



**January 14, 2024
Sunday Gathering**

-PRELUDE-

*"I Am Thine, O Lord" – 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-

Together, we dream of a church where everyone is welcome.
MAKE IT SO! MAKE IT SO!

We dream of a place that all can call home.
MAKE IT SO! MAKE IT SO!

We dream of a world where justice is flowing.
MAKE IT SO! MAKE IT SO!

We dream of a time of hope and peace growing;
WE DREAM OF A PLACE WHERE GOD'S WILL IS DONE.

Make it so!
MAKE IT SO!

-OPENING PRAYER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Jesus, The Light of the World"

SEE THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR,
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!
HE HAS RISEN IN OUR HEARTS,
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

WALK IN THE LIGHT, BEAUTIFUL LIGHT.
COME WHERE GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY ARE BRIGHT.
SHINE ALL AROUND US BY DAY AND BY NIGHT.
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

HE'S THE LAMP THAT LIGHTS OUR WAY,
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

STEP BY STEP AND DAY BY DAY,
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

WALK IN THE LIGHT, BEAUTIFUL LIGHT.
COME WHERE GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY ARE BRIGHT.
SHINE ALL AROUND US BY DAY AND BY NIGHT.
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

NO MORE DARKNESS, NO MORE NIGHT,
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.
HE WILL SHINE FOREVER BRIGHT,
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

WALK IN THE LIGHT, BEAUTIFUL LIGHT.
COME WHERE GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY ARE BRIGHT.
SHINE ALL AROUND US BY DAY AND BY NIGHT.
JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

-SCRIPTURE-

Matthew 5: 43-48 (CEB)

"You have heard that it was said, You must love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who harass you so that you will be acting as children of God who is in heaven who makes the sun rise on both the evil and the good and sends rain on both the righteous and the unrighteous.

If you love only those who love you, what reward do you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your family and siblings, what more are you doing? Don't even the Gentiles do the same? Therefore, just as your God in heaven is complete in showing love to everyone, so also you must be complete."

-THE MESSAGE-

"I Have a Dream"

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

-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-

"Hymn to Peace" – D. Paxton

-OFFERING-

"Blessed Assurance" – Crosby/Knapp

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"I Dream of a Church"

I DREAM OF A CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME,
I DREAM OF A PLACE WE ALL CAN CALL HOME.
I 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!

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!

-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!