

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

## **Opening Words**

One: For the wonders of this earth and all of creation

**Many: O Be Thankful**

One: For a community that is challenged to work toward God's dream for the world

**Many: O Be Thankful**

One: For the love of those who surround and support us.

**Many: O Be Thankful**

One: For each breath we take in and for this day before us.

**Many: O Be Thankful**

One: We come to this place filled with gratitude and love for you oh Holy One.  
Let us worship with gladness and thanksgiving.

**Opening Hymn** Hymnal #422 "Come, O Thankful People, Come"

## **Prayer of Invocation** (Worship Ways)

Holy and righteous God, you still speak to us. We listen and respond to your glorious power, ready to worship you in word and deed, joyfully giving thanks, for you have enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Amen.

**Musical Response:** Binder #59 "Give Thanks"

## **Children's Time**

## **Word in Song:**

Folk Choir

## **Sacred Reading**

**Psalm 136:1-9, 26**

O give thanks to God, for God is good,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the God of gods,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who alone does great wonders,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who by understanding made the heavens,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who spread out the earth on the waters,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who made the great lights,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

the sun to rule over the day,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

O give thanks to the God of heaven,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

"Our True Heritage" *Thich Nhat Hanh*

The cosmos is filled with precious gems.  
I want to offer a handful of them to you this morning.  
Each moment you are alive is a gem,  
shining through and containing earth and sky,  
water and clouds.

It needs you to breathe gently  
for the miracles to be displayed.  
Suddenly you hear the birds singing,  
the pines chanting,  
see the flowers blooming,  
the blue sky,  
the white clouds,  
the smile and the marvelous look  
of your beloved.

You, the richest person on Earth,  
who have been going around begging for a living,  
stop being the destitute child.

Come back and claim your heritage.  
We should enjoy our happiness  
and offer it to everyone.  
Cherish this very moment.  
Let go of the stream of distress  
and embrace life fully in your arms.

For the wisdom contained in these holy words we give thanks. Amen.

**Sermon** Rev. Al Schon

**Hymn** Hymnal #28 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

**Prayers of the People** (Lord’s Prayer in front of binder)

**How Shall We Do God’s Work in the World**

“Siyahamba” Hymnal #529

**Prayer of Dedication** (in front of binder)

Gracious God, we give thanks.  
We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,  
talent, and treasure as we use them to do  
Your work in the world. Amen

**Hymn** Hymnal #419 “Now Thank We All Our God”

**Benediction**

**Postlude**