



**April 14, 2024**  
**Sunday Gathering**

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**-PRELUDE-**

*"This Is My Father's World" – arr. P. Keveren  
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-**

*"For All the Children"*

GOD, WE GATHER AS YOUR PEOPLE  
TO RAISE OUR SONG ABOVE,  
AND WE DARE TO CLAIM THE PROMISE OF YOUR LOVE,  
THOUGH THE DAY MAY NOT YET BE HERE  
WE TRUST IT SOON WILL BE,  
WHEN YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE FREE.

O, MAY OUR HEARTS AND MINDS BE OPENED,  
FLING THE CHURCH DOORS OPEN WIDE.  
MAY THERE BE ROOM ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE INSIDE.  
FOR IN GOD THERE IS A WELCOME,  
IN GOD WE ALL BELONG.  
MAY THAT WELCOME BE OUR SONG.

**-WELCOME-**

**-GREETING EACH OTHER-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"For All the Children"*

O, MAY OUR HEARTS AND MINDS BE OPENED,  
FLING THE CHURCH DOORS OPEN WIDE.  
MAY THERE BE ROOM ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE INSIDE.  
FOR IN GOD THERE IS A WELCOME,  
IN GOD WE ALL BELONG.  
MAY THAT WELCOME BE OUR SONG.

**-CALL TO WORSHIP-**

God, we are grateful for every new day;  
HELP US MAKE THIS A DAY THAT BRINGS JOY.

We come with expectation and hope;  
WE KNOW THAT YOUR PROMISES ARE FOR OUR GOOD.

We are ready to hear and learn and live into your goodness;  
THANK YOU, GOD, FOR YOUR GOODNESS.  
THANK YOU FOR THIS NEW DAY.

**-OPENING PRAYER-**

**-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 IN THEIR SEPARATE WAYS?

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

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

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

AS WE STAND A WORLD DIVIDED  
BY OUR OWN SELF-SEEKING SCHEMES,  
GRANT THAT WE, YOUR GLOBAL VILLAGE,  
MIGHT ENVISION WIDER DREAMS.

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

**-SCRIPTURE-**

Mark 9: 14-24 (CEB)

*When Jesus, Peter, James, and John approached the other disciples, they saw a large crowd surrounding them and legal experts arguing with them. Suddenly the whole crowd caught sight of Jesus. They ran to greet him, overcome with excitement. Jesus asked them, "What are you arguing about?"*

*Someone from the crowd responded, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, since he has a spirit that doesn't allow him to speak. Wherever it overpowers him, it throws him into a fit. He foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and stiffens up. So I spoke to your disciples to see if they could throw it out, but they couldn't."*

*Jesus answered them, "You faithless generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me."*

*They brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a fit. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been going on?"*

*He said, "Since he was a child. It has often thrown him into a fire or into water trying to kill him. If you can do anything, help us! Show us compassion!"*

*Jesus said to him, "'If you can do anything'? All things are possible for the one who has faith."*

*At that the boy's father cried out, "I have faith; help my lack of faith!"*

**-THE MESSAGE-**

*"It's My Unbelief"*

Kenny Bishop

**-SPECIAL MUSIC-**

*"I Believe, Help Thou My Unbelief"*  
Kenny Bishop & Timmy Smallwood

**-SHARING AROUND THE TABLE-**

**-COMMUNION-**

*"Make Me A Channel of Your Peace"* – S. Temple

**-OFFERING-**

*"Take Time to Be Holy"* – arr. P. Hamm

**-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-**

**-ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

**-INVITATION TO RESPOND-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"We Are Called"*

COME! LIVE IN THE LIGHT!  
SHINE WITH THE JOY AND THE LOVE OF THE LORD!  
WE ARE CALLED TO BE LIGHT FOR KINGDOM,  
TO LIVE IN THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF GOD.

WE ARE CALLED TO ACT WITH JUSTICE,  
WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE TENDERLY,  
WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER,  
TO WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD!

COME! OPEN YOUR HEART!  
SHOW YOUR MERCY TO ALL THOSE IN FEAR!  
WE ARE CALLED TO BE HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS  
SO ALL HATRED AND BLINDNESS WILL BE NO MORE!

WE ARE CALLED TO ACT WITH JUSTICE,  
WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE TENDERLY,  
WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER,  
TO WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD!

SING! SING A NEW SONG!  
SING OF THAT GREAT DAY WHEN ALL WILL BE ONE!  
GOD WILL REIGN, AND WE'LL WALK WITH EACH OTHER  
AS SISTERS, BROTHERS AND OTHERS UNITED IN LOVE.

WE ARE CALLED TO ACT WITH JUSTICE,  
WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE TENDERLY,  
WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER,  
TO WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD!

**-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"We Are Called"*

WE ARE CALLED TO ACT WITH JUSTICE,  
WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE TENDERLY,  
WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER,  
TO WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD!