



## Gathering and Centering

Opening Music – Simple Gifts performed by Yo-Yo Ma

Prayer of Invocation by Rev. Abi

Lord,  
We long for your simple gifts for our lives.  
We long for your peace.  
We long for your joy.  
We long for your hope.  
We long for your love.  
We long for your touch.  
We long for your grace.  
We long for your healing.  
We long for your touch.  
O Lord, open a spring in our lives  
that daily refreshes us with your simple gifts.

Being Present Matthew 6:34 – The Voice Translation

<sup>34</sup> So do not worry about tomorrow. Let tomorrow worry about itself. Living faithfully is a large enough task for today.

Time of Silence for Letting Go

Scripture Reading Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## Presenting our Requests to God (Concerns, burdens, needs...)

**Music:** Gabriel's Oboe – performed by Yo-Yo Ma

*(This piece of music with its hope and possibility comes from the movie The Mission. While the movie reveals both the best and worst of human impulses, the music is often used at weddings and hopeful occasions.)*

**Reading** Now Thank We All Our God verse 1

Now thank we all our God with heart and hand and voices  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom the world rejoices  
Who, from our parents' arms, hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

## Lifting our Thanks to God (Joys, blessings...)

**Music:** Wachet Auf – performed by Yo-Yo Ma

*(This beautiful tune is used for the Advent Hymn – Keep Awake, Be Always Ready – its message is one of being attentive to and ready for God's love to break forth – may it help you remember that even in these fall days.)*

**Sending Prayer** by Brother David Steindl-Rast

Giver of all good gifts,  
You have spread the world out before us like a feast,  
Like a table that is set by Your motherly love before us.  
Open our hearts to feast at Your table.  
To show our gratitude  
By remembering all those who have so much less than we have,  
By letting some of our own wealth overflow to them,  
By making those who are lonely – while we have friends and company –  
By making them less lonely,  
By being available for them.

And make the whole world one big joyful table fellowship:  
Eating together,  
Singing together,  
Dancing together  
In an overflowing of gratitude.