



February 23, 2025
Sunday Gathering

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-PRELUDE-

"Here I Am, Lord" – 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-

"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.

-WELCOME & GREETING-

-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.

-CALL TO WORSHIP-

Come to this place to see what God has done.
WE ARE HERE FOR BURNING BUSHES
AND HOLY GROUND.

Here you will find God on special days of celebration
and ordinary days too.

WE SEEK THE GOD OF OUR ANCESTORS
KNOWING WE MAY BE CALLED TO NEW PLACES.

Listen for God's call and know you do not go alone.
WE ARE READY TO WORSHIP
AND SEE GOD IN THIS PLACE.

-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-

Exodus 3: 1-5 (CEB)

Moses was taking care of the flock for his father-in-law Jethro, Midian's priest. He led his flock out to the edge of the desert, and he came to God's mountain called Horeb. The LORD's messenger appeared to him in a flame of fire in the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was in flames, but it didn't burn up. Then Moses said to himself, Let me check out this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn't burning up.

*When the LORD saw that he was coming to look, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!"
Moses said, "I'm here."*

Then the LORD said, "Don't come any closer! Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground." He continued, "I am the God of your father, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God."

-THE MESSAGE-

"Unexpected Encounters"

Pam Lee-Miller

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Quiet Curve of Evening"

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.

-JOYS & CONCERNS-

-PASTORAL PRAYER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Quiet Curve of Evening"

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

-COMMUNION INVITATION-

-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

-IN GRATITUDE-

-OFFERING-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Here I Am, Lord"

I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY,
I HAVE HEARD MY PEOPLE CRY.
ALL WHO DWELL IN DARK AND SIN,
MY HAND WILL SAVE.
I WHO MADE THE STARS OF NIGHT,
I WILL MAKE THEIR DARKNESS BRIGHT.
WHO WILL BEAR MY LIGHT TO THEM?
WHOM SHALL I SEND?

HERE I AM, LORD.
IS IT I, LORD?
I HAVE HEARD YOU CALLING IN THE NIGHT.
I WILL GO, LORD,
IF YOU LEAD ME.
I WILL HOLD YOUR PEOPLE IN MY HEART.

I, THE LORD OF SNOW AND RAIN,
I HAVE BORNE MY PEOPLE'S PAIN.
I HAVE WEPT FOR LOVE OF THEM,
THEY TURN AWAY.
I WILL BREAK THEIR HEARTS OF STONE,
GIVE THEM HEARTS FOR LOVE ALONE.
I WILL SPEAK MY WORD TO THEM
WHOM SHALL I SEND?

HERE I AM, LORD.
IS IT I, LORD?
I HAVE HEARD YOU CALLING IN THE NIGHT.
I WILL GO, LORD,
IF YOU LEAD ME.
I WILL HOLD YOUR PEOPLE IN MY HEART.

I, THE LORD OF WIND AND FLAME,
I WILL TEND THE POOR AND LAME.
I WILL SET A FEAST FOR THEM,
MY HAND WILL SAVE.
FINEST BREAD I WILL PROVIDE
TILL THEIR HEARTS BE SATISFIED.

I WILL GIVE MY LIFE TO THEM.
WHOM SHALL I SEND?

HERE I AM, LORD.
IS IT I, LORD?
I HAVE HEARD YOU CALLING IN THE NIGHT.
I WILL GO, LORD,
IF YOU LEAD ME.
I WILL HOLD YOUR PEOPLE IN MY HEART.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Here I Am, Lord"
HERE I AM, LORD.
IS IT I, LORD?
I HAVE HEARD YOU CALLING IN THE NIGHT.
I WILL GO, LORD,
IF YOU LEAD ME.
I WILL HOLD YOUR PEOPLE IN MY HEART.