

# Order Of Service – May 9, 2021

## ***Wisdom as the Feminine Face of Divinity***

**Music for Contemplation:** “Amazing Grace,” “Prayers From the Forest” and “Wind Spirit” by Bill Miller. Photos by Steve Schmidt and Susan Jhirad, and © Soul Matters.

### **Sound of the Bell**

**Prelude:** “Oh What a Beautiful Morning” from *Oklahoma!* by R. Rodgers & O. Hammerstein II, arranged and performed by Molly Ruggles

**Opening Words:** “Mitochondrial Gift” by Theresa I. Soto from *Spilling the Light: Meditations on Hope and Resilience*

### **Welcome**

**Chalice Lighting:** “Spilling the Light” by Theresa I. Soto from *Spilling the Light: Meditations on Hope and Resilience*

### **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:** “O Life That Maketh All Things New,” words by Samuel Longfellow, music from Thomas Williams’ *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789 (*Singing the Living Tradition*, #12). UUCM Choir with Molly Ruggles.

O Life that maketh all things new, the blooming earth, our thoughts within,  
our pilgrim feet wet with thy dew, in gladness hither turn again.

From hand to hand the greeting flows, from eye to eye the signals run,  
from heart to heart the bright hope glows; the seekers of the light are one:

One in the freedom of the truth, one in the joy of paths untrod,  
one in the soul's perennial youth, one in the larger thought of God;  
The freer step, the fuller breath, the wide horizon's grander view,  
the sense of life that knows no death, the Life that maketh all things new.

### **Candles of Joy, Sorrow and Milestones**

**Music:** "Flowers in my Pocket," by Judy Fjell. Performed by Andey Amata, vocals and guitar, and Molly Ruggles, vocals and piano.

**Prayer:** *Mother's Day Prayer* by Kathleen Rolenz

**Offering:** "Mourning Dove," Molly Ruggles

**Reading:** *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney, Author, illustrated by Anita Jeram

**Hymn:** "Mother of All," words by Alexander Pope, recast verses 2-4 by Michael G. Young; music: Irish melody (*Singing the Living Tradition*, #91). Performed by Molly Ruggles, piano and Brendan O'Brine, vocals.

Mother of all, in every age, in every clime adored,  
by saint, by poet, and by sage, your praises high have soared.

Goddess of nurture and of love, all nature sings your care.  
In life's extravagance you prove the gift of giving fair.

O spirit of unfolding grace and deepest mystery,  
teach us compassion's gentle face and wisdom's mastery.

Teach us to cherish this proud earth, its fragile beauty praise,  
and for the dreams your joy gives birth, a hopeful future raise.

**Sermon:** *Wisdom as the Feminine Face of Divinity*

**Hymn:** "Be That Guide," words by Carl G. Seaburg, music by Thomas Benjamin. (*Singing the Living Tradition*, #124). Performed by Molly Ruggles, piano and Brendan O'Brine, vocals.

Be that guide whom love sustains. Rise above the daily strife:  
lift on high the good you find. Help to heal the hurts of life.

Be that helper nothing daunts -- doubt of friend or taunt of foe.  
Ever strive for liberty. Show the path that life should go.

Be that builder trusting good, bitter though the test may be:  
through all ages they are right, though they build in agony.

Be that teacher faith directs. Move beyond the old frontier:  
though the frightened fear that faith, be tomorrow's pioneer!

**Closing Words:** words by George G. Brooks, adapted

**Postlude:** *Suite for Violin No. 6*, by Dumitru Bughici. Performed by Advent Chamber Orchestra.

*Question for coffee-hour discussion:* What gifts of wisdom have our mothers passed on to us?