



November 17, 2024

Sunday Gathering

.....

-PRELUDE-

"Be Thou My Vision" – arr. M. Hayes

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"

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!

-WELCOME-

-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!

-SPECIAL VIDEO-

"Walking Each Other Home"

Tonja Rose & Benjy Gaither

-CALL TO WORSHIP-

God has called us to share this life
WE'RE JUST WALKING EACH OTHER HOME.

God has called us to love
TAKE A HAND AND SHARE THE ROAD

God has called us to be the church
WE HAVE TO LOVE EACH OTHER AND HELP OUR "KIN" TO CARRY ON

Because as a community of faith,
WE ARE JUST WALKING EACH OTHER HOME.
(Adapted from "Walking Each Other Home" by Tonja Rose & Benjy Gaither.)

-OPENING PRAYER-

-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"When the Waves Are Crashing"

WHEN THE WAVES ARE CRASHING
AND MY FAITH IS DROWNING,
THOUGH I MAY FORGET YOU
HOLD ME, LORD.
WHEN THE CLIFFS ARE STEEPEST

AND MY HOPE IS WEAKEST,
THOUGH I FAIL TO TRUST YOU
HOLD ME, LORD.

WHEN DARK CLOUDS HAVE GATHERED
AND MY LOVE IS BATTERED,
THOUGH I MAY DESERT YOU
HOLD ME, LORD.
FAITH MAY BE ETERNAL,
HOPE WILL LAST FOREVER;
GREATER STILL IS LOVE THAT
HOLDS ME, LORD.

-SCRIPTURE-

Luke 5: 17-26 (MSG)

One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and religion teachers were sitting around. They had come from nearly every village in Galilee and Judea, even as far away as Jerusalem, to be there. The healing power of God was on him.

Some men arrived carrying a paraplegic on a stretcher. They were looking for a way to get into the house and set him before Jesus. When they couldn't find a way in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof, removed some tiles, and let him down in the middle of everyone, right in front of Jesus. Impressed by their bold belief, he said, "Friend, I forgive your sins."

That set the religion scholars and Pharisees buzzing. "Who does he think he is? That's blasphemous talk! God and only God can forgive sins."

Jesus knew exactly what they were thinking and said, "Why all this gossiping whispering? Which is simpler: to say 'I forgive your sins,' or to say 'Get up and start walking'? Well, just so it's clear that I'm the Son of Man and authorized to do either, or both. . . ." He now spoke directly to the paraplegic: "Get up. Take your bedroll and go home." Without a moment's hesitation, he did it—got up, took his blanket, and left for home, giving glory to God all the way. The people rubbed their eyes, stunned—and then also gave glory to God. Awestruck, they said, "We've never seen anything like that!"

-THE MESSAGE-

"A Time to Carry and a Time to be Carried"
Pam Lee-Miller

SPECIAL MUSIC-

"Lean on Me"
Kenny Bishop

-SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"For Everyone Born"

FOR EVERYONE BORN,
A PLACE AT THE TABLE,
FOR EVERYONE BORN,
CLEAN WATER AND BREAD,
A SHELTER, A SPACE,
A SAFE PLACE FOR GROWING,
FOR EVERYONE BORN,
A STAR OVERHEAD,

AND GOD WILL DELIGHT
WHEN WE ARE CREATOR OF JUSTICE
AND JOY, COMPASSION AND PEACE:
YES, GOD WILL DELIGHT
WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE,
JUSTICE AND JOY!

-COMMUNION-

"In the Quiet Curve of Evening" - J. Howard

-OFFERING-

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Lifted Me"

I WAS SINKING DEEP IN FEAR,
FAR FROM THE PEACEFUL SHORE,
VERY DEEPLY DRAINED WITHIN,
SINKING TO RISE NO MORE.
BUT THE MAKER OF THE SEA
HEARD MY DESPAIRING CRY,
FROM THE WATERS LIFTED ME,
NOW SAFE AM I.

LOVE LIFTED ME! LOVE LIFTED ME!
WHEN NOTHING ELSE COULD HELP,
LOVE LIFTED ME.
LOVE LIFTED ME! LOVE LIFTED ME!

WHEN NOTHING ELSE COULD HELP,
LOVE LIFTED ME.

ALL MY HEART TO HIM I GIVE,
EVER TO HIM I'LL CLING,
IN HIS BLESSED PRESENCE LIVE,
EVER HIS PRAISES SING,
LOVE SO MIGHTY AND SO TRUE,
MERITS MY SOUL'S BEST SONGS,
FAITHFUL, LOVING SERVICE, TOO,
TO HIM BELONG.

LOVE LIFTED ME! LOVE LIFTED ME!
WHEN NOTHING ELSE COULD HELP,
LOVE LIFTED ME.
LOVE LIFTED ME! LOVE LIFTED ME!
WHEN NOTHING ELSE COULD HELP,
LOVE LIFTED ME.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Lifted Me"

LOVE LIFTED ME! LOVE LIFTED ME!
WHEN NOTHING ELSE COULD HELP,
LOVE LIFTED ME.
LOVE LIFTED ME! LOVE LIFTED ME!
WHEN NOTHING ELSE COULD HELP,
LOVE LIFTED ME.