



January 29, 2023

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**-PRELUDE-**

*"Fairest Lord Jesus" - arr. P. Keveren*

Brenda Gardiner

**-WELCOME-**

**-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 SEED 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-**

**-ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

**-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-**

**-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-**

Blessed are people who are hopeless,  
BECAUSE THE KIN-DOM OF HEAVEN IS THEIRS.

Blessed are people who grieve,  
BECAUSE THEY WILL BE MADE GLAD.

Blessed are people who are humble,  
BECAUSE THEY WILL INHERIT THE EARTH.

Blessed are people who desire righteousness,  
BECAUSE THEY WILL BE FILLED.

Blessed are people who show mercy,  
BECAUSE THEY WILL RECEIVE MERCY.

Blessed are people who have pure hearts,  
BECAUSE THEY WILL SEE GOD.

Blessed are people who make peace,  
BECAUSE THEY WILL BE CALLED GOD'S CHILDREN.

Blessed are people who endure abuse for righteousness' sake,  
BECAUSE THE KIN-DOM OF HEAVEN IS THEIRS.

**-PRAYER-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Gather Us In"*

HERE IN THIS PLACE, THE NEW LIGHT IS STREAMING,  
SHADOWS OF DOUBT ARE VANISHED AWAY.  
SEE IN THIS SPACE OUR FEARS AND OUR DREAMINGS,  
BROUGHT TO YOU HERE IN THE LIGHT OF THIS DAY.

GATHER US IN, THE LOST AND FORSAKEN;  
GATHER US IN; OUR SPIRITS INFLAME.  
CALL TO US NOW AND WE SHALL AWAKEN;  
WE SHALL ARISE AT THE SOUND OF YOUR NAME.

HERE WE RECEIVE NEW LIFE IN THE WATERS;  
HERE WE RECEIVE THE BREAD OF NEW BIRTH;  
HERE YOU SHALL CALL YOUR CHILDREN TOGETHER,  
CALL US ANEW TO BE SALT OF THE EARTH.

GIVE US TO DRINK THE WINE OF COMPASSION,  
GIVE US TO EAT THE BREAD THAT IS YOU;  
NOURISH US WELL, AND TEACH US TO FASHION  
LIVES THAT ARE HOLY AND HEARTS THAT ARE TRUE.

NOT JUST IN BUILDINGS, SMALL AND CONFINING,  
NOT IN SOME HEAVEN, LIGHT YEARS AWAY,  
HERE IN THIS PLACE THE NEW LIGHT IS SHINING;  
NOW IS GOD PRESENT, AND NOW IS THE DAY.

GATHER US IN AND HOLD US FOREVER;  
GATHER US IN AND MAKE US YOUR OWN;  
GATHER US IN, ALL PEOPLES TOGETHER,  
FIRE OF LOVE IN OUR FLESH AND OUR BONES.

**-JOYS & CONCERNS-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Listen"*

LISTEN TO THE SONG OF THE WIND.  
LISTEN TO THE HOPE OF THE POOR.  
LISTEN TO THE KNOCK AT THE DOOR.  
LISTEN, GOD IS SINGING,  
GOD IS SINGING.

**-PASTORAL PRAYER-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Listen"*

LISTEN TO THE DREAMS IN THE NIGHT.  
LISTEN TO THE CRY TO BE WHOLE.  
LISTEN TO THE SIGH OF THE SOUL.  
LISTEN, GOD IS SINGING,  
GOD IS SINGING.

**-SCRIPTURE-**

Matthew 5: 1-12 (The Message)

*When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:*

*"You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.*

*"You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.*

*"You're blessed when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.*

*"You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.*

*"You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourselves cared for.*

*"You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.*

*"You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.*

*You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.*

*"Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.*

**-THE MESSAGE-**

*"Blessed"*

Pam Lee-Miller

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"For Everyone Born"*

FOR EVERYONE BORN, A PLACE AT THE TABLE,

FOR EVERYONE BORN, CLEAN WATER AND BREAD,  
A SHELTER, A SPACE, A SAFE PLACE FOR GROWING,  
FOR EVERYONE BORN, A STAR OVERHEAD.

FOR YOUNG AND FOR OLD, A PLACE AT THE TABLE,  
ALL GENDERS AND ROLES A PART OF THE SONG,  
WITH WISDOM AND GRACE, DIVIDING THE POWER,  
FOR EVERYONE BORN, THE RIGHT TO BELONG.

AND GOD WILL DELIGHT  
WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE  
AND JOY, COMPASSION AND PEACE:  
YES, GOD WILL DELIGHT  
WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE,  
JUSTICE AND JOY!

**-COMMUNION-**

*"In the Quiet Curve of Evening" - J. Howard*  
Brenda Gardiner

**-OFFERING-**

*"Blest Are They" - D. Haas*  
Brenda Gardiner

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"The Doxology"*  
GOD BLESSES US SO WE CAN GIVE;  
WITH ONE ANOTHER WE SHOULD LIVE.  
GOD BLESSES US WITH EACH NEW DAY.  
GOD'S VISION GUIDES AND LEADS OUR WAY.  
AMEN.

**-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-**

**-INVITATION TO RESPOND-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Rain Down"*  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

FAITHFUL AND TRUE IS THE WORD OF OUR GOD.  
ALL OF GOD'S WORKS ARE SO WORTHY OF TRUST.  
GOD'S MERCY FALLS ON THE JUST AND THE RIGHT;  
FULL OF GOD'S LOVE IS THE EARTH.

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

GOD OF CREATION, WE LONG FOR YOUR TRUTH;  
YOU ARE THE WATER OF LIFE THAT WE THIRST.  
GRANT THAT YOUR LOVE AND YOUR PEACE TOUCH OUR HEARTS,  
ALL OF OUR HOPE LIES IN YOU.

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

**-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Draw the Circle Wide"*

*"Rain Down"*

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.  
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,  
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.