



September 7, 2025
Sunday Gathering

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-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.

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-PRELUDE-

"Holy Ground" - arr. M. Hayes
Brenda Gardiner

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-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.

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-WELCOME-

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-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.

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-CALL TO WORSHIP-

O God, we are here.

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth;
LET PEACE FILL OUR HEARTS.

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust;
LET PEACE FILL OUR WORLD.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;
LET PEACE FILL OUR UNIVERSE.

Lead us, God, to you.

AMEN.

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-OPENING PRAYER-

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-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Lead Us from Death to Life"

LEAD US FROM DEATH TO LIFE,
FROM FALSEHOOD TO TRUTH,

FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE,
FROM FEAR TO TRUST.
LEAD US FROM HATE TO LOVE,
FROM WAR TO PEACE;
LET PEACE FILL OUR HEARTS,
LET PEACE FILL OUR WORLD,
LET PEACE FILL OUR UNIVERSE.

STILL ALL THE ANGRY CRIES,
STILL ALL THE ANGRY WORDS,
STILL NOW CREATION DIES,
HUMANS AND CREATURES.
LET JUSTICE ROLL, LET MERCY POUR DOWN,
COME AND TEACH US YOUR WAY OF COMPASSION.

LEAD US FROM DEATH TO LIFE,
FROM FALSEHOOD TO TRUTH,
FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE,
FROM FEAR TO TRUST.
LEAD US FROM HATE TO LOVE,
FROM WAR TO PEACE;
LET PEACE FILL OUR HEARTS,
LET PEACE FILL OUR WORLD,
LET PEACE FILL OUR UNIVERSE.

SO MANY LONELY HEARTS,
SO MANY BROKEN LIVES,
LONGING FOR LOVE TO BREAK INTO THEIR ANGUISH.
COME, TEACH US LOVE,
COME TEACH US PEACE,
COME AND TEACH US YOUR WAY OF COMPASSION.

LEAD US FROM DEATH TO LIFE,
FROM FALSEHOOD TO TRUTH,
FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE,
FROM FEAR TO TRUST.
LEAD US FROM HATE TO LOVE,
FROM WAR TO PEACE;
LET PEACE FILL OUR HEARTS,
LET PEACE FILL OUR WORLD,
LET PEACE FILL OUR UNIVERSE.

LET JUSTICE EVER ROLL,
LET MERCY FILL THE EARTH,
LET US BEGIN TO GROW INTO YOUR PEOPLE.
WE CAN BE LOVE.

WE CAN BRING PEACE.
WE CAN STILL BE YOUR WAY OF COMPASSION.

LEAD US FROM DEATH TO LIFE,
FROM FALSEHOOD TO TRUTH,
FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE,
FROM FEAR TO TRUST.
LEAD US FROM HATE TO LOVE,
FROM WAR TO PEACE;
LET PEACE FILL OUR HEARTS,
LET PEACE FILL OUR WORLD,
LET PEACE FILL OUR UNIVERSE.

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-SCRIPTURE-

Matthew 8:5-13 (CEB)

When Jesus went to Capernaum, a centurion approached, pleading with him, "Lord, my servant is flat on his back at home, paralyzed, and his suffering is awful."

Jesus responded, "I'll come and heal him."

But the centurion replied, "Lord, I don't deserve to have you come under my roof. Just say the word and my servant will be healed. I'm a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and the servant does it."

When Jesus heard this, he was impressed and said to the people following him, "I say to you with all seriousness that even in Israel I haven't found faith like this. I say to you that there are many who will come from east and west and sit down to eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom will be thrown outside into the darkness. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth." Jesus said to the centurion, "Go; it will be done for you just as you have believed." And his servant was healed that very moment.

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-THE MESSAGE-

"I Saw God"

Kenny Bishop

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Quiet Curve of Evening (You Are There)"

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.

YOU ARE THERE. YOU ARE THERE. YOU ARE THERE.

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-JOYS & CONCERNS-

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-PASTORAL PRAYER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Quiet Curve of Evening (You Are There)"

YOU ARE THERE.

YOU ARE THERE.

YOU ARE THERE.

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-INVITATION TO COMMUNION-

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-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.

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-IN GRATITUDE-

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-OFFERING-

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-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

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-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

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

FOR WOMAN AND MAN,
A PLACE AT THE TABLE,
REVISING THE ROLES,
DECIDING THE SHARE,
WITH WISDOM AND GRACE,
DIVIDING THE POWER,
FOR WOMAN AND MAN,
A SYSTEM THAT'S FAIR,

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

FOR EVERYONE BORN,
A PLACE AT THE TABLE,
TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR,
AND SIMPLY TO BE,
TO WORK, TO SPEAK OUT,
TO WITNESS AND WORSHIP,
FOR EVERYONE BORN,
THE RIGHT TO BE FREE.

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

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-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"For Everyone Born"

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