

Order of Worship

**All who are able please stand*

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

FOR REFLECTION

"If you don't believe in any religion and don't fear the Resurrection Day, at least be free in this world."

--Imam Hussain

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dhammapada

Buddha

Whoever has no longing
For this world or the beyond,
Who is unbound and without longing,
I call a brahmin.

Having no attachments,
And, through understanding, free of doubts,
Whoever is established in the Deathless
I call a brahmin.

Whoever here has overcome attachments
For both merit and evil
And who is sorrowless, dustless, and pure,
I call a brahmin.

Whoever, like the moon,
Is spotless, pure, clear, and undisturbed,
In whom the delight for existence is extinct,
I call a brahmin.

Whoever has passed beyond this troublesome road,
This difficult path, this samsara, this delusion,
Who has crossed over, gone beyond,
Who is a meditator, free of craving and doubt,
Without clinging, released,
I call a brahmin.

*HYMN

When We Are Living

#822

***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

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

READING

Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, 'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.'

Jesus said to them, 'Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac,

and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.'

ANTHEM

Being Alive

Chancel Choir

READING

David Ray Griffin

"People who have had near-death OBEs [Out of Body Experiences] typically report them to be wonderful experiences that transform their lives. However, this existence outside the body, assuming that it continues beyond bodily death, should not be equated with ultimate salvation. Insofar as NE OBEs [Near Death Out of Body Experiences] are accepted as foretastes of life after bodily death, they should be valued because they free people from the fear of death and provide promise that they will have time to be sanctified.

Also, salvation should not be understood as being saved from an everlasting hell (as if there were such a place). This does not mean that life beyond bodily death is either impossible or unimportant. But there is much more to salvation than continuing to live after bodily death. Rather, it involves transformation into people who love God with all their heart, soul, and might and their neighbors as themselves. For Americans as for Jesus, salvation is ultimate fidelity to God instead of to one's empire and/or other idols, such as fame and riches.

Besides providing time for souls to be sanctified by developing fidelity to God, life after death would also give us more time to make greater contributions to God."

SERMON

Resurrection of the Soul

John Shuck

***HYMN**

Thine Is the Glory

#238

***AFFIRMATION OF LIFE**

Rabbi Harold Kushner

Let me suggest that faith in God begins where human self-sufficiency ends. When we realize that we can do many marvelous things but can't do everything, and especially that we can't control the most important things, then we recognize our need to turn to God....

Do we yearn to matter to the world?

We matter, not because of our achievements but because we are loved by God and loved by the people around us. That love may not shield us from pain, death, and loss, but it will make them more bearable, and that will be enough.

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**

Now Thank We All Our God

#643

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

i David Ray Griffin, *The Christian Gospel for Americans: A Systematic Theology* (Anoka, MN: Process Century Press, 2019), p. 363.

ii Harold Kushner, *Living a Life that Matters* (New York: Anchor Books, 2001), pp. 161-2, 166.