



**September 21, 2025**

**Sunday Gathering**

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**-PRELUDE-**

*"You Raise Me Up" arr. J. M. Stevens*

Brenda Gardiner

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**-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.*

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**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"I Dream of a Church"*

WE DREAM OF A CHURCH  
WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME,  
WE DREAM OF A PLACE  
WE ALL CAN CALL HOME.  
WE 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.

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**-WELCOME-**

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**-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.

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**-CALL TO WORSHIP-**

We come to worship this morning:  
forgiven, loved, and freed.  
MAY WE FORGIVE OTHERS.

We come to worship this morning:  
forgiven, loved, and freed.  
MAY WE LOVE OTHERS.

We come to worship this morning:  
forgiven, loved, and freed.  
MAY WE OFFER FREEDOM TO OTHERS.

We come to worship this morning:  
forgiven, loved, and freed.  
MAY WE WORSHIP OUR GOD  
WHO OFFERS US  
FORGIVENESS, LOVE, AND GRACE.

Amen.

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**-OPENING PRAYER-**

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**-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-**

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**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Praise with Joy the World's Creation"*

PRAISE WITH JOY THE WORLD'S CREATOR,  
GOD OF JUSTICE, LOVE AND PEACE,  
SOURCE AND END OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE,  
FORCE OF GOODNESS WITHOUT CEASE.  
CELEBRATE THE MAKER'S GLORY,  
POWER TO RESCUE AND RELEASE.

PRAISE THE SON WHO FEEDS THE HUNGRY,  
FREES THE CAPTIVE, FINDS THE LOST,  
HEALS THE SICK, UPSETS RELIGION,  
FEARLESS BOTH OF FATE AND COST.  
CELEBRATE CHRIST'S CONSTANT PRESENCE -  
FRIEND AND STRANGER, GUEST AND HOST.

PRAISE THE SPIRIT SENT AMONG US  
LIBERATING TRUTH FROM PRIDE,  
FORGING BONDS WHERE RACE OR GENDER,  
AGE OR NATION DARE DIVIDE.  
CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT'S TREASURE -  
FOOLISHNESS NONE DARE DERIDE.

PRAISE THE MAKER, SON AND SPIRIT,  
ONE GOD IN COMMUNITY,  
CALLING US TO LEAVE BEHIND  
FAITH'S GHETTOS AND OBSCURITY.  
THUS THE WORLD SHALL YET BELIEVE  
WHEN SHOWN CHRIST'S VIBRANT UNITY.

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**-SCRIPTURE-**

Luke 16:1-13 (MSG)

*Jesus said to his disciples, "There was once a rich man who had a manager. He got reports that the manager had been taking advantage of his position by running up huge personal expenses. So he called him in and said, 'What's this I hear about you? You're fired. And I want a complete audit of your books.'*

*"The manager said to himself, 'What am I going to do? I've lost my job as manager. I'm not strong enough for a laboring job, and I'm too proud to beg. . . . Ah, I've got a plan. Here's what I'll do . . . then when I'm turned out into the street, people will take me into their houses.'*

*“Then he went at it. One after another, he called in the people who were in debt to his master. He said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’*

*“He replied, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ “The manager said, ‘Here, take your bill, sit down here—quick now—write fifty.’*

*“To the next he said, ‘And you, what do you owe?’*

*“He answered, ‘A hundred sacks of wheat.’*

*“He said, ‘Take your bill, write in eighty.’*

*“Now here’s a surprise: The master praised the crooked manager! And why? Because he knew how to look after himself. Streetwise people are smarter in this regard than law-abiding citizens. They are on constant alert, looking for angles, surviving by their wits. I want you to be smart in the same way—but for what is right—using every adversity to stimulate you to creative survival, to concentrate your attention on the bare essentials, so you’ll live, really live, and not complacently just get by on good behavior.”*

*Jesus went on to make these comments:*

*If you’re honest in small things, you’ll be honest in big things; If you’re a crook in small things, you’ll be a crook in big things. If you’re not honest in small jobs, who will put you in charge of the store? No worker can serve two bosses: He’ll either hate the first and love the second, or adore the first and despise the second. You can’t serve both God and the Bank.*

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**-THE MESSAGE-**

Pam Lee-Miller

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**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*“In the Quiet Curve of Evening (You Are There)”*

IN THE QUIET CURVE OF EVENING,

IN THE CLOSING OF THE DAYS,

IN THE MOMENTS OF MY DARKNESS,

YOU ARE THERE.

IN THE RHYTHMS OF MY BREATHING,

IN THE SPACE BETWEEN MY WAYS,

IN THE WEARY TIMES OF SADNESS,

YOU ARE THERE.

YOU ARE THERE. YOU ARE THERE. YOU ARE THERE.

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**-JOYS & CONCERNS-**

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**-PASTORAL PRAYER-**

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**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"In the Quiet Curve of Evening (You Are There)"*

YOU ARE THERE.

YOU ARE THERE.

YOU ARE THERE.

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**-INVITATION TO COMMUNION-**

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**-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.

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**-IN GRATITUDE-**

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**-OFFERING-**

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**-ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

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**-INVITATION TO RESPOND-**

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**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant"*

WILL YOU LET ME BE YOUR SERVANT,  
LET ME BE AS CHRIST TO YOU;  
PRAY THAT I MAY HAVE THE GRACE  
TO LET YOU BE MY SERVANT, TOO.

WE ARE PILGRIMS ON A JOURNEY;  
FELLOW TRAVELERS ON THE ROAD.  
WE ARE HERE TO HELP EACH OTHER  
WALK THE MILE AND BEAR THE LOAD.

I WILL HOLD THE CHRIST-LIGHT FOR YOU  
IN THE NIGHTTIME OF YOUR FEAR;  
I WILL HOLD MY HAND OUT TO YOU,  
SPEAK THE PEACE YOU LONG TO HEAR.

WHEN WE SING TO GOD IN HEAVEN,  
WE WILL FIND SUCH HARMONY,  
BORN OF ALL WE'VE KNOWN TOGETHER  
OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND AGONY.

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**-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-**

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**-SINGING TOGETHER-**

*"Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant"*

WILL YOU LET ME BE YOUR SERVANT,  
LET ME BE AS CHRIST TO YOU;  
PRAY THAT I MAY HAVE THE GRACE  
TO LET YOU BE MY SERVANT, TOO.