



## ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 10, 2026  
Order of Service  
for the Worship of God

### Counterweight: “They Are Mother”

#### Gathering Music

Daniel Self, Music Director

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel, Designated-Term Pastor

#### Centering Song

*Open Our Hearts*

Jim Strathdee

(all music at end)

#### Call to Worship

based on Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, re-imagined by Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel  
Rev. Tiare Mathison, Liturgist (responsive)

We are folded into the hammock of your love;

**Shame has no home here;**

**We emerge into your light.**

You bend to listen;

**Your ear brushes our cheek;**

**You return us to solid ground.**

You are our rock, our home;

**We rest here,**

**And from here you guide us.**

You tumble us out of trouble;

**Your strength is within us.**

And at the Last, we say, Here we are.

**You’ve changed us, evolved us, transformed us.**

**Truth Incarnate.**

We settle into your palm;

**You nestle us to your heart;**

**Keep us close.**

Shine your kindness into us

**Until we glow from the inside out.**

#### Opening Song

*God of the Women* Irish Traditional Ballad: *Slane*

God of the women who answered your call,

Trusting your promises, giving their all,

Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —

Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,  
Giving their resources, learning to pray,  
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —  
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,  
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,  
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —  
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,  
Prayed with the others in that upper room,  
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —  
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,  
May we be joyful in answering your call.  
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near  
That we may share in your ministry here.

### Prayer for Transformation

#### Special Music

*They Are Mother*      Jennifer Lucy Cook      Alki UCC Community Choir

What shall I call this force I know?  
Who do I come to when I wonder?  
The space that holds me when I'm low  
More than a parent, friend, or lover

They are the breath I see in cold  
The ready muscle in the sprinter  
They are the glitter and the gold  
The steady heat lamp in the winter

They nod and know, they need nothing  
They're god and grow, they bleed blessings  
They are solitude, they are multitude  
They are gratitude, gratitude

[L]  
[SEP] Laugh lines around the all-seeing eye  
And I can lean into the sky

What shall I call this force I know?  
Who do I come to when I wonder?  
They are Mover, they are Maker  
They are Mother, mm, they are Mother, mm

#### Scripture

John 14:15-21 (New Revised Standard Version, adapted for inclusive language)

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father-Mother, and they will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees them nor knows them. You know them because they abide with you, and they will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

On that day you will know that I am in my Father-Mother, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father-Mother, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

### **Sermon**

### **Quiet Meditation**

**Song** *How Like a Gentle Spirit* NCH 443

### **Prayers of the People**

**Stewardship Moment** Diane J

### **Time, Talent & Treasure**

#### **Mission Updates**

#### **Offering Invitation**

**Online:** Please donate generously through *alkiucc.org*, through a mailed donation to the church office or via the QR Code on a following page.

#### **Offertory**

**Doxology** *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

#### **Prayer of Dedication**

#### **Benediction**

**Closing Chorus** God be with you till we meet again.  
By good counsel guide uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.

### **Postlude**



**Support the many ministries of  
Alki UCC with a secure donation  
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Order of Worship subject to change  
Liturgy adapted from UCC Worship Ways  
Order of Worship Subject to Change  
Music Covered by One License.net #A-7 10529  
Image: Irewolede on Unsplash  
Portions of the service are recorded  
for posting on YouTube

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# Open Our Hearts

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$\text{♩} = 50$

O - pen our hearts, o - pen our minds.

O - pen our lives to you, O lov - ing

God. O - pen our hearts.

## Doxology – LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Thomas Ken, 1709

*Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623*

Prasie God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - lc -

lu - ia, al - lc - lu - ia! Praise God for all that love has done; Cre - a - tor Christ and spi - rit

one: We praise thee, We praise thee, al - lc - lu - ia! Al - lc - lu - ia! Al - lc - lu - ia!