

15 July 2018

Gathering

The gong is sounded three times

ENTRY INTO THE CELEBRATION

We gather this morning as God's joyful people,
lifting our hearts and voices in song,
in prayer, in praise

We gather this morning as God's thankful people,
thankful for this place,
and the gift of this time,
and the gift of one another,
here to share our joys and burdens,
here to walk the road of faith together.

Come, and let us worship God. Rob Root, Mark Street U.C. Gathering

Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life.
(Silence)

LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

The candle is lit

HYMN: This is the Day

MV 122

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: Let us come into the House of the Holy One
with song and dance.

Voice 2: We have come to worship our God,
the Creator of heaven and earth, seas and rivers,
and all that dwells within.

Leader: The Lord of the Dance beckons us to join in this time of
celebration and joy....

Voice 2: That we might know that we are gathered in God's
holy place.

Leader: We join the psalmist with songs of the glory of the God
of Hosts.

Voice 2: We seek to know God's faithfulness and wisdom.

**All: Let us enter God's rhythm of life
And follow in the ways of the Word. God will bring
us home where dancing and joy will never end!**

PRAYER OF AWARENESS

**In each moment of this day resides incredible power:
New life, healing and opportunity.
May this time together empower us to take some new
steps so all our living is transforming and the
yearning of our hearts become reality.**

CENTERING

Silence and Music of Reflection

EXPLORING

READINGS FROM OUR BROAD RELIGIOUS TRADITION

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalm 24

Mark 6:14-29

COMTEMPORARY EXPLORATION

HYMN: I Danced in the Morning

VU352

AFFIRMING & CELEBRATING

PRAYERS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

MV115

**Beloved Jesus, you surprise us by naming us your friends.
Your dance of faithfulness and life, open before us a way
of unexpected justice, mutuality and joy. Take these gifts
bless them and let them serve your people at home and
throughout the world, all of us, your cherished friends.**

SCATTERING

HYMN: Dance with the Spirit

MV156

PARTING WORDS

Let us go into this world, which God so loves as followers of Christ.
Let our attitudes and actions colour this world with the rainbow of God's blessing and grace.
Let us spread hope.
Let us create justice.
Let us live with respect in creation.
Let us brighten lives with joy.
Let us carry the warmth of Christ's presence into this week.
Let us live in love and peace.
And let the gifts of our mission and our service be a means of Christ's transforming presence and power, to God's glory and praise!

WORDS OF BLESSING

Go forth into the world in faithfulness. Join all those who have danced with the Lord throughout the generations. Take the song and rhythm of God's Word into the world and invite others to celebrate the joy with you. AMEN

CLOSING HYMN: I'm gonna live so God can use me. VU575