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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 shared stories and rituals inspires us to pursue justice and live out our values.

### Call to Worship: Come Fall On Us (Psalm 50)

(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 Psalm 93:

The Lord is on High.  
     The Lord wears majesty and strength like clothes.  
 God is ready, so the whole world is safe.  
     It will not be shaken.  
 Your kin-dom has continued forever.  
     You have lived forever!  
 Lord, the ocean roars.  
     The mighty ocean sounds like thunder  
     as the waves crash on the shore.  
 The crashing waves of the sea are loud and powerful,  
     but the Lord above is even more powerful.  
 Lord, your teachings will continue forever.  
     Your holy Temple will stand for a long time.

### Liturgy:

#### From the Jesus Sutras, written by a 7th century Christian community near Xi'an

The highest skies are in love with You.  
 The great Earth opens its palms in peace.  
 Our truest being is anchored in Your goodness.  
 You are God: Compassionate being of three.

Everything praises You, sounds its true note.  
 All the Enlightened chant praises.  
 Every being takes its refuge in You  
 And the light of Your Holy Compassion frees us all.

Everything looks to you, without thinking.  
 Shower us with Your Healing Rain!  
 Help us to overcome, give life to what has withered,  
 And water the roots of kindness in us.  
 Amen.

### A Reading from Psalm 96

Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,  
     your faithfulness to the skies.  
 Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,  
     your justice like the great deep.  
     You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.  
 How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!  
     People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.  
 They feast on the abundance of your house;  
     you give them drink from your river of delights.  
 For with you is the fountain of life;  
     in your light we see light.

### From the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music

#### Leader:

In the beginning,  
 God was.  
 Here and now,  
 God is.  
 In the future,  
 God will be.

**Leader:** Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and tend

the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet. Grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it. Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Author of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Wise Creator, whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we share this Earth Temple.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** As we reflect on the creation, help us to take in its true significance as Your work, in which you have invested deeply of Yourself.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflict suffering upon people and other creatures.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of Blue Ocean Church who desire or need your presence and help.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Rock and refuge of all your creatures, bless each one with your everlasting mercy and grace.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Gardener of Life, help us become instruments of a New Creation, founded on the covenant of Your love.

**People:** Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** God, maker of marvels, you weave the planet and all its creatures together in kinship; your unifying love is revealed in the interdependence of relationships in the complex world that you have made. Save us from the illusion that humankind is separate and alone, and join us in communion with all inhabitants of the universe; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who topples the dividing walls by the power of your Holy Spirit, and who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Meditation**

#### **Gratitude by Walter Rauschenbusch**

O God, we thank you for this earth, our home;

For the wide sky and the blessed sun,

For the salt sea and the running water,

For the everlasting hills

And the never-resting winds,

For trees and the common grass underfoot.

We thank you for our senses

By which we hear the songs of birds,

And see the splendor of the summer fields,

And taste of the autumn fruits,

And rejoice in the feel of the snow,

And smell the breath of the spring.

Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty;

And save our souls from being so blind

That we pass unseeing

When even the common thorn bush  
Is aflame with your glory,

Carry on now, carry on  
Carry on now

**Prayer for Loved Ones:** Rosa, Gary, Sal, Benjamin, Paul and Jennifer, Erika, Sarah, the Zaghmout family, Karen, Elizabeth, Jack, Yvonne, Steven, Diane, Christina, Sue, John, Marcia, Haevyn, Rhonda & family, Jim, Kurt, Mindy, Mike and Janine, Calob, Janie, Bishop Yvette Flunder, Bishop Bonnie Perry, Bishop Darrell Goodwin, Bishop Tim Wolfe, Leah, David, Hope Clinic, JFS, Ozone House, Ypsilanti Youth Choir,

And there's a galaxy behind your eyelids  
And there's a war in your house  
And there's a meaning that is far beyond us  
And there is courage in doubt

And I am the way and the truth and the life  
I am mystery, the day, and the night  
Carry on now, carry on  
Carry on now

## Communion

### 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.

### Oh God

(Zach Bolen)

In the valley, oh God, You're near  
In the quiet, oh God, You're near  
In the shadow, oh God, You're near  
At my breaking, oh God, You're near

Oh God, You never leave my side  
Your love stands firm through all my life

In my searching, oh God, You're near  
In my wandering, oh God, You're near  
When I feel alone, oh God, You're near  
At my lowest, oh God, You're near

Height nor depth nor anything else can pull us apart  
We are joined as one by Your love  
Hope will rise as we become more than conquerors  
Through the One who loved the world

### 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.

### Raise Up

Semler

Bring me your weak and weary  
Bring me your strange and cold  
I come for hope and healing  
That you won't feel alone

So raise up, raise up, raise up  
So raise up, raise up  
So raise up, raise up, raise up  
I have told you that

I am the way and the truth and the life  
I'm justice, I'm all that is right

### Benediction

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