



October 13, 2024
Sunday Gathering

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-PRELUDE-

"Blest Be the Tie that Binds" – arr. P. Hamm
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-

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

HELP US ACCEPT EACH OTHER
AS CHRIST ACCEPTED US;
TEACH US AS SIBLINGS, FRIENDS,
EACH PERSON TO EMBRACE.
BE PRESENT, LORD, AMONG US
AND BRING US TO BELIEVE
WE ARE OURSELVES ACCEPTED,
AND MEANT TO LOVE AND LIVE.

TEACH US, O LORD, YOUR LESSONS,
AS IN OUR DAILY LIFE
WE STRUGGLE TO BE HUMAN
AND SEARCH FOR HOPE AND FAITH.

TEACH US TO CARE FOR PEOPLE,
FOR ALL, NOT JUST FOR SOME,
TO LOVE THEM AS WE FIND THEM,
OR AS THEY MAY BECOME.

LET YOUR ACCEPTANCE CHANGE US,
SO THAT WE MAY BE MOVED
IN LIVING SITUATIONS
TO DO THE TRUTH IN LOVE;
TO PRACTICE YOUR ACCEPTANCE
UNTIL WE KNOW BY HEART
THE TABLE OF FORGIVENESS,
AND LAUGHTER'S HEALING ART.

LORD, FOR TODAY'S ENCOUNTERS
WITH ALL WHO ARE IN NEED,
WHO HUNGER FOR ACCEPTANCE,
FOR JUSTICE, AND FOR BREAD,
WE NEED NEW EYES FOR SEEING,
NEW HANDS FOR HOLDING ON;
RENEW US WITH YOUR SPIRIT;
LORD, FREE US, MAKE US ONE!.

-SCRIPTURE-

Isaiah 11: 6-9 (NRSVUE)

*The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.*

*The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.*

*The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.*

*They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.*

-THE MESSAGE-

"Unpolarized Compassion"
Kenny Bishop

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Come and Find the Quiet Center"

COME AND FIND THE QUIET CENTER
IN THE CROWDED LIFE WE LEAD.
FIND THE ROOM FOR HOPE TO ENTER,
FIND THE FRAME WHERE WE ARE FREED:
CLEAR THE CHAOS AND THE CLUTTER
CLEAR OUR EYES THAT WE CAN SEE
ALL THE THINGS THAT REALLY MATTER,
BE AT PEACE AND SIMPLY BE.

-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-

"As the Deer" - arr. S. Wilson

-OFFERING-

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Draw the Circle Wide"

DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.
DRAW THE CIRCLE,

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.
NO ONE STANDS ALONE,
WE'LL STAND SIDE BY SIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE,
DRAW IT WIDER STILL.

LET THIS BE OUR SONG:
NO ONE STANDS ALONE.
STANDING SIDE BY SIDE,

DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE,
DRAW IT WIDER STILL.

LET THIS BE OUR SONG:
NO ONE STANDS ALONE.
STANDING SIDE BY SIDE,

DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

-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.