



August 23, 2026

Order of Service

Together, we nourish souls, transform lives, and do justice to build the Beloved Community.

Worship Leader: Bis Thornton

Music Director: Brent Baldwin

Lay Leader: Nesan Lawrence

Caring Companion: Carolyn Gremminger

Please feel free to light candles to mark sacred moments at any time before the service or any of the times in the service designated by an asterisk below.

- *Prelude: "Sonatina Op 27, No 18" (Kavalebsky) - Valeria Diaz, piano
- Welcome: Bis Thornton
- Lighting the Chalice (in unison): ***This is the flame we hold in our hearts as we strive for justice for everyone. This is the light we shine upon systems of oppression until they are no more. This is the warmth that we share with one another as our struggle becomes our salvation.***
- Call to Worship: "From the Sea to Stars" (Lóre Stevens) - Nesan Lawrence
- Hymn: #163 (gray hymnal) "For the Earth Forever Turning"
- Affirming Our Mission (in unison): ***Together we nourish souls, transform lives, and do justice to build the Beloved Community.***
- Anthem: "Nohow" (John Cale) - Brent Baldwin, vocals & guitar; Jill Csekitz, drums; Efrain Davila, bass guitar; Valeria Diaz, piano

- Time for All Ages: “Mr. Brown Can Moo! Can You?” by Dr. Seuss - Sol Cornell
- *Meditation on Breathing:

When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.
- Stewardship Testimonial: Leah Wigham
- Offertory: “Blues” (Matyas Seiber) - Valeria Diaz, piano
- Reading: “Truth Serum” (Naomi Shihab Nye) - Nesan Lawrence
- Centering
- Music for Meditation: “Coat of Many Colors” (Dolly Parton)
- Sermon: “Ceridwen, Taliesin, and Nimble Transformations” - Bis Thornton
- Hymn: #396 (gray hymnal) “I Know This Rose Will Open”
- Extinguishing the Chalice (*in unison*): ***We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we hold in our hearts until we are together.***
- Benediction
- *Postlude: “Marinera y Tondero” (Lopez Mindreau) - Valeria Diaz, piano

Living Love...and Building Our Dreams

Did you know?

About 200 people are signed up to participate in our small group ministry and spirituality groups at the church, which help us nourish souls and transform lives.

To the Parents of Young Children, May We Suggest:

Relax! Nature made children to wiggle, so don't feel the need to suppress the fullness of their humanity in this sacred place.

Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little one to see what's going on.

Quietly explain the parts of the service to them, letting them know when it is time to sit in quiet reverence and when they should sing enthusiastically!

If you have to step out with your child, please feel free, but do come back. We love to see all ages in our sanctuary. Please know that we do have a "comfort room" at the back of the sanctuary where you can still hear and see the service and be comfortable with your child. (But that's for your comfort, not ours!)

To the Members of Our Church: The presence of children is a gift to our faith community and a reminder that our church is growing. Please be welcoming and give grace for how they exist in the world. This is how we will continue to grow a loving and beautiful community centered on love.

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to communities of faith, religious exploration, experiences of the Divine, and to one another.