

Order of Worship

**All who are able please stand*

Please contact an usher or greeter to obtain an assisted hearing device

FOR REFLECTION

Speak the truth with those who search for it...support those who have stumbled, and extend your hands to those who are ill. Feed those who are hungry; give rest to the weary...strengthen those who wish to rise; and awaken those who are asleep.

Gospel of Truth;

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Gospel of Thomas 70

**If you bring forth what is within you,
what you bring forth will save you.**

**If you do not bring forth what is within you,
what you do not bring forth will destroy you.**

*HYMN

God of the Sparrow

#22

*GREETING OF PEACE

May the Spirit of peace and wisdom be with you all.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

*(After the children's time children are dismissed for Godly Play & Joyful Path;
Youth for Connections & Everyday Leadership)*

Parents: If this is your first time at Southminster Sunday School, please go with your children (age 3-4th grade) and sign them in. Thank you.

READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-10

And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God's

wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the LORD of glory. However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"- the things God has prepared for those who love him- these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

READING

Thunder Perfect Mindⁱⁱ

*I am the first and the last.
I am the one who is honored, and the one scorned;
I am the whore and the holy one...
I am the incomprehensible silence,
And...the voice of many sounds, the word in many forms;
I am the utterance of my name...
Do not cast anyone out, or turn anyone away...
I am the one who remains, and the one who dissolves;
I am she who exists in all fear,
And strength in trembling.
I am she who cries out...
I am cast forth on the face of the earth...
I am the sister of my husband, and he is my offspring...
 but he is the one who gave birth to me.
I am the incomprehensible silence
and the thought often remembered...
I am the one who has been hated everywhere,
And who has been loved everywhere.
I am the one they call Life, and you have called Death.
I am the one whose image is great in Egypt,
And the one who has no image among the barbarians...
I prepare the bread and my mind within;
I am the knowing of my name.*

ANTHEM

Amazing Grace

Chancel Choir

READING

Thunder Perfect Mindⁱⁱⁱ

*I am the thought that lives in the light.
I live in everyone, and I delve into them all...
I move in every creature....
I am the invisible one in all beings...
I am a voice speaking softly...
I am the real voice...the voice from the invisible thought...
It is a mystery...I. cry out in everyone...
I hid myself in everyone, and revealed myself within them,
 *and every mind seeking me longs for me...**

*I am she who gradually brought forth everything...
I am the image of the invisible spirit...
The mother, the light...the virgin...the womb, and the voice...
I put breath within all beings.*

READING

Elaine Pagels^{iv}

What's found in the secret gospels, and throughout the process of exploring the history of religion, offers resources we're now beginning to appreciate. What also helped me was Heinz's insight and imagination, shaped by scientific inquiry, which often extends beyond personal suffering. Once, as noted before, when he saw me in anguish after we received our child's crushing diagnosis, he said something I often recall; "Everyone's life has something like this in it." Angry, I snapped back; "No, not this—not a child with a terminal illness!" "No," he said, "not this, but something like this." Much later, I came to realize how much truth there is in what he said. Even now, writing about what's so deeply personal, I'm aware that anything I say can speak to you only as it resonates through what you have experienced yourself; yet even within those limits, we may experience mutual recognition.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Kathie Huddleston, Janet Cruz, Joanne Wakeland,
Sue Kozak, Dan Rasmussen, John Shuck

***HYMN**

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

#44

TIME FOR MEDITATION AND NAMING

SUNG PRAYER

"Ubi Caritas" – (sing four times)

Ubi caritas

Et amore

Ubi caritas

Deus ibi est

("Where there is love and kindness, there is God").

CORPORATE PRAYER

Lord's Prayer

New Zealand Prayerbook

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

**A TIME FOR OFFERING
INVITATION TO GIVE
MUSIC FOR OFFERING**

***DOXOLOGY**

**Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering
When we are giving, or when receiving,
We belong to God.
We belong to God.
We belong to God.
We belong to God.**

***PRAYER OF THANKS**

***HYMN**

Celebrate the Works of Wisdom (Tune: Ode to Joy)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

i From Elaine Pagels, *Why Religion? A Personal Story* (New York: HarperCollins, 2018), p. 204

ii Pagels, pp. 179-180.

iii Pagels, p. 199.

iv Pagels, p. 208.