

Order of Service
May 8, 2022

Candle-Lighting

Welcome & announcements

- * Land Acknowledgement
- * Celebrations & Concerns
- * Birthdays & Anniversaries
- * Dedication of the Offering

Call to worship

Minister As a mother comforts her child
so I will comfort you, says the Lord.
isaiah 66:13

All **Can a woman forget her nursing child,
or show no compassion for the child
of her womb? Even these may forget,
yet I will not forget you.**
Isaiah 49:15

Minister As an eagle stirs up her nest, and hovers over her young;
as she spreads her wings, takes them up, and bears them aloft
on her pinions, God will guide you.
Deut 32: 11-12

All **How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge
in the shadow of your wings.**
Psalms 36: 7

Minister Family of God, from whom does our help come?

All **Our help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**
Psalms 124:8

**Hymn: Would you bless (Tune:What a friend)
VU 556**

1

Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;
in our world of stress and tension
teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles,
love's expressed in many ways.

2

When our way is undemanding,
let us use the time that's ours
to delight in simple pleasures,
sharing joys in gentle hours.
When our way is anxious walking
and a heavy path we plod,
teach us trust in one another
and in you, our gracious God.

3

From the homes in which we're nurtured,
with the love that shapes us there,
teach us, God, to claim as family
every one whose life we share.
And through all that life may offer,
may we in your love remain;
may the love we share in families
be alive to praise your name.

4

Let us reach beyond the boundaries
of our daily thought and care
till the family you have chosen
spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other

with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles
love's expressed in many ways.

Opening prayer & The Lord's prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Greeting Christ in all of us - Passing the peace

The Ministry of music

Children's hymn: Mothers of Salem (Hymnary 609)

1.
When mothers of Salem
their children brought to Jesus,
The stern disciples drove them back
and bade them to depart:
But Jesus saw them ere they fled
and sweetly smiled and kindly said,
"Suffer little children to come unto Me."

2.
"For I will receive them and fold them to My bosom:
I'll be a shepherd to these lambs,
O drive them not away;
For if their hearts to Me they give,
they shall with Me in glory live:
Suffer little children to come unto Me."

3.
How kind was our Saviour to bid these children welcome!
But there are many thousands
who have never heard His Name;
The Bible they have never read,
they know not that the Saviour said,
"Suffer little children to come unto Me."

4.

O soon may the people of every tribe and nation
Fulfill Thy blessed Word and cast their idols all away!
O shine upon them from above
and show Thyself a God of love,
Teach the little children to come unto Thee!

A Mother's day montage

Today's scripture reading: I John 4: 7-21 (The Message)

My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn't know the first thing about God, because God is love—so you can't know him if you don't love. This is how God showed his love for us: God sent his only Son into the world so we might live through him. This is the kind of love we are talking about—not that we once upon a time loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they've done to our relationship with God. My dear, dear friends, if God loved us like this, we certainly ought to love each other. No one has seen God, ever. But if we love one another, God dwells deeply within us, and his love becomes complete in us—perfect love! This is how we know we're living steadily and deeply in him, and he in us: He's given us life from his life, from his very own Spirit. Also, we've seen for ourselves and continue to state openly that the Father sent his Son as Saviour of the world. Everyone who confesses that Jesus is God's Son participates continuously in an intimate relationship with God. We know it so well, we've embraced it heart and soul, this love that comes from God. God is love. When we take up permanent residence in a life of love, we live in God and God lives in us. This way, love has the run of the house, becomes at home and mature in us, so that we're free of worry on Judgment Day—our standing in the world is identical with Christ's. There is no room in love for fear. Well-formed love banishes fear. Since fear is crippling, a fearful life—fear of death, fear of judgment—is one not yet fully formed in love. We, though, are going to love—love and be loved. First we were loved, now we love. He loved us first. If anyone boasts, "I love God," and goes right on hating his brother or sister, thinking nothing of it, he is a liar. If he won't love the person he can see, how can he love the God he can't see? The command we have from Christ is blunt: Loving God includes loving people. You've got to love both.

May God bless to us this reading of Holy Scripture
Amen

Hymn; Motherhood, Sublime
(tune: VU 703 - In the Bulb)

1.
Motherhood, sublime, eternal,
lives in God's great heart of Love;
Ever holds us, safe enfolds us,
underneath, around, above;
Patient, tender, kind, forgiving,
though in devious paths we roam;
Gently chides us, ever guides us,
and all-loving, leads us home

2.
Ev'ry wrong will sure be righted;
ev'ry evil swept away;
Truth upspringing, justice bringing,
ushers in the brighter day
Mother calls her earthly children,
loves them, lifts them when they fall;
Striving, calling, fainting, falling,
Motherlove enfolds them all

3.
God is love, and love forever
in the motherheart is blest;
Lives the longest, lifts the strongest,
far outreaching all the rest;
Not by might, and not by wisdom
comes our lifting from the sod:
Love's pure glory tells the story
in the Motherheart of God

Sermon : Half a human

Pastoral Prayer and Benediction & Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in faith: steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others, so all the world can see –
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
A—men. A – men. A - - - m