

June 23, 2024

## Gathering as God's People

### Welcoming Words

Hymn: *This Is the Day* MV122 (seated)

### Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: The Christ candle is lit as a reminder of the light of Christ

All: **given to us all,**

One: a symbol of God's presence

All: **each and every day.**

### Acknowledgement of Place

#### Call to Worship:

One: God, the Holy One, is a God of wonder and mystery.

All: **God's Word questions us: "How do you care for this earth, your home?"**

One: How do you care for others?

All: **With whom do you stand?**

One: What words are spoken through your actions and being?

All: **How do you honour the Christ, whose love for you is astounding?**

One: Let us stay with these questions, as we discern what God would speak to our hearts today.

Hymn: *Creator God, You Gave Us Life* MV27

### Opening Prayer

**Source of our Life, in this sabbath time, we gather as a community, rooted and grounded in the gospel of love. We ask you to bless our lives, to renew our faith, and to inspire us to navigate our way through the days with wisdom and love. May we sense your presence among us now as we gather in this place and as we pray together: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### Lighting of the Peace Candle

#### Sign of Peace

*The peace of Christ be with you all.  
And also with you.*

**Hymn:**      *May the God of Hope Go with Us*      **VU424**

## **Story Time**

**Centering Music:**      *“Open Our Hearts”*      **MV21**

### **Listening for God’s Word**

**Psalm 111** (read responsively)

**One:** Praise the Beloved, O my soul. I will give thanks to you with my whole heart, to all who will listen, I will tell of your goodness.

**All:** **Wondrous is creation, Great Builder; I take pleasure in pondering your Work.**

**One:** Full of honour and integrity are your teachings; those who follow them will find new life.

**All:** **You lift the hearts of those who suffer; you come to them in their need.**

**One:** Your steadfast love is food for the soul, nourishment in times of fear.

**All:** **You are ever-mindful of your covenant, a very Presence to the weary and afflicted.**

**One:** Your Word is truth to those with ears to hear; your precepts are sure.

**All:** **Written on the hearts of your people, they are to be lived forever with faith-filled love and assurance.**

So sang our spiritual ancestors  
**Their wisdom lives on.**

**Mark 7:31-37**

*The Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
Thanks be to God.*

**Hymn:**      *How Great Thou Art*      **VU238 (Verses 1 and 2)**

**Sermon:**      *Astounded Beyond Measure*

**Musical Interlude**      *What a Wonderful World*

### **Offering Our Work and Love**

**All:** We dedicate our offerings on par and those presented today and we dedicate ourselves anew to promoting hope, peace, joy and love in this world.

## **Community at Prayer**

**Hymn:**      *Teach Me God to Wonder*      **VU299**

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**