

Sunday, May 12, 2024,

Mothers' Day

We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

Welcome

Family Life and Work

Family Celebrations

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Acknowledgment of the Land:

Introit: And on This Path

MV 8

**And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!**

**So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!**

Call to Worship:

Come let us worship the God whose love for us is like a mother for her child.

God has given us life. God has fed us through the good earth.

God's love cleanses and washes us and reawakens us.

God's love comforts and protects us.

Come let us worship the God whose love is like a mother for her child.

Opening Hymn:

Bring Many Names

VU 268

- 1 Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and hosanna! Bring many names!**
- 2 Strong mother God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and hosanna, strong mother God!**

- 3 Warm father God, hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human living,
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Hail and hosanna, warm father God!**
- 4 Old, aching God, grey with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and hosanna, old, aching God!**
- 5 Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and hosanna, young, growing God!**
- 6 Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and hosanna, great, living God!**

Prayer of Approach:

Opener of the morning, Source of recreation, we arise in You this day.

Faithful to the Word, we open our hearts to You.

**Teacher of the soul, You sing the faithful song of Life with joy and
courage.**

Give us clarity of mind and stillness of spirit to listen and respond.

O God of mercy and grace, hear the prayers of our hearts.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen**

Children's Time: When Mothers of Salem: Mothers are people too.

Hymn: When Mother's of Salem

**1 When mothers of Salem
Their children brought to Jesus,
The stern disciples drove them back
And bade them depart;
But Jesus saw them ere they fled,
And sweetly smiled, and kindly said,
"Suffer little children
To come unto Me.**

**2 "For I will receive them
And fold them in my bosom;
I'll be a shepherd to these lambs,
O drive them not away;
For, if their hearts to Me they give,
They shall with Me in glory live:
Suffer little children
To come unto Me."**

**3 How kind was our Savior
To bid these children welcome!
But there are many thousands
Who have never heard His name;
The Bible they have never read;
They know not that the Savior said,
"Suffer little children
To come unto Me."**

First Mother : Genesis 4: 1-9

Let me tell you about my mother...

Elaine McGee

Minute for Mission:

Gradual Hymn: In the Garden

**1 I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.**

Refrain:

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.**

**2 He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing.**

[Refrain]

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.**

**3 I'd stay in the garden with Him
Tho' the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling.**

[Refrain]

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.**

Two Mothers: I Kings 3: 16-27

Let me tell you about my mother...

Bob Bruer

Musical Offering: Soon and Very Soon

Andraé Crouch

We Respond

Offertory: Grant Us, God, the Grace

VU 540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

Offertory/Prayer of Dedication:

Prayer of People

Many Mothers: Matthew 12: 46-50

Let me tell you about my mother...

Janice Coutts

Closing Hymn: **She Comes Sailing On the Wind**
(All 5 Verses with no refrain after verse 1 and verse 3)

VU 380

**She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.**

- 1 Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth,
 like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.
And from the heart of God the Spirit moved upon the earth,
 like a mother breathing life into her child. (to Verse 2)**
- 2 Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given sight
 when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form.
 Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts
 found new delight,
 and then down the ages still she flew on. R**
- 3 To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she came,
 a whisper softly calling in the dark,
 the promise of a child of peace whose reign would
 never end,
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart. (to Verse 4)**
- 4 Flying to the river, she waited circling high
 above the child now grown so full of grace.
As he rose up from the water, she swept down from the sky,
 and she carried him away in her embrace. R**
- 5 Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world,
 after dawn returned in flame of rising sun,
the Spirit touched the earth again, again her wings unfurled,
 bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on. R**

Benedictions and Commissioning

I was hungry and you fed me, O God.

I was naked and you clothed me, O God

I was sick and you took care of me, O God.

A prisoner, a stranger, you welcomed me, O God.

I am always your child.

Choral Benediction: May the God of Hope Go with Us

VU 424

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.**

**May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

- 2 May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. R**

**Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**