

Order of Service

September 22, 2024
Claire Karl Müller, Guest Preacher
Karla Baehr, Worship Associate

Gathering Bell

Introit Call to Worship (words and music by Betty Wylder, arr. Keith Kirchoff) Chancel Choir

May we have eyes that delight in beauty,
The majesty of nature,
The wonder of a smile.
Let us glory in being together.

Words of Welcome

Karla Baehr

Call to Worship

Claire Karl Müller

***Opening Hymn:** Earth Was Given as a Garden, verses 1 & 3 (#207 Gray Hymnal)

Earth was given as a garden, cradle for humanity;
tree of life and tree of knowledge placed for all of us to see.
Here was home for all your creatures born of land and sky and sea;
all created in your image, all to live in harmony.

Bless the earth and all your children, one creation: make us whole,
interwoven, all connected, planet wide and inmost soul.
Holy mother, life bestowing, bid our waste and warfare cease.
Fill us all with grace o'erflowing. Teach us how to live in peace.

Unison Chalice Lighting

Karla Baehr

We give ourselves one unto another, covenanting to walk together
as a congregation, promising faithfully to watch over one another,
and to delight for love to abide in our midst. *1717 Covenant (adapted)*

Nos entregamos y nos comprometemos a caminar juntos como
congregación, prometiendo con mucha fe cuidarnos mutuamente
y deleitarnos en el amor que permanecerá entre nosotros.

Stones of Joy and Concern

Karla Baehr

Response

There is a love holding me
There is a love holding you

There is a love holding all
We rest in that love

Go Out and Love the World

Keith Kirchoff

Go out and love the world!
Vá e ame o mundo!
¡Vayan a amar al mundo!
Ale e renmen tout moun! (2x)

Centering Moment

Claire Karl Müller

Anthem

Harvest Dreams (William Linthicum-Blackhorse)

Chancel Choir

Once when a dream came to me
And the cotton fields glistened like snow
Somewhere among the cotton sea
Waiting for me to go

I am free to dream my heart
No matter what they say
I will go wherever I want to go
And be whomever I want to be.
Once when a dream came to me

Reading "First Nations Survival and the Future of the Earth." Rebecca Adamson (Cherokee) Claire Karl Müller

Offering Words and Blessing of the Gifts

Karla Baehr

Offertory

Air Spirits (Connor Chee)

Keith Kirchoff, piano

Navajo pianist and composer Connor Chee (b. 1987) is known for combining his classical piano training with his Native American heritage. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music and the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, Chee's solo piano music is inspired by traditional Navajo chants and songs.

Sermon Moving Towards an Indigenous Worldview

Claire Karl Müller

***Closing Hymn** We Celebrate the Web of Life, verses 1, 3, 4 (#175 Gray Hymnal)

We celebrate the web of life, its magnitude we sing;
for we can see divinity in every living thing.

Of ancient dreams we are the sum; our bones link stone to star,
and bind our future worlds to come with worlds that were and are.

Respect the water, land, and air which gave all creatures birth;
protect the lives of all that share the glory of the earth.

Extinguishing the Chalice

Karla Baehr

Unison Affirmation

*Apagamos esta llama pero nó la luz de la verdad,
Ni el calor de la comunidad ni el fuego del compromiso.
Estos los llevamos con nosotros y los ofrecemos para bendecir al mundo.*

*We extinguish this flame and not the light of truth,
The warmth of community or the fire of commitment.
These we carry with us and offer as gifts onto the world.*

Benediction

Claire Karl Müller

** You are invited to stand, as you are able, at times in the service marked with an asterisk.*