

August 31, 2025 Sunday Gathering

-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-

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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.

-PRELUDE-

"In Christ Alone" - arr. M. Hayes Brenda Gardiner

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-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-

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-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.

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-CALL TO WORSHIP-

Listen to the Spirit urging us to get ready;

OUR CALENDARS ARE JAM-PACKED.

Listen to the Spirit telling us to wait; WE'VE ALREADY BEEN WAITING; THERE'S A LINE EVERYWHERE WE GO.

Listen to the Spirit inviting us to walk with God; THIS IS GOOD NEWS:

God leads us to Peace.
WE ARE GLAD TO BE IN THE HOUSE OF GOD!

Let us worship God!

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-OPENING PRAYER-

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-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Arise, Your Light Is Come"
ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!
THE SPIRIT'S CALL OBEY;

SHOW FORTH THE GLORY OF YOUR GOD WHICH SHINES ON YOU TODAY!

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME! FLING WIDE THE PRISON DOOR; PROCLAIM THE CAPTIVE'S LIBERTY, GOOD TIDINGS TO THE POOR.

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!
ALL YOU IN SORROW BORN,
BIND UP THE BROKEN-HEARTED ONES
AND COMFORT THOSE WHO MOURN.

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!
THE MOUNTAINS BURST IN SONG!
RIDE UP LIKE EAGLES ON THE WING;
GOD'S POWER WILL MAKE US STRONG.

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-SCRIPTURE-

Isaiah 40:31 (NRSV)

... but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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-THE MESSAGE-

"Hello? Are you there, God?"
Pam Lee-Miller

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Change My Heart, O God"
CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD,
MAKE IT EVER TRUE;
CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD,
MAY I BE LIKE YOU.

YOU ARE THE POTTER, I AM THE CLAY; MOLD ME AND MAKE ME, THIS IS WHAT I PRAY.

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-JOYS & CONCERNS-

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-PASTORAL PRAYER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Change My Heart, O God"

YOU ARE THE POTTER,
I AM THE CLAY;
MOLD ME AND MAKE ME,
THIS IS WHAT I PRAY.

CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD, MAKE IT EVER TRUE; CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD, MAY I BE LIKE YOU.

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-INVITATION TO COMMUNION-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"One Bread, One Body"
ONE BREAD, ONE BODY,
ONE LORD OF ALL,
ONE CUP OF BLESSING WHICH WE BLESS.
AND WE, THOUGH MANY
THROUGHOUT THE EARTH,
WE ARE ONE BODY IN THIS ONE LORD.

STRANGER OR FRIEND, SERVANT OR FREE, WE WHO WE ARE... NO MORE.

MANY THE GIFTS, MANY THE WORKS, ONE IN THE LORD... OF ALL.

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY,
ONE LORD OF ALL,
ONE CUP OF BLESSING WHICH WE BLESS.
AND WE, THOUGH MANY
THROUGHOUT THE EARTH,
WE ARE ONE BODY IN THIS ONE LORD.

GRAIN FOR THE FIELDS, SCATTERED AND GROWN, GATHERED TO ONE... FOR ALL.

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY,
ONE LORD OF ALL,
ONE CUP OF BLESSING WHICH WE BLESS.
AND WE, THOUGH MANY
THROUGHOUT THE EARTH,

WE ARE ONE BODY IN THIS ONE LORD.

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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-

"On Eagle's Wings"

YOU WHO DWELL IN THE SHELTER OF THE LORD,
WHO ABIDE IN CHRIST'S SHADOW FOR LIFE,
SAY TO THE LORD: "MY REFUGE,
MY ROCK IN WHOM I TRUST!"

AND HE WILL RAISE YOU UP ON EAGLE'S WINGS, BEAR YOU ON THE BREATH OF DAWN, MAKE YOU TO SHINE LIKE THE SUN, AND HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND.

THE SNARE OF THE FOWLER WILL NEVER CAPTURE YOU,
AND FAMINE WILL BRING YOU NO FEAR:
UNDER GOD'S WINGS YOU REFUGE,
GOD'S FAITHFULNESS YOU SHIELD.

AND HE WILL RAISE YOU UP ON EAGLE'S WINGS, BEAR YOU ON THE BREATH OF DAWN, MAKE YOU TO SHINE LIKE THE SUN, AND HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND.

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-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"On Eagle's Wings"

YOU NEED NOT FEAR THE TERROR OF THE NIGHT, NOR THE ARROW THAT FLIES BY DAY; THOUGH THOUSANDS MAY FALL ABOUT YOU, NEAR YOU, IT SHALL NOT COME.

"AND I WILL RAISE YOU UP ON EAGLE'S WINGS, BEAR YOU ON THE BREATH OF DAWN, MAKE YOU TO SHINE LIKE THE SUN, AND HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF MY HAND."