



November 19, 2023
Sunday Gathering

.....
-PRELUDE-

"I've Got Peace Like a River" – 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-

"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 EACH OTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Welcome"

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-

God, thank you for teaching us;
THANK YOU FOR OPENING OUR MINDS TO
EXCITING NEW WAYS OF THINKING AND KNOWING.

We are grateful that you are patient with us;
THANK YOU FOR FORMING US
THROUGH DAILY MOMENTS AND EXPERIENCES.

Thank you for dreams and visions;
THANK YOU FOR TRUSTING US TO BE YOUR VESSELS.

-OPENING PRAYER-

-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.

GOD, WE SING FOR ALL THE CHILDREN,
THAT ONE DAY THEY BE FREE;
AND WE SING FOR GENERATIONS YET TO BE,
THAT THEY NEVER HAVE A REASON
TO DOUBT THAT THEY ARE BLESSED.
MAY THEY, IN YOUR LOVE, FIND REST.

GOD, WE PRAY FOR ALL THE YOUNG LIVES
CUT SHORT BY FEAR AND SHAME
SO AFRAID OF WHO THEY ARE AND WHOM THEY LOVE.
MAY THE MESSAGE NOW BE BANISHED
THAT YOUR LOVE IS FOR THE FEW,
MAY THEIR FAITH IN YOU RENEW.

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.

-THE MESSAGE-

"The Bible Through Grown-Up Lenses"

Josh Scott

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Open Table"

COME, OH COME, COME TO THE TABLE.
GATHER 'ROUND, COME WITHOUT FEAR.
KNOWN BY NAME HERE AT THE TABLE, THIS TABLE;
WELCOME HERE, TO THE TABLE OF LOVE.

CIRCLE 'ROUND, LET'S JOIN TOGETHER.
SHARE YOUR JOYS, AND BRING YOUR TEARS.
STRENGTH AND HOPE FOUND AT THE TABLE, THIS TABLE;
WELCOME HERE, TO THE TABLE OF LOVE.

GOD IS LOVE; LOVE IS CREATING
SOMETHING NEW, RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW.
WE'RE CHILDREN OF GOD, HERE AT THE TABLE, THIS TABLE;
WELCOME HERE, TO THE TABLE OF LOVE.

-COMMUNION-

"You Are Mine" - D. Haas

-OFFERING-

"Have Thine Own Way" – arr. P. Keveren

-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Show Us How to Love"

HEARTS OPEN, MINDS AWAKE,
CHANGE US NOW FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE.
LEAVE US NOT ALONE IN HATRED'S WAKE.

SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.
SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.
SHOW US HOW, SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.

EYES OPEN, SHOCKED AWAKE,
MUCH TO LEARN FROM OUR MISTAKES.
DRAW US CLOSER IN OUR HEARTACHE.

SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.
SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.
SHOW US HOW, SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Show Us How to Love"

SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.
SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.
SHOW US HOW, SHOW US HOW TO LOVE.