

Welcome & Instruction

Donene Blair

Centering Moment (2 min)

Meditation Drum

Opening Prayer

Rita Lundin

Awaken me to your presence
Alert me to your love,
Affirm me in your peace.

Open to me your way
Reveal to me your joy,
Enfold me in your warmth.

For my heart is ready,
Holy One, my heart is ready. – *David Adam*

Reading

Ecclesiastes 3: 1 – 8 (NRSVUE)

Jerry Olson

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.

Centering Song

Lord of All Hopefulness - *adapted*

Carol Jewell, Piano

**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, throughout every day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, throughout every day.**

SACRED READING – “LECTIO DIVINA”

“For A New Beginning” by John O'Donohue, from To Bless the Space Between Us: A Book of Blessings.

Listen with the ear of the heart.

Allow your attention to linger with any word, sentence or phrase that captures your attention.

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

Janice Morand

For a long time it just watched your desire,
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,
Noticing how you willed yourself on,
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of safety
And the gray promises that sameness whispered
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,
Wondered would you always live like this.

CONTEMPLATION (2 min.)

Meditation Drum

In the second reading, what emerges most vividly for you?

Then the delight, when your courage kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and dream,
A path of plentitude opening before you.

Karen Ruan

Though your destination is not yet clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is at one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure;
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,
For your soul senses the world that awaits you.

CONTEMPLATION (2 min.)

Meditation Drum

Where do you see yourself in the blessing? What invitation from God do you hear?

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
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Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

Kitty Hudson Cawley

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CONTEMPLATION (3 min.)

Meditation Drum

Prayer

Donene Blair

Prayer Song

Stay with Me

**Stay with me,
remain here with me,
watch and pray,
watch and pray.**

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Holy Parent of us all,
The hallowing of your name
The way of your justice
Your heavenly will
Let your reign of peace and freedom
With the bread we need for today,
For the pain we cause one another,
In times of temptation and test,
From trials too great to endure,
From the grip of all that is evil,
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

**Source of all that is and that shall be,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
echo through the universe!
be followed by the peoples of the world!
be done by all created beings!
sustain our hope and come on earth.
feed us.
forgive us.
strengthen us.
spare us.
free us.
now and forever. Amen**

****BENEDICTION SONG**

Shalom to You

Donene Blair

**Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

BENEDICTION

Donene Blair

As you go on your way,
Jesus goes with you:

Before you to show you the way,
Behind you to encourage you,
Above you to watch over you,
Below you to uphold you,
Within you to give you God's peace, and
Beside you to be your friend.

In the faithful love of the Creator,
The amazing grace of the Savior, and
The guiding power of the Counselor

Amen



Davis United Methodist Church
1620 Anderson Road, Davis, California 95616 – Office Phone: 530-756-2170
Website: www.davisumc.org Email: davisumc@davisumc.org

*We Are a Reconciling and an Inclusive Community of Faith
Open and Affirming to the LGBTQIA Community and to All
Committed to Living and Teaching the Love of Jesus Christ*



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