



**September 1, 2024**  
**Sunday Gathering**

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**-PRELUDE-**

*“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” –arr. E. Hodges*  
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 SEEDS 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-**

**-GREETING EACH OTHER-**

**-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-**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
BREAK FORTH IN SONGS OF JOY AND SING PRAISES!

Sing praises with the instruments;  
SING WITH THE INSTRUMENTS AND THE SOUNDS OF MELODY!

Let the seas roar and all that is in them;  
LET THE CREATURES OF THE EARTH MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

Let the floods clap their hands and the hills sing together;  
LET THE PEOPLE OF THE EARTH LIFT THEIR VOICES IN JOY!

**-OPENING PRAYER-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"*

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE YOU,  
GOD OF GLORY, GOD OF LOVE;  
HEARTS UNFOLD LIKE FLOWERS BEFORE YOU,  
OPENING TO THE SUN ABOVE.

MELT THE CLOUDS OF SIN AND SADNESS,  
DRIVE THE STORMS OF DOUBT AWAY;  
GIVER OF IMMORTAL GLADNESS,  
FILL US WITH THE LIGHT OF DAY.

ALL YOUR WORKS WITH JOY SURROUND YOU,  
EARTH AND HEAVEN REFLECT YOUR RAYS,  
STARS AND ANGELS SING AROUND YOU,  
CENTER OF UNBROKEN PRAISE.  
FIELD AND FOREST, VALE AND MOUNTAIN,  
FLOWERY MEADOW, FLASHING SEA,  
CHANTING BIRD AND FLOWING FOUNTAIN,  
TEACH US WHAT OUR PRAISE SHOULD BE.

YOU ARE GIVING AND FORGIVING,  
EVER BLESSING, EVER BLESSED,  
WELLSPRING OF THE JOY OF LIVING,  
OCEAN DEPTH OF HAPPY REST!  
LOVING SPIRIT, LOVING PARENT,  
ALL WHO LOVE BELONG TO YOU;  
TEACH US HOW TO LOVE EACH OTHER,  
BY THAT LOVE OUR JOY RENEW.

MORTALS, JOIN THE MIGHTY CHORUS  
WHICH THE MORNING STARS BEGAN;  
BOUNDLESS LOVE IS REIGNING O'ER US,  
RECONCILING RACE AND CLAN.  
EVER SINGING, MOVE WE FORWARD,  
FAITHFUL IN THE MIDST OF STRIFE,  
JOYFUL MUSIC LEADS US ONWARD  
IN THE TRIUMPH SONG OF LIFE.

### **-SCRIPTURE-**

Revelation 21: 1-4 (CEB)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne say, "Look! God's dwelling is here with humankind. He will dwell with them, and they will be his peoples. God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. There will be no mourning, crying, or pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

### **-THE MESSAGE-**

"It's Contagious"

Kenny Bishop

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"As We Gather at Your Table"*

AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE,  
AS WE LISTEN TO YOUR WORD,  
HELP US KNOW, O GOD, YOUR PRESENCE;  
LET OUR HEARTS AND MINDS BE STIRRED.  
NOURISH US WITH SACRED STORY  
TILL WE CLAIM IT AS YOUR OWN;  
TEACH US THROUGH THIS HOLY BANQUET  
HOW TO MAKE LOVE'S VICTORY KNOWN.

GRACIOUS SPIRIT, HELP US SUMMON  
OTHER GUESTS TO SHARE THE FEAST  
WHERE TRIUMPHANT LOVE WILL WELCOME  
THOSE WHO HAD BEEN LAST AND LEAST.  
THERE NO MORE WILL ENVY BIND US  
NOR WILL PRIDE OUR PEACE DESTROY,  
AS WE JOIN WITH THOSE AROUND US  
TO PARTAKE IN HEAVEN'S JOY.

**-SHARING AROUND THE TABLE-**

**-COMMUNION-**

*"Beach Spring"* - arr. E. Carlson

**-OFFERING-**

**-THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE-**

**-ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

**-INVITATION TO RESPOND-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"I Come With Joy"*

I COME WITH JOY, A CHILD OF GOD,  
FORGIVEN, LOVED AND FREE,  
THE LIFE OF JESUS TO RECALL,  
IN LOVE LAID DOWN FOR ME,  
IN LOVE LAID DOWN FOR ME.

I COME WITH FAM'LY FAR AND NEAR  
TO FIND, AS ALL ARE FED,

THE NEW COMMUNITY OF LOVE  
IN CHRIST'S COMMUNION BREAD,  
IN CHRIST'S COMMUNION BREAD.

AS CHRIST BREAKS BREAD, AND BIDS US SHARE,  
EACH PROUD DIVISION ENDS.

THE LOVE THAT MADE US, MAKES US ONE,  
AND STRANGERS NOW ARE FRIENDS,  
AND STRANGERS NOW ARE FRIENDS.

TOGETHER MET, TOGETHER BOUND  
BY ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE,  
WE'LL GO WITH JOY, TO GIVE THE WORLD  
THE LOVE THAT MAKES US ONE,  
THE LOVE THAT MAKES US ONE.

**-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-**

**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"I Come With Joy"*

TOGETHER MET, TOGETHER BOUND  
BY ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE,  
WE'LL GO WITH JOY, TO GIVE THE WORLD  
THE LOVE THAT MAKES US ONE,  
THE LOVE THAT MAKES US ONE.