

Visions United Spirit Gathering
April 23, 2023
For the Love of All Creatures

* *Stand as able*

Our Community Gathers

Gathering Music/Prelude

Welcome

God's Doors Are Open to All!
Open Doors · Open Minds · Open Hands · Open Hearts
 Visions United seeks to be a safe place for people of all
 races, creeds, ages, cultural backgrounds,
 sexual orientations and gender identities to worship

Acknowledgement of Land

Lighting the Christ Candle

Sharing the Peace & Kindling a Flame for Peace

One: Peace of Christ Be With You

All: And Also With You

Sharing of WOW Moments

For the Love of All Creatures

* **Song** (*standing*) VU#291 All Things Bright and Beautiful (*Refrain, v1, refrain, v5, refrain*)

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander

Music: English Melody adapted and arranged Martin Shaw ©1921 J. Curwen & Son

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Invitation to Gather

adapted. Susan Lukey. Used with permission. Gathering Pentecost 1 2017.

All things bright and beautiful in the world around us...

(Call out your favourite bright and beautiful things)

All creatures great and small in the world around us...

(Call out your favourite creatures great and small)

All things wise and wonderful in the world around us...

(Call out your favourite wise and wonderful things)

Our Creator God has made them all.

Gathering Prayer

We Listen for Wisdom

Theme Conversation for All Ages

Charlotte & Simon Share their Story of Daisy

Song O Great Earth

Words/music: Linnea Good

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O Great Earth so green and so blue

This is the promise that I'll make to you.

To care for your animals,

for animals can hear

the rhythm of your heart-beat.

O Great Earth so green and so blue
This is the promise that I'll make to you.
To care for your children,
for children can hear
the rhythm of your heart-beat.

(Children's Programming Begins)

Wisdom Reading Job 12:7-9

Bonnie's Story A Memory from Marilyn Burrell and a Story read by Grace
Spiritual Memoir Project

Celebrating the Animals in our Lives

Annie's Story

Special Music All God's Critters Words/music: Bill Staines
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Reflection For the Love of All Creatures

Song VU#296 This is God's Wondrous World (vs.1&2) *Words: Malthie Daveenport Babcock*
Music English Traditional Melody adapted by Franklin L. Sheppard & Stanley Oliver
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The Emotions of Animals *Spiritual Memoir Project, Bill Redden*

Wisdom Reading Apprehend God in All Things *Meister Eckhart, 13th century Christian mystic*

We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

Song All of Us Belong Words/music: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan ©2004, worldmaking.net
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(Repeat 2x)
All of us belong
Each and every one
All of us belong
In this sacred circle

(Repeat 2x)
We have wings
and paws
and tails
and toes
and instincts
and souls

All of us belong
Each and every one
All of us belong
In this sacred circle

Litany for the Animals

Our Community at Prayer

Response:

All of us belong

Each and every one

All of us belong

In this sacred circle

Invitation to Generosity & Sharing of Our Gifts**The Work of the Congregation - Announcements****We Go Forth to Be a Blessing**

* **Song** (*stand*) MV#30 It's a Song of Praise to the Maker (*v1, ref., v3, ref., v4, ref*)

Words: Ruth Duck ©1992 Gia Publications. Music: Ron Klusmeier ©1992

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Changing of the Light and Blessing**Postlude Music for the Journey**

Thank You for Joining Us!

May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.