

## Welcome

### Prayer of Belonging

Loving God, you invite all people to the table and into a sacred community of belonging. All are invited into this time together to breathe, pray, wonder, and connect. Thank you for the life we have in you, with one another, and for the hope of our world. Amen

### Worship in Song

#### Poem

WHEN I AM AMONG THE TREES

*by Mary Oliver*

When I am among the trees,  
especially the willows and the honey locust,  
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,  
they give off such hints of gladness.  
I would almost say that they save me, and daily.  
I am so distant from the hope of myself,  
in which I have goodness, and discernment,  
and never hurry through the world  
but walk slowly, and bow often.  
Around me the trees stir in their leaves  
and call out, "Stay awhile."  
The light flows from their branches.  
And they call again, "It's simple," they say,  
"and you too have come  
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled  
with light, and to shine."

Worship in Song

## **Passing the Peace** (embodied)

-Please Stand-

*(place palms over your heart)*

Leader: God makes peace within us.

**All: Let us claim it.**

*(bind opposite hands together)*

God makes peace between us.

**All: Let us share it.**

The peace of God is here to stay.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

*(extend palms out as a blessing to all)*

## **Community Announcements**

### **Sacred Reading**

Let us open our hearts, souls, bodies, and minds to receive what the Spirit is inviting us into from Genesis 1:1-2:3 - [The Peace Table](#)

WHEN BEGINNING, God created in the dark.

Earth and sky had no shape. God's Spirit fluttered over the water.

Then God said, "Let there be light."

Light shone. God saw the light was good.

God called the light Day, and the darkness Night.

There was nighttime and morning, the first day.

Then God said, "Let there be a dome."

A dome appeared, like a ceiling over the water.

God called the ceiling Sky.

There was nighttime and morning, the second day.

Then God said, "Let land appear."

And it did. God saw the land was good.

God called the dry land Earth, and the water around it Seas.

Then God said, "Let the Earth sprout plants and fruit trees."

Up sprouted every plant and tree. God saw goodness in what grew. There was nighttime and morning, the third day.

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the sky."

The sun, moon, and stars arose, and God saw goodness.

There was nighttime and morning, the fourth day.

Then God said, "Let there be animals in the water, and birds in the sky."

Sea creatures swam. Birds soared across the sky.

God called them good and blessed them.

There was nighttime and morning, the fifth day.

Then God said, "Let there be animals on the land."

Wild animals and tame animals roamed. God called them good.

Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image to care for the earth."

And God created humans and blessed them.

God saw everything God made and agreed it was all very good.

There was nighttime and morning, the sixth day.

God finished creating. And on the seventh day, God rested.

For the Word of God in Scripture

For the Word of God among us

For the Word of God within us

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Reflection**

**Offering**

**Communion/The Peace Table**

**Worship in Song**

## **Doxology**

*Please make a circle around the sanctuary*

## **Blessing and Sending**