



June 28, 2026
Sunday Gathering

.....
-PRELUDE-

"Nearer, My God, to Thee" – arr. M. Hayes
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-

"Welcome"

LET'S WALK TOGETHER FOR A WHILE
AND ASK WHERE WE BEGIN
TO BUILD A WORLD WHERE LOVE CAN GROW
AND HOPE CAN ENTER IN,
TO BE THE HANDS OF HEALING
AND TO PLANT THE SEEDS OF PEACE.

SINGING WELCOME,
WELCOME TO THIS PLACE.
YOU'RE INVITED
TO COME AND KNOW GOD'S GRACE.
ALL ARE WELCOME,
THE LOVE OF GOD TO SHARE.
'CAUSE ALL OF US ARE WELCOME HERE;
ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE.

-|-

-WELCOME & GREETING-

-|-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Welcome"

LET'S TALK TOGETHER OF A TIME
WHEN WE WILL SHARE A FEAST,
WHERE PRIDE AND POWER KNEEL TO SERVE
THE LONELY AND THE LEAST,
AND JOY WILL SET THE TABLE
AS WE JOIN OUR HANDS TO PRAY.

SINGING WELCOME,
WELCOME TO THIS PLACE.
YOU'RE INVITED
TO COME AND KNOW GOD'S GRACE.
ALL ARE WELCOME,
THE LOVE OF GOD TO SHARE.
'CAUSE ALL OF US ARE WELCOME HERE;
ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE.

-|-

-CALL TO WORSHIP-

As people of faith,
WE REMEMBER AND CELEBRATE
THE ROLE THAT PRAYER
HAS PLAYED IN OUR LIVES
AND IN THE LIFE OF OUR NATION.

As people of community,
WE PRAY FOR THE STRENGTH
TO STAND WITH THOSE
WITHIN OUR REACH
WHO FACE ABUSE AND INJUSTICE.

As people of this nation,
WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE FREEDOM
TO GATHER AND WORSHIP,
FOR OUR MANY LIBERTIES AND BLESSINGS.

As citizens of the world,
WE LONG FOR THE DAY
WHEN WE RISE ABOVE OUR DIFFERENCES,
CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSITIES,
AND COME TOGETHER
AS A PEOPLE READY TO MEET THE MOMENT.

-|-

-OPENING PRAYER-

-|-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Be Thou My Vision"

BE LORD MY VISION, O LORD OF MY HEART;
NAUGHT BE ALL ELSE TO ME, SAVE THAT YOU ARE
YOU MY BEST THOUGHT, BY DAY OR BY NIGHT,
WAKING OR SLEEPING, YOUR PRESENCE MY LIGHT.

BE LORD MY WISDOM, AND BE MY TRUE WORD;
I EVER WITH YOU AND YOU WITH ME, LORD;
YOU MY REDEEMER, MY LOVE YOU HAVE WON,
YOU IN ME DWELLING, AND I WITH YOU LORD.

RICHES I HEED NOT, NOR VAIN EMPTY PRAISE,
YOU MINE INHERITANCE, NOW AND ALWAYS:
YOU AND YOUR SPIRIT ARE FIRST IN MY HEART,
GREAT GOD OF HEAVEN, MY TREASURE YOU ARE.

-|-

-SCRIPTURE-

Matthew 22:15-21 (NRSVA)

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?' But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, 'Whose head is this, and whose title?' They answered, 'The emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.'

-|-

-THE MESSAGE-

"Patriots"

Kenny Bishop

-|-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING,
LORD, SEND YOUR SPIRIT IN THIS PLACE;
LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING,
SEND US LOVE,
SEND US POW'R,
SEND US GRACE.

-|-

-SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS-

-|-

-PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE-

-|-

-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.

-|-

-INVITATION TO COMMUNION-

-|-

-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.

-|-

-OFFERING-

-|-

-IN GRATITUDE-

-|-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-|-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-|-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

IN THE MIDST OF NEW DIMENSIONS,
IN THE FACE OF CHANGING WAYS,
WHO WILL LEAD THE PILGRIM PEOPLES
WANDERING THEIR SEP'RATE WAYS?

GOD OF RAINBOW, FIERY PILAR,
LEADING WHERE THE EAGLES SOAR,

WE YOUR PEOPLE, OURS THE JOURNEY
NOW AND EVER, NOW AND EVER,
NOW AND EVER MORE.

THROUGH THE FLOOD OF STARVING PEOPLES,
WARRING FACTIONS AND DESPAIR,
WHO WILL LIFT THE OLIVE BRANCHES?
WHO WILL LIGHT THE FLAME OF CARE?

THOUGH WE REACH THE HIGHEST HEAVENS,
HOLDING WORLDS AT OUR COMMAND,
WE ARE YET A DESERT PEOPLE
SEARCHING FOR THE PROMISED LAND.

GOD OF RAINBOW, FIERY PILAR,
LEADING WHERE THE EAGLES SOAR,
WE YOUR PEOPLE, OURS THE JOURNEY
NOW AND EVER, NOW AND EVER,
NOW AND EVER MORE.

SHOULD THE THREATS OF DIRE PREDICTIONS
CAUSE US TO WITHDRAW IN PAIN,
MAY YOUR BLAZING PHOENIX SPIRIT
RESURRECT THE CHURCH AGAIN.

GOD OF RAINBOW, FIERY PILAR,
LEADING WHERE THE EAGLES SOAR,
WE YOUR PEOPLE, OURS THE JOURNEY
NOW AND EVER, NOW AND EVER,
NOW AND EVER MORE.

-|-

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-|-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

GOD OF RAINBOW, FIERY PILAR,
LEADING WHERE THE EAGLES SOAR,
WE YOUR PEOPLE, OURS THE JOURNEY
NOW AND EVER, NOW AND EVER,
NOW AND EVER MORE.