



ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 27, 2024

Order of Service
for the Worship of God

“Deliverance Stories”

Gathering Music Stephen Anthony Rawson, Music Director

Prelude

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment Rev. Tiare L. Mathison,
Guest Preacher

Call to Worship Diane J, Liturgist (responsive)

The God of Life and Hope says:

I will bring those who have been displaced back to their native lands

Among them will be the amputees, traumatized, systematically starved

Among them will be the pregnant people, parents, and children

Among them will be grandparents and siblings, friends and cousins

They come with weeping—

holding within them the violence the world has allowed

They come with roots—

holding their traditions, sacred stories, and memories

I, the Spirit of Healing Righteousness, will pray over them

I will restore what has been stolen from them

I will mourn all that cannot be restored

They will live in peace and freedom once again

Opening Song *Gather Us In* Marty Haugen

Prayer for Transformation

Scripture **Jeremiah 31:7-9** NRSV

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.” See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Psalm 145:1-9 NRSV

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Sermon "Speak Out-loud"

Quiet Meditation

Song #547 *Amazing Grace*

Prayers of the People

Time, Talent & Treasure

Mission Updates

Offering Invitation

Online: Please donate generously through alkiucc.org, through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word "AlkiUCC" to 44321; a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki UCC is more important than ever.

Musical Offering

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

When there is joy—sing of it, sing of it!
That, even amidst the heartbreak of living,
wonder may reverberate off the walls of our hearts!
Bless our offerings to relationships and care amidst loss.
Bless our offerings to
Mysterious Love shining through even sorrow. Amen.

Closing Song

#526 *Siyahamb'* "We Are Marching In the Light of God"

Benediction (responsive)

The land stewards, the courageous, the elders, the children,
those who have experienced the pain of oppression—
They lead us to liberation!
They sing to us the songs of salvation!
Blessed by the Spirit, Compassionate and Wise,
Let us follow them!

Sending Music

Rev. Tiare L. Mathison
Presbyterian Pastor, Retired

Hello everyone!

Let me introduce myself beyond my title. I retired from full-time ministry, after 35 years, in August, 2023. At the time, I was the pastor of Wallingford Presbyterian Church, a delightful neighborhood centered place of community and mission.

In our system, when a pastor leaves, they have to stay away for a year at least. As we lived right in the middle of the neighborhood, we had to go somewhere.

My husband Jeff and I moved to the Lighthouse Apartments, right next door to the Coast Guard Station on the point. One day, on a long walk, I stumbled onto Alki UCC. I loved the building and that you share your space with a Jewish congregation and a Meditation Group. I was happy to see a woman's name as the pastor, too :)

I came to worship in early June and had a deep sense of recognition - ah, yes, these are my peeps. Your welcome, your mission, your music and your pastor's preaching invited me in.

Yet I kept my 'title' quiet for the first weeks, as the word 'pastor' can get loaded with all sorts of stuff. About a month or 6 weeks later, Pastor Emily and I had coffee and a long talk. We have many connections via Fuller Seminary and I know some of the folk and background of the Christian Reformed Church, too.

We spoke about how best I could support her ministry and the mission at Alki. Pastor Emily is supposed to take one Sunday off a month. I felt a nudge from the Holy Spirit to offer, "I could fill in. I love to preach!" She talked it over with the Worship Committee and asked me to come and lead worship on October 27.

As to theology, I am a Jesus Lover, Feminist and Christian. Progressive and yet empathetic to more conservative views as I pastored a church in Iowa for 10 years and learned a lot from those folks. In this season of our nation's life, we need to be especially sensitive to the Holy Spirit speaking truth to power, voicing and voting our support of LGBTQ+ folk, immigrants, and the poor, people of color. We who have privilege must sacrifice to lift up all.

Thank you for your welcome. I look forward to getting to know you all more deeply.

Service liturgy adapted from enfleshed.com
Order of Worship Subject to Change
Chalkboard Image: Home Studio/Unsplash

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Portions of today's service are recorded for posting
on Alki UCC's YouTube channel.

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