

April 16, 2023 Sunday Gathering

.

-PRELUDE-"Traumerei" - R. Schumann Brenda Gardiner

-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-

We acknowledge that the place where we are gathered today is the ancient and ancestral homeland of more than twenty Indigenous tribes. We mourn the loss of their lives, livelihoods, homes, and cultures, and acknowledge the legacy of violence against them.

We acknowledge that the space where we worship today was established and built by those whose Black ancestors were also abused and mistreated - some even bought and sold as enslaved people right here in our city.

We acknowledge the women who've faced unfair treatment and misogyny throughout the ages and we acknowledge those who identify as LGBTQ or other who've been mistreated and misunderstood.

We acknowledge our role and responsibility as professed followers of Christ to stand for and alongside all of these and others who have been and continue to be oppressed.

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"I Dream of a Church" WE DREAM OF A CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME, WE DREAM OF A PLACE WE ALL CAN CALL HOME. WE DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE JUSTICE IS FLOWING WITH HOPE AND PEACE GROWING, WHERE GOD'S WILL IS DONE.

MAKE IT SO, MAKE IT SO! WE PRAY FOR THAT DAY, MAKE IT SO. WE DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE LOVE REIGNS AMONG US AND YOUR WILL IS DONE O GOD, MAKE IT SO.

-WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-GREETING EACH OTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-"I Dream of a Church" O GOD, FILL OUR HEARTS TO REACH OUT IN WELCOME, MAKE US TO SEE YOUR VISION ONCE MORE. LET'S DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE OUR HANDS ARE YOUR HANDS, WE OFFER OURSELVES, O GOD, MAKE IT SO.

MAKE IT SO, MAKE IT SO! WE PRAY FOR THAT DAY, MAKE IT SO. WE DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE LOVE REIGNS AMONG US AND YOUR WILL IS DONE O GOD, MAKE IT SO.

-CALL TO WORSHIP-We believe we have been called TO BE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, WITH EACH OTHER, AND WITH OUR COMMUNITY. We believe we have been called TO CARE FOR THE POOR, TO SHARE OUR EARTHLY AND SPIRITUAL RESOURCES.. We believe we have been called. TO BE THE CHURCH.

-OPENING PRAYER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-"O For a World" O FOR A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE RESPECTS EACH OTHER'S WAYS, WHERE LOVE IS LIVED AND ALL IS DONE WITH JUSTICE AND WITH PRAISE. O FOR A WORLD WHERE GOODS ARE SHARED AND MISERY RELIEVED, WHERE TRUTH IS SPOKEN, CHILDREN SPARED, EQUALITY ACHIEVED.

> WE WELCOME ONE WORLD FAMILY AND STRUGGLE WITH EACH CHOICE THAT OPENS US TO UNITY AND GIVES OUR VISION VOICE.

THE POOR ARE RICH; THE WEAK ARE STRONG; THE FOOLISH ONES ARE WISE. TELL ALL WHO MORN; OUTCASTS BELONG, WHO PERISHES WILL RISE.

-SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS-

-SINGING TOGETHER-"In the Quiet Curve of Evening" IN THE QUIET CURVE OF EVENING, IN THE CLOSING OF THE DAYS, IN THE MOMENTS OF MY DARKNESS, YOU ARE THERE. IN THE RHYTHMS OF MY BREATHING, IN THE SPACE BETWEEN MY WAYS, IN THE WEARY TIMES OF SADNESS, YOU ARE THERE.

-PASTORAL PRAYER-

-SCRIPTURE-

Matthew 25: 35-36 (The Message)

...I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes, I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me.

> -THE MESSAGE-"Being the Church" Pam Lee-Miller

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Open Table" COME, OH COME, COME TO THE TABLE. GATHER 'ROUND, COME WITHOUT FEAR. KNOWN BY NAME, HERE AT THE TABLE, THIS TABLE; WELCOME HERE TO THE TABLE OF LOVE.

CIRCLE, 'ROUND, LET'S JOIN TOGETHER. SHARE YOUR JOYS, AND BRING YOUR TEARS. STRENGTH AND HOPE FOUND AT THE TABLE, THIS TABLE; WELCOME HERE TO THE TABLE OF LOVE.

GOD IS LOVE; LOVE IS CREATING SOMETHING NEW, RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW. WE'RE CHILDREN OF GOD, HERE AT THE TABLE, THIS TABLE; WELCOME HERE TO THE TABLE OF LOVE.

-COMMUNION-"We Have Come Into this House" – B. Ballinger Brenda Gardiner

> -OFFERING-"Dona Nobis Pacem" – Traditional Brenda Gardiner

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-"Restless Weaver" RESTLESS WEAVER, EVER SPINNING THREADS OF JUSTICE AND SHALOM; DREAMING PATTERNS OF CREATION WHERE ALL CREATURES FIND A HOME; GATHERING UP LIFE'S VARIED FIBERS – EVERY TEXTURE, EVERY HUE: GRANT US YOUR CREATIVE VISION, WITH US WEAVE YOUR WORLD ANEW.

WHERE EARTH'S FRAGILE WEB IS RAVELING, HELP US MEND EACH BROKEN STRAND. BLESS OUR URGENT, BOLD ENDEAVORS CLEANSING WATER, AIR, AND LAND. THROUGH THE SPIRIT'S INSPIRATION – OFFERING HEALTH WHERE ONCE WAS PAIN – STRENGTHEN US TO BE THE STEWARDS OF YOUR WORLD KNIT WHOLE AGAIN.

WHEN OUR VIOLENT LUST FOR POWER ENDS IN LIVES ABUSED AND TORN, FROM COMPASSION'S STURDY FABRIC FASHION HOPE AND TRUST REBORN. WHERE INJUSTICE RULES AS TYRANT, GIVE US COURAGE, GOD, TO DARE LIVE OUR DREAMS OF TRANSFORMATION. MAKE OUR LIVES INCARNATE PRAYER.

RESTLESS WEAVER, STILL CONCEIVING NEW LIFE NOW AND YET TO BE – BINDING ALL YOUR VAST CREATION IN ONE LIVING TAPESTRY: YOU HAVE CALLED US TO BE WEAVERS. LET YOUR LOVE GUIDE ALL WE DO. WITH YOUR REIGN OF PEACE OUR PATTERN, WE WILL WEAVE YOUR WORLD ANEW.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-"I Dream of a Church" MAKE IT SO, MAKE IT SO! WE PRAY FOR THAT DAY, MAKE IT SO. WE DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE LOVE REIGNS AMONG US AND YOUR WILL IS DONE O GOD, MAKE IT SO.