

Order Of Service – Nov. 22, 2020

Giving Thanks in the Face of Hard Times

Music for Contemplation: *To a Wild Rose* by Edward MacDowell, *From a Distance* by Julie Gold, *Autumn Leaves* by Joseph Kosma, *What a Wonderful World* by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss, and *Come Sunday* by Duke Ellington, all arranged and played by Molly Ruggles. Photos by Steve Schmidt, Susan Jhirad, Simon Migaj and Gabriela Palai at Pexels, and © Soul Matters.

Prelude: “Come Ye Thankful People Come” by George Job Elvey (*Singing the Living Tradition* #68), pianist Molly Ruggles.

Opening Words: “We Lift Up Our Hearts in Thanks” by Richard M. Fewkes (*Singing the Living Tradition* #515)

Welcome

Chalice Lighting: words by Gary Kowalski (*Lifting Our Voices* #84)

Covenant

Love is the heart of this church.

We commit to:

Being a diverse, welcoming community of mutual care and respect;

Supporting each other's spiritual journey and search for truth and meaning;

Promoting justice and serving the wider community.

We hold ourselves to this promise with compassion and understanding.

Hymn: “We Give Thanks,” words and music by Luella Perkins (*Singing the Journey* #1010) - vocalist, Ricky Richardson; pianist, Molly Ruggles.

Oh, we give thanks for this precious day,
For all gathered here, and those far away;
For this time we share with love and care,
Oh, we give thanks for this precious day.

(Sing three times through)

Candles of Joy, Sorrow and Milestones

Prayer: “Thanksgiving Blessing,” attributed to Starhawk

Offering: “A Sandpiper,” composed and played by Molly Ruggles

Reading: *Otherwise* by Jane Kenyon - at <https://poets.org/poem/otherwise>

Music: "In These Hard Times," words and music by Linda Hirschhorn, sung by Carole Bundy, Molly Ruggles, and Margot Chamberlain.

Sermon: "Giving Thanks in the Face of Hard Times"

Hymn: "For All That Is Our Life," words by Bruce Findlow, music by Patrick L. Rickey (*Singing the Living Tradition* #128) - vocalist, Will McMillan, pianist Molly Ruggles.

For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise;
for all life is a gift which we are called to use
to build the common good and make our own days glad.

For needs which others serve, for services we give,
for work and its rewards, for hours of rest and love;
we come with praise and thanks for all that is our life.

For sorrow we must bear, for failures, pain and loss,
for each new thing we learn, for fearful hours that pass:
we come with praise and thanks for all that is our life.

For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise;
for all life is a gift which we are called to use
to build the common good and make our own days glad.

Closing Words: "Between the Dawn and the Dusk" by Carl Seaburg - at <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/closing/6005.shtml>

Postlude: "Blues for Young Artists" composed and played by Molly Ruggles, featuring artwork of Adeline and Austin Wolf, and Sara and Julia Cymerman from UUCM's RE program taught by Mimi Olivier, assisted by Lily MacNamee.