CONTEMPLATIVE PRERECORDERED SERVICE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020 - 5:30 P.M.

Officiant: The Rev. Laura F. Gettys | Musician: Jeanne Simmons, flute

Virtual Congregation: Please join the Officiant and the Musician in silence and for the lighting of candles including any candles you may light wherever you are.

Welcome The Officiant

After the sound of a bell

Music for Meditation: Largo, from Four Seasons

Antonio Vivaldi

The Collect

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Meditation offered by The Officiant followed by two minutes of silence started and ended with the sound of a bell

In the Middle by Barbara Crooker

of a life that’s as complicated as everyone else’s,
struggling for balance, juggling time.
The mantle clock that was my grandfather’s
has stopped at 9:20; we haven’t had time
to get it repaired. The brass pendulum is still,
the chimes don’t ring. One day you look out the window,
green summer, the next, and the leaves have already fallen,
and a grey sky lowers the horizon. Our children almost grown,
our parents gone, it happened so fast. Each day, we must learn
again how to love, between morning’s quick coffee
and evening’s slow return. Steam from a pot of soup rises,
mixing with the yeasty smell of baking bread. Our bodies
twine, and the big black dog pushes his great head between;
his tail is a metronome, 3/4 time. We’ll never get there,
Time is always ahead of us, running down the beach, urging
us on faster, faster, but sometimes we take off our watches,
sometimes we lie in the hammock, caught between the mesh
of rope and the net of stars, suspended, tangled up
in love, running out of time.

from Yarrow. © 1998
Music for Meditation: *In Perfect Silence*

_Candles may be lighted. After the music has ended and the sound of a bell, all say_

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Intercessions and Thanksgivings _may be offered in the silence of our hearts_

**The Blessing**

*And now, the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God’s son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, be among us, and remain with us always. Amen.*

Music for Meditation: *How Can I Keep from Singing?*  

Robert Lowry

**The Dismissal**  
*The service concludes with the sound of a bell and silence.*