



May 12, 2024
Sunday Gathering

-PRELUDE-

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

"I Dream of a Church"

I DREAM OF A CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME,
I DREAM OF A PLACE WE ALL CAN CALL HOME.
I DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE JUSTICE IS FLOWING,
WITH HOPE AND PEACE GROWING,
WHERE GOD'S WILL IS DONE.

MAKE IT SO, MAKE IT SO,
WE PRAY FOR THAT DAY, MAKE IT SO.
WE DREAM OF A WORLD
WHERE LOVE REIGNS AMONG US
AND YOUR WILL IS DONE,
O GOD, MAKE IT SO!

-WELCOME-

-GREETING EACH OTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"I Dream of a Church"

O GOD, FILL OUR HEARTS TO REACH OUT IN WELCOME,
MAKE US TO SEE YOUR VISION ONCE MORE.

LET'S DREAM OF A WORLD
WHERE OUR HANDS ARE YOUR HANDS,
WE OFFER OURSELVES,
O GOD, MAKE IT SO.

MAKE IT SO, MAKE IT SO,
WE PRAY FOR THAT DAY, MAKE IT SO.
WE DREAM OF A WORLD
WHERE LOVE REIGNS AMONG US
AND YOUR WILL IS DONE,
O GOD, MAKE IT SO!

-CALL TO WORSHIP-

Our loving God, we are here to lean on you;
WE COME FULL OF EXCITED WONDER.

We are here to discover who you are;
WHEN WE KNOW YOU BETTER,
WE KNOW BETTER WHO WE ARE.

We are here today with curiosity and expectation;
WE COME READY TO FIND THE JOY OF KNOWING YOU.

-OPENING PRAYER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Bidden, Unbidden"

WHETHER I CRY OUT YOUR NAME,
OR I FEEL ALONE, ASHAMED,
YOU ARE NOT GONE, YOU ARE THERE!
WHETHER I NOTICE YOUR HAND,
IN ALL THE STARS, THE SEA, THE LAND,
WHETHER OR NOT, YOU ARE THERE!

BIDDEN, UNBIDDEN,
I KNOW YOU ARE THERE.
YOU ARE PRESENT ALWAYS, AGAIN AND AGAIN.
IF I FORGET YOU, OR JOIN YOU IN PRAYER,

YOU ARE PRESENT ALWAYS FOREVER.
AMEN.

IF I DON'T FEEL YOU AROUND,
THERE IS NO PICTURE AND NO SOUND,
I WILL BELIEVE YOU ARE THERE!
EVEN ON MY DARKEST DAYS
I WILL STILL SING A WORD OF PRAISE.
I WILL BELIEVE YOU ARE THERE!

BIDDEN, UNBIDDEN,
I KNOW YOU ARE THERE.
YOU ARE PRESENT ALWAYS, AGAIN AND AGAIN.
IF I FORGET YOU, OR JOIN YOU IN PRAYER,
YOU ARE PRESENT ALWAYS FOREVER.
AMEN.

-SCRIPTURE-

Isaiah 49: 13-16a (NCV)

Heavens and earth, be happy. Mountains, shout with joy, because the LORD comforts his people and will have pity on those who suffer.

But Jerusalem said, "The LORD has left me; the Lord has forgotten me."

The LORD answers, "Can a woman forget the baby she nurses? Can she feel no kindness for the child to which she gave birth? Even if she could forget her children, I will not forget you. See, I have written your name on my hand."

-THE MESSAGE-

"The Way Love Works"
Kenny Bishop

-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,

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

-SHARING AROUND THE TABLE-

-COMMUNION-

"There's Something About That Name" – Gaither

-OFFERING-

"Turn Around" – Belafonte, Reynolds, Greene

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Family of God"

I'M SO GLAD WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD;
AS WE DRINK FROM GOD'S FOUNTAIN,
AND FEAST ON GOD'S LOVE.
WALKING WITH JESUS AS WE TRAVEL ALONG,
WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY,
THE FAMILY OF GOD.

YOU WILL NOTICE WE'RE LIKE SIBLINGS
AND LOVED ONES 'ROUND HERE,
IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE A FAMILY
AND THESE FOLKS ARE SO NEAR.
WHEN ONE HAS A HEARTACHE,
WE ALL SHED THE TEARS
AND REJOICE IN EACH VICT'RY
IN THIS FAMILY SO DEAR.

I'M SO GLAD WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD;
AS WE DRINK FROM GOD'S FOUNTAIN,
AND FEAST ON GOD'S LOVE.
WALKING WITH JESUS AS WE TRAVEL ALONG.

WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY,
THE FAMILY OF GOD.

FROM THE DOORWAY OF SUFF'RING
TO THE HOUSE OF A KING,
WE'RE NO LONGER AN OUTCAST,
A NEW SONG WE SING;
FROM RAGS UNTO RICHES,
FROM THE WEAK TO THE STRONG,
WE MAY FEEL UNDESERVING,
BUT WE KNOW WE BELONG!

I'M SO GLAD WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD;
AS WE DRINK FROM GOD'S FOUNTAIN,
AND FEAST ON GOD'S LOVE.
WALKING WITH JESUS AS WE TRAVEL ALONG.
WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY,
THE FAMILY OF GOD.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Family of God"

I'M SO GLAD WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD;
AS WE DRINK FROM GOD'S FOUNTAIN,
AND FEAST ON GOD'S LOVE.
WALKING WITH JESUS AS WE TRAVEL ALONG,
WE'RE A PART OF THE FAMILY,
THE FAMILY OF GOD.