE REMEMBER**

Victor Perez, Jawan Dallas, Leonard Allan Cure, Gary Jackson, George Floyd, Ruth Whitfield, Ryan White-Mountain Soft, Michelle Cusseaux, Antonio Martin, Johnny Hollman, John Crawford III, Iris Santos, Tony McDade, Dominique "Rem'mie" Fells, Dijon Kizzee, Geraldine Talley, Soon Chung Park, Daunte Wright, Jasvinder Kaur, Ahmaud Arbery and those we haven't named. We hold them and their families in our hearts.

**CONFESSION:**

Merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are sorry and we repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

**COMMUNION:****Invitation to the Lord's Table****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.

**Shared Communion Meal:** We take communion to remember the story of Jesus and the radical love He embodied. We do this each Sunday to nourish our spirits and to symbolize becoming the Beloved Community God calls us to be.

**COMMUNION SONG: Lord I Need You**

Lord I come, I confess  
Bowling here, I find my rest  
Without You, I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart  
Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Every hour, I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You  
Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are, Lord, I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me  
Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Every hour, I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You  
So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You  
Jesus, You're my hope and stay  
Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Every hour, I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You  
You're my one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You

**CLOSING SONG: Yes I Will**

I count on one thing  
The same God that never fails  
Will not fail me now

You won't fail me now  
In the waiting  
The same God who's never late  
Is working all things out  
You're working all things out  
[Chorus]  
Yes I will, lift You high in the lowest valley  
Yes I will, bless Your name  
Oh, yes I will, sing for joy when my heart is heavy  
All my days, oh yes I will  
[Bridge]  
And I choose to praise  
To glorify, glorify  
The Name of all names  
That nothing can stand against  
(repeat)  
[Chorus]

**Benediction**

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