



**April 21, 2024**  
**Sunday Gathering**

**-PRELUDE-**

*"Blessed Assurance"* – arr. P. Hamm  
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-**

*"For All the Children"*

GOD, WE GATHER AS YOUR PEOPLE  
TO RAISE OUR SONG ABOVE,  
AND WE DARE TO CLAIM THE PROMISE OF YOUR LOVE,  
THOUGH THE DAY MAY NOT YET BE HERE  
WE TRUST IT SOON WILL BE,  
WHEN YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE FREE.

O, MAY OUR HEARTS AND MINDS BE OPENED,  
FLING THE CHURCH DOORS OPEN WIDE.  
MAY THERE BE ROOM ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE INSIDE.  
FOR IN GOD THERE IS A WELCOME,  
IN GOD WE ALL BELONG.  
MAY THAT WELCOME BE OUR SONG.

**-WELCOME-**

**-GREETING EACH OTHER-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"For All the Children"*

O, MAY OUR HEARTS AND MINDS BE OPENED,  
FLING THE CHURCH DOORS OPEN WIDE.  
MAY THERE BE ROOM ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE INSIDE.  
FOR IN GOD THERE IS A WELCOME,  
IN GOD WE ALL BELONG.  
MAY THAT WELCOME BE OUR SONG.

**-CALL TO WORSHIP-**

We are called to be a resurrection people;  
IT IS NOT ONLY A METAPHOR.

We are asked to come alive again;  
EVERYDAY.

Every day we are called to bring our heart;  
OUR SPIRIT,

our community;  
OUR RELATIONSHIPS,

back to life;  
EVERY DAY WE BEGIN AGAIN.

Every day we love someone back from the tomb of oppression;  
SOMETIMES IT IS US.

Everyday we practice resurrection;  
WE CALL IT OUR RESILIENCE.

We call it our resistance;  
WE ARE CALLED TO BE A RESURRECTION PEOPLE.

We are a resurrection people!

**-OPENING PRAYER-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Draw the Circle Wide"*

DRAW THE CIRCLE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.  
NO ONE STANDS ALONE,  
WE'LL STAND SIDE BY SIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE,  
DRAW IT WIDER STILL.  
LET THIS BE OUR SONG:  
NO ONE STANDS ALONE.  
STANDING SIDE BY SIDE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE,  
DRAW IT WIDER STILL.  
LET THIS BE OUR SONG:  
NO ONE STANDS ALONE.  
STANDING SIDE BY SIDE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE,  
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

### **-TESTIMONIES-**

#### **-SCRIPTURE-**

Acts 4: 5-11 (NIV)

*The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"*

*Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Jesus is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.*

#### **-THE MESSAGE-**

*"Faith in Harm Reduction"*

Hill Brown

**-SPECIAL MUSIC-**

*"Child of God"*

Daniel Beasley

**-SHARING AROUND THE TABLE-**

**-COMMUNION-**

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" – W. Bradbury

**-OFFERING-**

*"On Eagle's Wings"* – arr. C. Kingsbury

**-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-**

**-ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

**-INVITATION TO RESPOND-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Rain Down"*

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

FAITHFUL AND TRUE IS THE WORD OF OUR GOD.  
ALL OF GOD'S WORKS ARE SO WORTHY OF TRUST.  
GOD'S MERCY FALLS ON THE JUST AND THE RIGHT;  
FULL OF GOD'S LOVE IS THE EARTH.

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

WE WHO REVERE AND FIND HOPE IN OUR GOD  
LIVE IN THE KINDNESS AND JOY OF GOD'S WING.  
GOD WILL PROTECT US FROM DARKNESS AND DEATH;  
GOD WILL NOT LEAVE US TO STARVE.

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

**-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Rain Down"*

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.