

ENCOUNTER

A MID-WEEK SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PRESENCE

“Healing” is Our Theme for October 19-November 16

Gathering Music

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: How Can I Keep from Singing

Robert Lowry

**My life flows on in endless song, above earth’s lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

(Refrain)

**No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I’m clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?**

**Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?**

(Refrain)

**The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?**

(Refrain)

Gathering Prayer

L: Today is a day to sing praise to God!

P: God continually blesses us, each and every day.

L: Even in the midst of cold and darkness, the warmth of God’s love is real.

P: We can count on God to be here for us.

L: Let your hearts rejoice and your voices shout praise to God.

P: For God is great and worthy to be praised. AMEN.

Psalm 27

Scripture: Acts 9:36-43

Meditation

Reflection and Response

During our time of Reflection and Response, you are invited to engage in a variety of prayer stations. This week you are also invited to write a 5 stanza poem. If you'd like, you can share your poem as part of our prayers of the people this evening.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Concluding Prayer and Benediction

Hymn: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hyfrodol

**Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.**

**Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

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Emily Robbins, Minister of Youth
Matthew Phelps, Minister of Music

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Responsive Reading of Psalm 27:

Hear my voice when I call, O Lord;
be merciful to me and answer me.

**My heart says of you, "seek his face!"
Your face, Lord, I will seek.**

Do not hide your face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.

**Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior.
Though my father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will receive me.**

Teach me your way, O Lord;
lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

**Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
breathing out violence.**

I am still confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.

**Wait for the Lord;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the stronghold of my life!