

Covenant Group Session **Who are we? Who will we call?**

Chalice Lighting

To be of the Earth is to know
The restlessness of being a seed
The darkness of being planted
The struggle toward the light
The pain of growth into the light
The joy of bursting and bearing fruit
The love of being food for someone
The scattering of your seeds
The decay of the seasons
The mystery of death
And the miracle of birth.

John Soos

Personal Check-in

Follow up conversation

Topic:

From the “Beyond Categorical Thinking” workshop on Saturday, September 22nd, many thoughts arose. Our conversations have focused on who we want our new minister to be. It is also important for us to ask ourselves, who we are and who we want to be. The Rev. Keith Kron suggested in his sermon we think about

- who we are on our best day,
- who we are on our worst day, and
- who we are on an average day.

To further that thought, can we think about whether we are satisfied with our congregation as it is now or if there is a direction toward which we would like to see our congregation head? Answering these questions may help us know, who is the minister who might best accompany us in the direction we plan to go.

- What is our congregational culture?
- What are our unspoken rules?
- What are the defining characteristics of this congregation?
- Does our congregation want to stay the same or change?
- How do you respond when someone says or does something in our congregation that makes you uncomfortable?
- Should our congregation grow? Why or why not?

Closing Reading

Be a gardener
Dig a ditch,
Toil and sweat,
And turn the earth upside down
And seek the deepness
And water the plants in time.
Continue this labor
And make sweet floods to run
And noble and abundant fruits
To spring.
Take this food and drink
And carry it to God
As your true worship.
 Julian of Norwich