



November 3, 2024

Sunday Gathering

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-PRELUDE-

*"Can You Feel the Love Tonight" – arr. D. Coates
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.

-SPECIAL MUSIC-

*"The Gift of Love" – arr. H. Hopson
BUCC Ensemble*

-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-

-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.
remind 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.

-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-

"They'll Know We Are Christians (By Our Love)"

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT,
WE ARE ONE IN THE LORD,
WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT,
WE ARE ONE IN THE LORD,
AND WE PRAY THAT ALL UNITY
WILL ONE DAY BE RESTORED:

AND THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
BY OUR LOVE, BY OUR LOVE,
YES, THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE.

WE WILL WALK WITH EACH OTHER,
WE WILL WALK HAND IN HAND,
WE WILL WALK WITH EACH OTHER,
WE WILL WALK HAND IN HAND,

AND TOGETHER WE'LL SPREAD THE NEWS
THAT LOVE IS IN OUR LAND:

AND THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
BY OUR LOVE, BY OUR LOVE,
YES, THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE.

WE WILL WORK WITH EACH OTHER,
WE WILL WORK SIDE BY SIDE,
WE WILL WORK WITH EACH OTHER,
WE WILL WORK SIDE BY SIDE,
AND WE'LL GUARD EACH ONE'S DIGNITY
AND SAVE EACH ONE'S PRIDE:

AND THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
BY OUR LOVE, BY OUR LOVE,
YES, THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE.

-SCRIPTURE-

Matthew 22: 34-40 (NRSVUE)

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

-THE MESSAGE-

"... and Malice Toward None."
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-

"True Love" - Cole Porter

-OFFERING-

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Has Broken Down the Wall"

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

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

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

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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.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Has Broken Down the Wall"

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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.