

May 26, 2024 Sunday Gathering

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-PRELUDE-"Ashokan Farewell" – J. Ungar 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-

Here in this place, THERE ARE NO FOREIGNERS, for all are welcome in God's house.

Here in this worship, THERE IS ONLY ACCEPTANCE, for love is the language of faith.

Here in our lives, THERE ARE NO DIVISIONS, for God dwells in each of us. COME, LET US WORSHIP IN UNITY AND LOVE.

-OPENING 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.

-SCRIPTURE-

Jeremiah 29: 11 (CEB) I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the LORD; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope.

-THE MESSAGE-

"God's Invitation" 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,

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-"*Psalm 139*" – arr. S. Wilson

-OFFERING-"Let There Be Peace on Earth" – Miller/Jackson

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Summons"

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME IF I BUT CALL YOUR NAME? WILL YOU GO WHERE YOU DON'T KNOW AND NEVER BE THE SAME? WILL YOU LET MY LOVE BE SHOWN? WILL YOU LET MY NAME BE KNOWN? WILL YOU LET MY LIFE BE GROWN IN YOU, AND YOU IN ME?

WILL YOU LET THE BLINDED SEE IF I BUT CALL YOUR NAME? WILL YOU SET THE PRISONERS FREE AND NEVER BE THE SAME? WILL YOU KISS THE LEPER CLEAN, AND DO SUCH AS THIS UNSEEN? AND ADMIT TO WHAT I MEAN IN YOU, AND YOU IN ME?

WILL YOU LOVE THE "YOU" YOU HIDE IF I BUT CALL YOUR NAME? WILL YOU QUELL THE FEAR INSIDE AND NEVER BE THE SAME? WILL YOU USE THE FAITH YOU'VE FOUND TO RESHAPE THE WORLD AROUND THROUGH MY SIGHT AND TOUCH AND SOUND IN YOU, AND YOU IN ME?

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Summons"

LORD, YOUR SUMMONS ECHOES TRUE WHEN YOU BUT CALL MY NAME. LET ME TURN AND FOLLOW YOU AND NEVER BE THE SAME. IN YOUR COMPANY I'LL GO, WHERE YOUR LOVE AND FOOTSTEPS SHOW, THUS I'LL MOVE AND LIVE AND GROW IN YOU, AND YOU IN ME.