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*Sunday July 31, 2022*

**Prelude** Dr. Christina Romero

**Gathering Song** *Build Your Kingdom Here*

 *Jesus Lover of My Soul*

**\*Centering & Invocation** Julianne Thomas

**\*Hymn**  *As The Deer #548*

**Scripture Reading** Psalm 24 Tom Bartley

**Worship Prayer** *Cares Chorus* Julianne Thomas

**Blessing of the Backpacks** Ruth Ann Mills

 *Leader: God, we come before you as another school year begins*

 **People: We come to seek your protection and blessings for our students, parents, teachers, bus drivers, and school staff.**

 *Leader: Divine Creator, who once came as a child to learn and grow, to be in and with your creation.*

 **People: Protect and watch over our children. Keep them safe in body, heart, and mind. Help them to learn and grow in safe and healthy environments.**

 *Leader: Holy Parent, who loves and cares for their children.*

 **People: Give our parents peace of heart and mind as they send their children off to school, trusting in the care of others.**

 *Leader: Heavenly Teacher, who guides us into the wisdom of love.*

 **People: Be with our teachers, bus drivers, and staff. Protect them as they watch over our children. Grant them patience when working with challenging students and parents. Help them to find creative and meaningful ways to help our children learn.**

 *Leader: God of the heavens and earth, we pray this school year be a time of growth, excitement, and connection.*

 **People: Lord, bless our children, their families, the faculty, and staff in this new school year. Amen**

**\*Hymn** *What A Friend We Have in Jesus #630*

**Spiritual Practice**  Julianne Thomas

**\*Hymn** *Sunshine in My Soul #747*

**Response to God**

**Offertory** Dr. Christina Romero **\*Doxology**

**\*Prayer** Tom Bartley

**Benediction** Julianne Thomas

**Postlude**  Dr. Christina Romero

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