

Order of Service
Sunday, September 7, 2025
Monthly Theme: Building Belonging
The Blessings of Belonging – A Water Ingathering Service
Karen Gonzalez

GATHERING

Morning Sing #1007 “There’s a River Flowin’ in My Soul” Words and Music by Rose Sanders
#354 “We Laugh, We Cry” Words and Music by Shelly Jackson Denham
Oh, Let us Gather” Words and Music by RevAmy Carol Webb

Ring of the Chimes

Prelude “I Went Down to the River to Pray” African American Spiritual River of Grass Choir

Welcome

Call to Worship “We Bid You Welcome” by Rev Richard S. Gilbert

Opening Hymn #360 “Here We Have Gathered” Words by Alicia S. Carpenter; Music Genevan Psalter

Chalice Lighting “The Spirit of Water” by Katie Sivani Gelfand

CONNECTING

Covenant

English: *Love is the spirit of this congregation and service is its law.*

*This is our great covenant:
to dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love,
and to help one another.*

Spanish: *El Amor es el espíritu de esta congregación
y el servicio su ley principal.*

*Esta es nuestra gran promesa:
vivir juntos en paz, buscar la verdad a través del amor,
y ayudarnos mutuamente.*

DEEPENING

Deepening Music “Love is the Water That Wears Down the Rock” by Joe Jencks

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection

Pastoral Response

Congregational Response Music #371 from a Genevan Psalter, Words #381 by Isaac Watts

Blessing of Teachers

Blessing of Backpacks and Students

Heritage and Hope Lucile Shuck Longview and Carolyn McDade / Deepa Iyer

Offering/Offertory #123 “Spirit of Life” Words and Music by Carolyn McDade

Message The Blessings of Belonging Karen Gonzalez

Joining of the Waters

Music “By the Waters” by Cindy Blevins

Blessing of the Water

SENDING

Closing Music #126 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Words by Robert Robinson Music by John Wyeth

Closing Words

Extinguishing the Chalice

Announcements

Shine On

Invite to Hospitality

Music Reprise