



March 22, 2026
Sunday Gathering
The Fifth Sunday of Lent

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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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-PRELUDE-

"In the Garden" -arr. P. Keveren

Brenda Gardiner

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-WELCOME-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Wilderness Wanderering People"

WE ARE A WILDERNESS WANDERING PEOPLE
ON A JOURNEY OF THE SOUL.
MAY WE FIND OUR DESTINATION
IN OUR LONGING TO BE WHOLE.
OUR HOLY GOD IS CALLING TO US.
WITH JESUS BY OUR SIDE
MAY COMPASSION BE OUR COMPASS;
MAY THE SPIRIT BE OUR GUIDE.

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-OPENING PRAYER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Wilderness Wanderering People"

WE ARE A WILDERNESS WANDERING PEOPLE
ON A JOURNEY OF THE SOUL.
MAY WE FIND OUR DESTINATION
IN OUR LONGING TO BE WHOLE.
OUR HOLY GOD IS CALLING TO US.
WITH JESUS BY OUR SIDE
MAY COMPASSION BE OUR COMPASS;
MAY THE SPIRIT BE OUR GUIDE.

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-CALL TO WORSHIP-

I'm going on a journey
TO FIND MY TRUEST SELF,

to take the things that weigh me down
AND PUT THEM ON THE SHELF.

I'm going on a journey
TO LAUGH, AND LEARN, AND PRAY.

I'm going on a journey
AND LOVE WILL LEAD THE WAY.

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-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

I AM WEAK, BUT THOU ART STRONG;

JESUS, KEEP ME FROM ALL WRONG;
I'LL BE SATISFIED AS LONG
AS I WALK, LET ME WALK CLOSE TO THEE.

JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE,
GRANT IT, JESUS, IS MY PLEA,
DAILY WALKING CLOSE TO THEE:
LET IT BE, DEAR LORD, LET IT BE.

THROUGH THIS WORLD OF TOILS AND SNARES,
IF I FALTER, LORD, WHO CARES?
WHO WITH ME MY BURDEN SHARES?
IT IS THEE, DEAR LORD, IT IS THEE.

JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE,
GRANT IT, JESUS, IS MY PLEA,
DAILY WALKING CLOSE TO THEE:
LET IT BE, DEAR LORD, LET IT BE.

WHEN THIS LIFE ON EARTH IS O'ER,
TIME FOR ME WILL BE NO MORE;
GUIDE ME GENTLY, SAFELY O'ER
TO THAT BLESSED SHORE, TO THAT SHORE.

JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE,
GRANT IT, JESUS, IS MY PLEA,
DAILY WALKING CLOSE TO THEE:
LET IT BE, DEAR LORD, LET IT BE.

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-SCRIPTURE-

John 11:1-16 (CEB)

A certain man, Lazarus, was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (This was the Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped his feet with her hair. Her brother Lazarus was ill.) So the sisters sent word to Jesus, saying, "Lord, the one whom you love is ill."

When he heard this, Jesus said, "This illness isn't fatal. It's for the glory of God so that God's Son can be glorified through it." Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. When he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was. After two days, he said to his disciples, "Let's return to Judea again."

The disciples replied, "Rabbi, the Jewish opposition wants to stone you, but you want to go back?"

Jesus answered, "Aren't there twelve hours in the day? Whoever walks in the day doesn't stumble because they see the light of the world. But whoever walks in the night does stumble because the light isn't in them."

He continued, "Our friend Lazarus is sleeping, but I am going in order to wake him up."

The disciples said, "Lord, if he's sleeping, he will get well." They thought Jesus meant that Lazarus was in a deep sleep, but Jesus had spoken about Lazarus' death.

Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died. For your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there so that you can believe. Let's go to him."

Then Thomas (the one called Didymus) said to the other disciples, "Let us go too so that we may die with Jesus."

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-THE MESSAGE-

"The Long & Winding Way"

Pam Lee-Miller

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"God Comes to Us"

GOD COMES TO US ON WINTER NIGHT,

IN BABY'S BREATH, BY FIRELIGHT,
GOD COMES TO US ON A STAR.
GOD COMES TO US AMIDST OUR FEARS,
UNSPOKEN JOYS, UNENDING TEARS,
GOD COMES TO US WHERE WE ARE.

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-SHARNG JOYS & CONCERNS-

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-PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE-

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-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 OUR OWN;
TEACH US THROUGH THIS HOLY BANQUET
HOW TO MAKE LOVE'S VICTORY KNOWN.

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-INVITATION TO COMMUNION-

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-COMMUNION MEDITATION-

"Open the Eyes of My Heart" -arr. P. Keveren

Brenda Gardiner

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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-

"There's Within My Heart a Melody"

THERE'S WITHIN MY HEART A MELODY
JESUS WHISPERS SWEET AND LOW:
"FEAR NOT, I AM WITH YOU, PEACE, BE STILL,"
IN ALL OF LIFE'S EBB AND FLOW.

JESUS, JESUS, JESUS,
SWEETEST NAME I KNOW,

FILLS MY EVERY LONGING,
KEEPS ME SINGING AS I GO.

ALL MY LIFE WAS WRECKED BY SIN AND STRIFE,
DISCORD FILLED MY HEART WITH PAIN;
JESUS SWEEPED ACROSS THE BROKEN STRINGS,
STIRRED THE SLUMBERING CHORDS AGAIN.

JESUS, JESUS, JESUS,
SWEETEST NAME I KNOW,
FILLS MY EVERY LONGING,
KEEPS ME SINGING AS I GO.

THOUGH SOMETIMES I GO THROUGH WATERS DEEP,
TRIALS FALL ACROSS THE WAY,
THOUGH SOMETIMES THE PATH SEEMS ROUGH AND STEEP,
I SEE HIS FOOTPRINTS ALL THE WAY.

JESUS, JESUS, JESUS,
SWEETEST NAME I KNOW,
FILLS MY EVERY LONGING,
KEEPS ME SINGING AS I GO.

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-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

We will follow on The Way.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.
The Creator God fills us with breath
inviting us to this journey called Life.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.

Jesus, our Guide, shows us what it means
to make a new way with Love.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.

The Spirit gives us strength to move forward
with courage and compassion for all we meet.
WE WILL FOLLOW ON THE WAY.

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Wilderness Wandering People"
WE ARE A WILDERNESS WANDERING PEOPLE
ON A JOURNEY OF THE SOUL.
MAY WE FIND OUR DESTINATION
IN OUR LONGING TO BE WHOLE.
OUR HOLY GOD IS CALLING TO US.
WITH JESUS BY OUR SIDE

MAY COMPASSION BE OUR COMPASS;
MAY THE SPIRIT BE OUR GUIDE.
ON THE WAY,
ON THE WAY,
ON THE WAY.