

Date May 21, 2017

Keep walking, though there's no place to get to. Don't try to see through the distances. That's not for human beings. Move within, but don't move the way fear makes you move. ~Rumi

Gathering

PRELUDE

Gathering Song Part of the Family Insert

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, INVOCATION

Call to Celebration

ONE: God, we have come into a sacred place.

ALL: **We lay our worries down.**

ONE: We come as brothers and sisters in the Spirit of all that is Holy,

ALL: **shine your truth within and among us.**

ONE: We come to celebrate your presence among us with open hearts and minds,

All: we are grateful for this sacred place.

We are grateful to be together.

Song of Welcome I'm so Glad, Jesus Lifted Me NCH # 474

Grounding

Opening Prayer

Holy One, we come before you in awe, for you have promised never to leave us. Ever. It is an awesome thing! Even when we feel most lost and alone, still you are with us: your spirit is there, as comforter, advocate, friend. Help us to know, and celebrate, your presence with us always. Amen.

Food for Thought Saturday Morning Market Carrie Newcomer
Spirit Sightings

Moment for Mission Davin Cardenos North Bay Organizing Project

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Trio Let it Be

Prayer of Dedication God, whose people we are, infuse these gifts we offer. May they help to bring others ever closer to Love, and to experience and appreciate Loves presence in their lives. Amen.

Song of Thanksgiving Lo, I Am with You Insert

Words before the scriptures are read:

Whether you take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth or story, listen to these words now, for the

meaning they might hold for us on this day.

Scriptural Text

John 14:15-21 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep^[a] my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Creator, and God will give you another Advocate,^[b] to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees nor knows the Spirit. You know, because the Spirit abides with you, and will be in^[c] you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in God, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Response: May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder as we ponder the meaning of these words for our lives. Amen

A Chorus of Voices

Message Inquire Within! Rev. Curran Reichehr

Musical Reflection

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ONE: Divine Creator,

Jesus promised the disciples – and through them, us –
that your Spirit of Truth would be with us always.

We come before you in prayer to lift up our concerns for all
who need assurance of your presence in their lives.

We think of our world, too often a place of violence and war,
of bloodshed and anger.

TWO: We call upon your Spirit to come into our world,

ALL: and we name that Spirit, “Peace.”

ONE: There is so much injustice and inequality in our world,
to the point where we can find ourselves overwhelmed
and unsure of where to turn.

TWO: We call upon your Spirit to come into our world,

ALL: and we name that Spirit, “Justice.”

ONE: We think of those whose lives are filled
with the daily struggle to find enough food to eat.

We think of those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit,
and all those who face demons such as pain, addiction, loneliness.

TWO: We call upon your Spirit to come into our world,

ALL: and we name that Spirit, “Hope.”

ONE: We pray for those who are grieving,
who are experiencing loss in all manner of ways,
and those whose lives are fraught with anxiety.

TWO: We call upon your Spirit to come into our world,

ALL: and we name that Spirit, "Comforter."

ONE: We pray for ourselves, and for all your people
who hear the call to discipleship,
but may be unsure of how to live that out,
or too timid to step forward.
Yet we know you are always with us.

TWO: We call upon your Spirit to come into our world,

ALL: and we name that Spirit, "Friend." Amen.

Going With Gladness

Sending Forth

We are never alone, because the Spirit of life dwells in us and we in the Spirit of life. Go from this place knowing that you are beloved and may your life be a blessing to others.

Amen

Singing Forth TBD