



October 6, 2024
Sunday Gathering

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-PRELUDE-

"All Through the Night" – arr. S. Wilson
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-

"Love Has Broken Down the Wall"

LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALL,
LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALL.
LET US JOIN OUR HEARTS AS ONE.
LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALL.

CAST ASIDE YOUR DOUBTS AND FEARS,
CAST ASIDE YOUR DOUBTS AND FEARS.
PEACE AND LOVE, FREELY OFFERED HERE;
CAST ASIDE YOUR DOUBTS AND FEARS.

-WELCOME-

-GREETING EACH OTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Has Broken Down the Wall"

LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALL,
LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALL.
LET US JOIN OUR HEARTS AS ONE.
LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALL.

WE'RE ACCEPTED AS WE ARE,
WE'RE ACCEPTED AS WE ARE.
THROUGH LOVE'S POW'R WE'RE RECONCILED.
WE'RE ACCEPTED AS WE ARE.

-COMMUNAL PRAYER-

CREATOR GOD,
OUR COLLECTIVE HEARTS ARE FILLED WITH ANXIETY AND FEAR.
AND SOMETIMES, GOD, THIS MAKES US FEEL ALONE.
REMINDE US THAT YOU ARE WITH US.

DRAW US CLOSE,
QUIET OUR MINDS,
AND CALM OUR HEARTS.

WE BELIEVE; HELP OUR UNBELIEF.

COMPASSIONATE GOD,
WE CANNOT UNDERSTAND ALL THE SUFFERING IN THE WORLD.
WE COMMIT OUR HEARTS TO YOU,
AND WE WILL LISTEN FOR YOUR VOICE.

DRAW US CLOSE,
QUIET OUR MINDS,
AND CALM OUR HEARTS.

WE BELIEVE; HELP OUR UNBELIEF.

GENEROUS GOD,
GIVE US THE COURAGE TO PERSISTENTLY ACT IN LOVE.
TEACH US TO BE YOUR GENTLE HANDS
WHICH WORK FOR JUSTICE AND GOOD.

DRAW US CLOSE,
QUIET OUR MINDS,
AND CALM OUR HEARTS.

WE BELIEVE; HELP OUR UNBELIEF.

LOVING CREATOR,
IN TIMES OF TURMOIL, HELP US SEE THAT LOVE
AND ACCEPTANCE OF OTHERS IS OUR PATH FORWARD.

DRAW US CLOSE,
QUIET OUR MINDS,
AND CALM OUR HEARTS.

WE BELIEVE; HELP OUR UNBELIEF.

HELP US TO TRUST IN LOVE.
ONE DAY AT A TIME.
ONE BREATH AT A TIME.

WE ASK ALL THESE THINGS IN FAITH.
AMEN.

-OPENING PRAYER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Has Broken Down the Wall"

WE WILL TEAR DOWN THE WALLS!
WE WILL TEAR DOWN EVERY WALL!
LOVE HAS CALLED US ONE AND ALL.
LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALLS.

LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALLS.

-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY,
LIKE A WIDENESS IN THE SEA;
THERE'S A KINDNESS IN GOD'S JUSTICE,
WHICH IS MORE THAN LIBERTY.
THERE'S NO PLACE WHERE EARTHLY SORROWS
ARE MORE FELT THAN IN GOD'S HEAVEN;
THERE'S NO PLACE WHERE EARTHLY FAILINGS
HAVE SUCH KINDLY JUDGMENT GIVEN.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD IS BROADER
THAN THE MEASURE OF OUR MINDS;
AND THE HEART OF THE ETERNAL
IS MOST WONDERFULLY KIND.

IF OUR LOVE WERE BUT MORE FAITHFUL,
WE WOULD GLADLY TRUST GOD'S WORDS;
AND OUR LIVES WOULD SHOW THANKSGIVING
FOR THE GOODNESS OF OUR GOD.

-SCRIPTURE-

Luke 6: 31-36 (NRSVUE)

"Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for [God] is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your [Abba, God,] is merciful."

-THE MESSAGE-

"In the Sandbox"
Pam Lee-Miller

-SPECIAL MUSIC-

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
Margaret McGladrey & Brenda Gardiner

-SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS-

-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.

-COMMUNION-

"My Jesus, I Love Thee" - J. Krug

-OFFERING-

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"For the Healing of the Nations"

FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS,
GOD, WE PRAY WITH ONE ACCORD;
FOR A JUST AND EQUAL SHARING
OF THE THINGS THAT EARTH AFFORDS;
TO A LIFE OF LOVE IN ACTION
HELP US RISE AND PLEDGE OUR WORD.

LEAD US FORWARD INTO FREEDOM;
FROM DESPAIR YOUR WORLD RELEASE,
THAT, REDEEMED FROM WAR AND HATRED,
ALL MAY COME AND GO IN PEACE.
SHOW US HOW THROUGH CARE AND GOODNESS
FEAR WILL DIE AND HOPE INCREASE.

ALL THAT KILLS ABUNDANT LIVING,
LET IT FROM THE EARTH BE BANNED;
PRIDE OF STATUS, RACE, OR SCHOOLING,
DOGMAS THAT OBSCURE YOUR PLAN.
IN OUR COMMON QUEST FOR JUSTICE
MAY WE HALLOW LIFE'S BRIEF SPAN.

YOU, CREATOR GOD, HAVE WRITTEN
YOUR GREAT NAME ON HUMANKIND;
FOR OUR GROWING IN YOUR LIKENESS
BRING THE LIFE OF CHRIST TO MIND,
THAT BY OUR RESPONSE AND SERVICE
EARTH ITS DESTINY MAY FIND.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Has Broken Down the Wall"

WE WILL TEAR DOWN THE WALLS!
WE WILL TEAR DOWN EVERY WALL!
LOVE HAS CALLED US ONE AND ALL.
LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALLS.

LOVE HAS BROKEN DOWN THE WALLS.