



**February 22, 2026
Sunday Gathering
The First Sunday of Lent**

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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-

"As the Deer" - arr. S. Wilson

Brenda Gardiner

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-WELCOME-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Wilderness Wandering People"

WE ARE A WILDERNESS WANDERING PEOPLE
ON A JOURNEY OF THE SOUL.
MAY WE FIND OUR DESTINATION
IN OUR LONGING TO BE WHOLE.
OUR HOLY GOD IS CALLING TO US.
WITH JESUS BY OUR SIDE
MAY COMPASSION BE OUR COMPASS;
MAY THE SPIRIT BE OUR GUIDE.

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-OPENING PRAYER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Wilderness Wanderering People"
WE ARE A WILDERNESS WANDERING PEOPLE
ON A JOURNEY OF THE SOUL.
MAY WE FIND OUR DESTINATION
IN OUR LONGING TO BE WHOLE.
OUR HOLY GOD IS CALLING TO US.
WITH JESUS BY OUR SIDE
MAY COMPASSION BE OUR COMPASS;
MAY THE SPIRIT BE OUR GUIDE.

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-CALL TO WORSHIP-

I'm going on a journey
TO FIND MY TRUEST SELF,

to take the things that weigh me down
AND PUT THEM ON THE SHELF.

I'm going on a journey
TO LAUGH, AND LEARN, AND PRAY.

I'm going on a journey
AND LOVE WILL LEAD THE WAY.

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-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS;
I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS;
I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS;
NO TURNING BACK;
NO TURNING BACK.

CHRIST IS BEFORE ME, AND I WILL FOLLOW;
CHRIST IS BEFORE ME, AND I WILL FOLLOW;
CHRIST IS BEFORE ME, AND I WILL FOLLOW;
NO TURNING BACK;
NO TURNING BACK.

IF NO ONE JOINS ME, STILL I WILL FOLLOW;
IF NO ONE JOINS ME, STILL I WILL FOLLOW;
IF NO ONE JOINS ME, STILL I WILL FOLLOW;
NO TURNING BACK;
NO TURNING BACK.

I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS;
I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS;
I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS;
NO TURNING BACK;
NO TURNING BACK.

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-SCRIPTURE-

Luke 3:21-12, 4:1-13 (CEB)

When everyone was being baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit came down on him in bodily form like a dove. And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

Jesus returned from the Jordan River full of the Holy Spirit, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. There he was tempted for forty days by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and afterward Jesus was starving. The devil said to him, "Since you are God's Son, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."

Jesus replied, "It's written, People won't live only by bread."

Next the devil led him to a high place and showed him in a single instant all the kingdoms of the world. The devil said, "I will give you this whole domain and the glory of all these kingdoms. It's been entrusted to me and I can give it to anyone I want. Therefore, if you will worship me, it will all be yours."

Jesus answered, "It's written, You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him."

The devil brought him into Jerusalem and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, "Since you are God's Son, throw yourself down from here; for it's written: He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you and they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone."

Jesus answered, "It's been said, Don't test the Lord your God." After finishing every temptation, the devil departed from him until the next opportunity.

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-THE MESSAGE-

"The Wandering Way"

Kenny Bishop

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"God Comes to Us"

GOD COMES TO US ON WINTER NIGHT,
IN BABY'S BREATH, BY FIRELIGHT,
GOD COMES TO US ON A STAR.
GOD COMES TO US AMIDST OUR FEARS,
UNSPOKEN JOYS, UNENDING TEARS,

GOD COMES TO US WHERE WE ARE.

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-SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS-

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-PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"As We Gather At Your Table"

AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE,
AS WE LISTEN TO YOUR WORD,
HELP US KNOW, O GOD, YOUR PRESENCE;
LET OUR HEARTS AND MINDS BE STIRRED.
NOURISH US WITH SACRED STORY
TILL WE CLAIM IT AS OUR OWN;
TEACH US THROUGH THIS HOLY BANQUET
HOW TO MAKE LOVE'S VICTORY KNOWN.

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-INVITATION TO COMMUNION-

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-COMMUNION MEDITATION-

"Beach Spring" arr. E. Carlson

Brenda Gardiner

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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-

"The Summons"

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME
IF I BUT CALL YOUR NAME?
WILL YOU GO WHERE YOU DON'T KNOW
AND NEVER BE THE SAME?
WILL YOU LET MY LOVE BE SHOWN,
WILL YOU LET MY NAME BE KNOWN?
WILL YOU LET MY LIFE BE GROWN IN YOU
AND YOU IN ME?

WILL YOU LEAVE YOURSELF BEHIND
IF I BUT CALL YOUR NAME?

WILL YOU CARE FOR CRUEL AND KIND
AND NEVER BE THE SAME?
WILL YOU RISK THE HOSTILE STARE,
SHOULD YOUR LIFE ATTRACT OR SCARE?
WILL YOU LET ME ANSWER PRAYER IN YOU
AND YOU IN ME?

WILL YOU LET THE BLINDED SEE
IF I BUT CALL YOUR NAME?
WILL SET THE PRISONERS FREE
AND NEVER BE THE SAME?
WILL YOU KISS THE LEPER CLEAN,
AND DO SUCH AS THIS UNSEEN?
AND ADMIT TO WHAT I MEAN IN YOU
AND YOU IN ME?

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-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

We will follow on The Way.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.
The Creator God fills us with breath
inviting us to this journey called Life.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.

Jesus, our Guide, shows us what it means
to make a new way with Love.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.

The Spirit gives us strength to move forward
with courage and compassion for all we meet.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Summons"

WILL YOU LOVE THE "YOU" YOU HIDE
IF I BUT CALL YOUR NAME?
WILL YOU QUELL THE FEAR INSIDE
AND NEVER BE THE SAME?
WILL YOU USE THE FAITH YOU'VE FOUND
TO RESHAPE THE WORLD AROUND,
THROUGH MY SIGHT AND TOUCH AND SOUND IN YOU
AND YOU IN ME?