

INGATHERING CHANT

*Sing through my voice, play through my hands,  
Let the way be open.*

CHALICE LIGHTING words by B.T. Newberg

Here and now is the Center, the fulcrum of the mind,  
*The hearth of the Community, the birthplace of the Cosmos;*  
In it, we behold the world, and we know what we have always known:  
*That we are of this world.*

CHANT\* “Gathered Here” #389, STLT (sing through 4x)

*Gathered here in the mystery of the hour.  
Gathered here in one strong body.  
Gathered here in the struggle and the power.  
Spirit, draw near.*

AFFIRMATION OF OUR COVENANT\* words arranged by: Rev. L. Griswold Williams

*Love is the doctrine of this church,  
The quest of truth is its sacrament  
and service is its prayer.  
To dwell together in peace,  
To seek knowledge in freedom,  
To serve humanity in fellowship,  
To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine:  
Thus do we covenant with each other and with God[dess].*

HYMN\* “Mother of All” #91, STLT

MEDITATION meditation: B.T. Newberg; response: Carl Sagan

*Some part of our being knows this is where we came from.  
We long to return. And we can. Because the cosmos is also within us.  
We're made of star-stuff. We are a way for the cosmos to know itself.*

MUSICAL INTERLUDE Joohwa Park

VISUAL ANCESTORS MEDITATION

STORIES OF OUR ANCESTORS

HYMN\* “Spirit of Life” #123, STLT

## LITANY OF GRATITUDE

**L:** We express our gratitude for the gifts we've received from our Ancestors. This includes all the physical ones, such as our jaw, inherited from our early jawed-fish Ancestors, and our brain with an ability to plan (from our monkey-like Ancestors), as well as cultural things, such as the importance of reason (from our Enlightenment cultural Ancestors), and many, many more.

**P:** *We can't repay our Ancestors, but we can pay it forward to our descendants, those to whom our Ancestors also gave gifts.*

**L:** May this wellspring of gratitude empower us to work for the next generation and our whole planet – not out of guilt or shame, but out of pride, thankfulness, and joy.

**P:** *May it make it effortless to love those around us, who, be they human or not, are our cousins.*

**L:** May it connect us to everything, because we are all connected; to each other, biologically; to the Earth, chemically; and to the rest of the Universe, atomically.

OFFERTORY                      Joohwa Park

DOXOLOGY\*            **NOTE CHANGE** #375, STLT  
*As saffron trees now capture fire  
And memories our hopes inspire  
We'll praise imagination's grace –  
The human heart's best resting place.*

EPITAPH                      words by Merrit Malloy & Jacob P. Rudin, arr. by Yaakov  
Reef

HYMN\*            "For All That Is Our Life" #128, STLT

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE