

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
May 11, 2008  
Pentecost Sunday/Mother's Day

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please be mindful of those around you who may wish to prepare for worship with prayer and silent reflection.*

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE Thy Word Arr. Susan Geschke  
Parkman Bells, Directed by Sue Menzel & Jen Keeler

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Our Living Church*

CHIMES INTROIT Jesus Loves Me Arr. M. L. Thompson  
Jubilant Chimes

OPENING SENTENCES

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Spirit of God calls to us,

**People: with sighs too deep for words.**

Leader: The Spirit of God calls to us,

**People: claiming us,**

Leader: summoning us to become more than we now are.

**ALL: Calling us by name: God's children.**

\*HYMN #517 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling BEECHER

\*GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Unison)*

O God, like a mother embracing her child, you hold us close to your heart. Your love shelters and protects, feeds our great hunger, releases us into the world, yet always watches over us, prays for us, and longs to see the promise of our lives fulfilled. We thank you for all mothers whose care for their children reflects your divine care for us. Hold us close to your great heart, O God, that we may fully know the peace and strength that flow from your presence.

Be with us now as we gather to pray the prayer Jesus taught us: *"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."*

\*ACT OF PRAISE *Rejoice, You Pure in Heart Vs. 5 (Unison)*  
Praise God who rules all worlds; the risen Christ adore.  
Praise God the Spirit, Holy Fire, one God for every more!  
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

ANTHEMS There Is None Like You Lenny Leblanc  
Youth Choir

Mommy Loves Me unknown  
Junior Choir

SERVICE OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S CHAT

*(As children leave for their classes, greet those near you.)*

A MOTHER'S DAY LITANY *(See insert)*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Psalms 104:24-34 *(Pew Bible page 483)*

Acts 2:1-21 *(selections)*

SERMON:

Rev Thomas

"GOD THE SPIRIT, GOD THE SOURCE"

Text: *"When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground."* Psalms 104:30

SERVICE OF RESPONSE

ANTHEM The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm Bobby McFerrin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory

\*Doxology *(Unison)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. *(Alternatively - Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.)*

\*Prayer of Dedication

DISMISSAL

\*HYMN #265

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

\*BENEDICTION & CHORAL AMEN

\*POSTLUDE

Upside Down  
Youth Choir

Jack Johnson

*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**Carrie, Campbell & Peyton Brown** greet you this morning.

**Dennis Uhlman** serves as Liturgist.

**Lynne Caldwell & Jean Hall** are Deacons this week.

**Carol Moore** gives flowers in loving memory of her mother Beatrice Moore and for Jeffrey Lanzetta.

**Steve Achorn** is Trustee liaison.

SOME OF US ARE MOTHERS: A MOTHER'S DAY LITANY

Leader: Some of us are mothers, O God; some of us will be mothers; all of us have mothers, and others who have been like mothers to us.

Left: From a mother's tender love – we have known divine love;

Center: from her earthly care – we have learned heavenly care;

Right: from her daily concern – we have felt ultimate concern.

Leader: O Lord, thank you...

Left: for your image among us,

Center: for your example for us,

Right: for your patience with us.

**All: Thank you for mothers, for memories.**

Leader: By your grace O God strengthen us to support and empower the mother

Left: who has lost a child or the dream of having a child;

Right: who lives in fear;

Left: who has only a shack and cupboards bare;

Right: who sees her son, but locked behind bars.

Leader: God, we feel for the mother...

Left: who yearns to help, but cannot;

Center: who wishes to speak, but dares not;

Right: who wants to protect, but needs to release.

Leader: Uniquely placed in families, there we experience our greatest joys, our deepest sorrows.

**All: Lord, this day we pray for our own part in family...**

Left: give us sense to overcome disagreements;

Right: give us strength to handle disappointments;

Left: give us nerve to risk our love;

Right: give us time to share our love.

**All: In the name of Jesus, our brother, our Savior, and our life. Amen.**

### *What My Mother Taught Me*

The kitchen table – where so many of life's important moments occur – is where Reverend Sharon Lee MacArthur remembers learning to give the best away.

"My mother had turned the entire back yard into a garden," Sharon says, "and it was at the kitchen table where I helped her sort the vegetables. Neighbors and acquaintances received the best ones – the cream of the crop. Cousins and other extended family members were given the ones that were not as pretty. The vegetables that had some damage were used in our immediate household. With my mother, I experienced sharing our abundance. It was a celebration of what we had and included all those around us."

Reverend MacArthur is the pastor of Sycamore Congregational in El Cerrito, California former Chair of the United Church of Christ's Executive Council. She describes how she took to heart that childhood lesson of sharing, when she and her husband first joined a church. She says, "Even though there were no assets to speak of, we decided to tithe. All of these wonderful things started to happen.

The idea of sharing with the family of God had always been abstract. As I meet other people on this journey – people in other cultures, people of other ethnicities, and people from other countries – it becomes more real. I have a new definition of the family of God. A sharing and generous heart comes much more naturally."