

Saturday Morning Order of Worship:

Welcome/ Opening Prayer

Rev. Rebecca Sumner

Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Juli Prentice

For our land acknowledgement, we listen to the words of Robin Wall Kimmerer:

“Children, language, lands: almost everything was stripped away, stolen when you weren’t looking because you were trying to stay alive. In the face of such loss, one thing our people could not surrender was the meaning of land. In the settler mind, land was property, real estate, capital, or natural resources. But to our people, it was everything: identity, the connection to our ancestors, the home of our nonhuman kinfolk, our pharmacy, our library, the source of all that sustained us. Our lands were where our responsibility to the world was enacted, sacred ground. It belonged to itself; it was a gift, not a commodity, so it could never be bought or sold. These are the meanings people took with them when they were forced from their ancient homelands to new places.”

— Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass*

Call to Worship/Scripture

Robin Crabb, Rev. Gary Shoemaker, Rev. Tamalyn Kralman

1: We gather in God’s faithfulness and remember God’s promises. Because of God’s promises

Many: *We can do the work of love with unity and hope.*

1: We gather in God’s faithfulness, empowered to hold our grief with tenderness because of God’s promises.

2: We remember Psalm 34: God is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in Spirit.

3: We remember Psalm 137: God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

1: Because of God’s promises

Many: *We can hold our grief with tenderness.*

1: We gather in God’s faithfulness, empowered to dream of a future where love, liberation, and welcome abound, and goodness - not sin, life - not death, get the final word.

2: We remember Jesus’ words to a dying man in Luke 23: Truly I tell you today you will be with me in Paradise.

3: We remember the promises of Revelation 21: God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more

1: Because of God’s promises

Many: *We can live and even die as people of hope.*

1: We gather in God’s faithfulness, empowered to do the work of love in unity, across places, and differences, and even generations.

2: We remember 1 Thessalonians 4: We do not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.

3: We remember that those who have died surround us and spur us on. We remember Hebrews 12:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,

1: Because of God’s promises

Many: *We can do the work of love with unity and hope.*

Gathering Song*Be still and know that I am God***Children's Book***The Invisible String***Song***Nothing Can Ever*

Taizé

**All: *Nothing can ever come between us and the love of God,
the love of God, revealed to us in Christ Jesus***

Cantor verses:

- 1) When I am afraid, Lord, I put my trust in you In you I trust, I shall not fear
- 2) I thank you, O Lord, you saved my soul from death, so I may walk in the land of the living
- 3) It is Christ who died, Christ who rose again, At the right hand of God he prays for us
- 4) Neither death, nor life, nor things present or to come, Nothing can keep us from God's love

Song*Dear One*

Thresholds

Dear One, thank you for your love.
 Dear One, thank you for all you have done.
 Dear One, thank you for all you have given.
 Now it's your time to rest.

Transforming the Candles

Rev. Rebecca Sumner & Rev. Monica Greenberg

Remembrance slideshow and *"Who else are we remembering? Who else, in the cloud of witnesses, do you feel called to speak into the room before we begin the work of love in unity and hope together?"*

Dear One (Reprise)

Dear One, thank you for your love.
 Dear One, thank you for all you have done.
 Dear One, thank you for all you have given.
 Now it's your time to rest.

Benediction

Robin Crabb

Go, therefore, into our good work together, surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses, setting aside every weight and sin for the joy set before us. Amen.