

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

A Service of Thanksgiving

20 November 2022

PRELUDE and MEDITATION

*A child said, "What is the grass?" Fetching it to me with full hands;
How could I answer the child? I do not know what it is any more than he...
I guess it is the handkerchief of the Lord,
A scented gift and remembrance designedly dropt,
Bearing the owner's name someway in the corners,
That we may see and remark, and say "Whose?"
- Walt Whitman, Song of Myself*

SHARING IN OUR COMMON LIFE

Introductions & Announcements

CHIMES AND CANDLELIGHTING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bright and beautiful God, we thank You for our world,
a place full of beauty and variety.

**We thank You for the wind and the waves, the stars in the sky,
the changing of the seasons, the animals in all their splendor.**

We thank You, God, for the gift of people,
men, women and children

**of many colors and creeds, in different shapes and sizes, with
many gifts and talents, all made and loved by You.**

Thank You, God, for the variety of life;
Everything points to Your love and glory.

We are in awe.

Let us be grateful in worship. *adapted from Francis Brien*

*HYMN #268 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

PSALM FOR TODAY: Psalm 65: 6, 9, 11-13

You establish mountains.

You visit the earth and water it, provide grain.

You crown the year with bounty.

The pastures overflow, hills rejoice,

Meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

Valleys deck themselves with grain.

paraphrased by Stephen Mitchell

MUSIC FOR WORSHIP "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"
Dave Smith, soloist

MESSAGE FROM THE HEART

Becky Cook

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 3: 12 - 17

SERMON

"To Rejoice Together"

Ben Dake

*HYMN #263 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Generous and gracious God,
we give thanks for your gifts great and small:

Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, the unspeakable
beauty of the stars, smooth stones and seashells, and the moment of
slowing down before a peach and violet sunset:

Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise.

For those who have joined our congregation, the memory of those who
are gone, and relationships that deepen through the years:

Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise.

For the good kind of tired after a job well done, the rhythmic cadences
of Sundays that call us together, and those things yet possible:

Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise.

For hymn writers and poets who capture what we're feeling inside,
fragile openness after utter guardedness, and language that is beyond
words and in words:

Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise.

For raising us to life in this time and place, safe returns from important
journeys, and enough restlessness in our hearts to move faithfully with
you:

Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise. Amen

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

*DOXOLOGY

Join hearts and voices as we lift

Our gratitude for every gift,

And multiply each gift with praise.

To God who gives us all our days. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Eternal God, Jesus was robed in garments of the poor
and made his home with the outcast. By the gifts we
now offer in his name, grant us the privilege of walking**