

April 7, 2024 Sunday Gathering

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# -PRELUDE-

Timmy Smallwood

#### -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-

God, we gather as believers assured of your love for us; WE BELIEVE YOU LOVE US DEEPLY.

We come believing that your love goes beyond ours; WE BELIEVE IN YOUR IMMENSE LOVE FOR OTHERS.

We believe that your love is for everyone;
WE BELIEVE THAT YOU LOVE IN WAYS WE CANNOT EVEN SEE.

We are grateful for your love.

#### -OPENING PRAYER-

#### -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT IN THIS PLACE,
AND WE KNOW THAT IT'S THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD;
THERE ARE SWEET EXPRESSIONS ON EACH FACE,
AND WE KNOW THEY FEEL THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

SWEET HOLY SPIRIT, SWEET HEAVENLY DOVE,
STAY RIGHT HERE WITH US, FILLING US WITH YOUR LOVE;
AND FOR THESE BLESSINGS WE LIFT OUR HEARTS IN PRAISE.
WITHOUT A DOUBT WE'LL KNOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN REVIVED
WHEN WE SHALL LEAVE THIS PLACE.

THERE ARE BLESSINGS WE SHALL ALL RECEIVE
WHEN WE KNOW THE SPIRIT'S FULLNESS AND BELIEVE;
ALL THE WORLD WILL PROFIT WHEN WE PRAY,
AND WE WALK IN THE SPIRIT EVERY DAY.

SWEET HOLY SPIRIT, SWEET HEAVENLY DOVE,
STAY RIGHT HERE WITH US, FILLING US WITH YOUR LOVE;
AND FOR THESE BLESSINGS WE LIFT OUR HEARTS IN PRAISE.
WITHOUT A DOUBT WE'LL KNOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN REVIVED
WHEN WE SHALL LEAVE THIS PLACE.

## -SCRIPTURE-

2 Timothy 3: 16-17 (CEB)

Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good.

## -THE MESSAGE-

"Ask the Pastors"
Pam Lee- Miller & Kenny Bishop

#### -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.

#### -SHARING AROUND THE TABLE-

-COMMUNION-

-OFFERING-

-IN GRATITUDE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

# -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Joy Unspeakable"

I HAVE FOUND GOD'S GRACE IS ALL COMPLETE; IT SUPPLIES MY LONGING NEED. WHILE I SIT AND LEARN AT JESUS' FEET, I AM FREE, YES, FREE INDEED.

IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY, FULL OF GLORY, FULL OF GLORY. IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY; O THE HALF HAS NEVER YET BEEN TOLD!

I HAVE FOUND THE PLEASURE I ONCE CRAVED; IT IS JOY AND PEACE WITHIN. WHAT A WONDROUS BLESSING! I AM LOVED BY THE GOD WHO TOOK ME IN.

IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY, FULL OF GLORY, FULL OF GLORY. IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY; O THE HALF HAS NEVER YET BEEN TOLD!

I HAVE FOUND THAT HOPE SO BRIGHT AND CLEAR,
LIVING IN THE REALM OF GRACE.
I CAN FEEL THE LOVE OF GOD SO NEAR;
I CAN SEE GOD'S WONDROUS FACE.

I HAVE FOUND THE JOY NO TONGUE CAN TELL, HOW ITS WAVES OF GLORY ROLL! IT IS LIKE A GREAT O'ERFLOWING WELL SPRINGING UP WITHIN MY SOUL.

IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY, FULL OF GLORY, FULL OF GLORY. IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY; O THE HALF HAS NEVER YET BEEN TOLD!

#### -BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

## -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Joy Unspeakable"

IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY,

# FULL OF GLORY, FULL OF GLORY. IT IS JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY; O THE HALF HAS NEVER YET BEEN TOLD!