

July 19, 2020 Giving Thanks Sunday 9:45 AM

## PRELUDE

John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal  
*In His Time*  
By Diane Ball

**Welcome by Pastor Mike**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** led by Julie Bookwalter & Dean Delgado

One: In times like these, we can easily get discouraged, allowing the challenges of the day to crowd out the important, the trivial to overshadow the meaningful. It can be difficult to keep an attitude of gratitude for life.

Many: **Yet sometimes still, by the grace of God, we stumble upon good news. We discover the realm of the divine among us. Then what does it mean?**

One: Are we willing to change direction, to continue the risk and adventure of discipleship, to have our world transformed by God's Spirit through our lives?

Many: **May God the Creator who makes all things new begin a new way of living and loving in us.**

One: Because the Spirit of Christ nurtures all that brings us into wholeness, and provides space for our growing, let us continue to give thanks even in tough times.

## OPENING PRAYER (unison)

**God of time, always watching and gently caring, working for good in every moment, hoping for love to bloom in every second, wishing for peace to flower in every minute. You hold our days like a tiny bud, encouraging our growth. You hold our years like a fragrant rose, cherishing the whole of our lives. You move us from tragedy to blessing. You take us from illness to recovery. You help us move from fear to confidence. You send us from despair to hope. God of our days and years, continue to guide our ways. Amen.**

**OPENING SONG** *For the Beauty of the Earth*

**CHILDREN & YOUTH MOMENT** with Robbie Arevalos

## MORNING PRAYERS

**Pastoral Prayer** led by Pastor Henderson

**Native American Prayer** led by Sunny Erickson  
**O Great Spirit, Whose breath gives life to the world and whose voice is heard in the soft breeze, we need Your strength and wisdom. May we walk in Beauty. May our eyes ever behold the red and purples sunset. Make us wise so that we may understand what You have taught us. Help us learn the lessons You have hidden in every leaf and rock. Make us always ready to come to You with clean hands and straight eyes. So when life fades, as the fading sunset, our spirits may come to You without shame.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal  
*Give Thanks*  
By Henry Smith

## SCRIPTURE READING

Pastor Kel Henderson

### Isaiah 65: 17-18a, 21-24

<sup>17</sup> For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.  
<sup>18</sup> But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating;.....

<sup>21</sup> They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup> They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup> They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. <sup>24</sup> Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

**MESSAGE** *Giving Thanks in Tough Times* Pastor Mike

**COMMUNION SONG**      *'Tis the Gift to be Simple*

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

Sharing of the Elements                      Pastor Kel Henderson  
Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Creator of the Universe,  
Bread baker and Wine Maker,  
You worked the world into being,  
instilled all creation with light and life,  
and shaped us as Your people.  
With all creation we sing our praises  
and offer our heartfelt thanks.  
Amen.***

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**                      by Justin Underwood

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(Or, mail in pledges and gifts to the church office.  
Or, drop them in the mail slot at the church office. Thank You!)*

**BENEDICTION**                                      Pastor Kel Henderson

**CONGREGATIONAL/CHORAL RESPONSE**

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.  
(Repeat)***

**POSTLUDE**                                      John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal

*In Times Like These*  
By Ruth Caye Jones