bluegrass
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 8, 2026
Sunday Gathering

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-PRELUDE-

"Down to the River to Pray" - arr. L. Line
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-

"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.

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-WELCOME & GREETING-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

“For All the Children”

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 BLEST.
MAY THEY, IN YOUR LOVE, FIND REST.

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.

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-CALL TO WORSHIP-

Call.
RESPONSE.

Call.
RESPONSE.

Call.
RESPONSE.

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-OPENING PRAYER-

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-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

“Draw the Circle Wide”

DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.
DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.
NO ONE STANDS ALONE,
WE’LL STAND SIDE BY SIDE.
DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE,
DRAW IT WIDER STILL.

LET THIS BE OUR SONG:
NO ONE STANDS ALONE.
STANDING SIDE BY SIDE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE,
DRAW IT WIDER STILL.
LET THIS BE OUR SONG:
NO ONE STANDS ALONE.
STANDING SIDE BY SIDE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.
DRAW THE CIRCLE,
DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE.

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-SCRIPTURE-

Genesis 2:18a (TCT)

God said, "It is not good for the human to be alone.

John 15:5 (CEV)

I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me.

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-THE MESSAGE-

"*Covenantal Connections"*

Pam Lee-Miller

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

CHILD OF BLESSING, CHILD OF PROMISE,
BAPTIZED WITH THE SPIRIT'S SIGN;
WITH THIS WATER GOD HAS SEALED YOU
UNTO LOVE AND GRACE DIVINE.

CHILD OF LOVE, OUR LOVE'S EXPRESSION,
LOVE'S CREATION, LOVED INDEED!
FRESH FROM GOD, REFRESH OUR SPIRITS,
INTO JOY AND LAUGHTER LEAD.

CHILD OF JOY, OUR DEAREST TREASURE,
GOD'S YOU ARE, FROM GOD YOU CAME.
BACK TO GOD WE HUMBLY GIVE YOU;
LIVE AS ONE WHO BEARS CHRIST'S NAME.

CHILD OF GOD, YOUR LOVING PARENT,
LEARN TO KNOW WHOSE CHILD YOU ARE.
GROW TO LAUGH AND SING AND WORSHIP,
TRUST AND LOVE GOD MORE THAN ALL.

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-BAPTISMAL SERVICE-

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-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 CREATORS OF JUSTICE
AND JOY, COMPASSION AND PEACE:
YES, GOD WILL DELIGHT WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE,
JUSTICE AND JOY!

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-IN GRATITUDE-

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-COMMUNION-

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-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 CREATORS OF JUSTICE
AND JOY, COMPASSION AND PEACE:
YES, GOD WILL DELIGHT WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE,
JUSTICE AND JOY!
FOR YOUNG AND FOR OLD, A PLACE AT THE TABLE,
ALL GENDERS AND ROLES A PART OF THE SONG,
WITH WISDOM AND GRACE, DIVIDING THE POWER,
FOR EVERYONE BORN, THE RIGHT TO BELONG.

AND GOD WILL DELIGHT WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE
AND JOY, COMPASSION AND PEACE:
YES, GOD WILL DELIGHT WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE,
JUSTICE AND JOY!

FOR EVERYONE BORN, A PLACE AT THE TABLE,
TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR, AND SIMPLY TO BE,
TO WORK, TO SPEAK OUT, TO WITNESS AND WORSHIP,
FOR EVERYONE BORN, THE RIGHT TO BE FREE.

AND GOD WILL DELIGHT WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE
AND JOY, COMPASSION AND PEACE:
YES, GOD WILL DELIGHT WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE,
JUSTICE AND JOY!

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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-

"*Rain Down"*

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

FAITHFUL AND TRUE IS THE WORD OF OUR GOD.
ALL OF GOD'S WORKS ARE SO WORTHY OF TRUST.
GOD'S MERCY FALLS ON THE JUST AND THE RIGHT;
FULL OF GOD'S LOVE IS THE EARTH.

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

GOD OF CREATION, WE LONG FOR YOUR TRUTH;
YOU ARE THE WATER OF LIFE THAT WE THIRST.
GRANT THAT YOUR LOVE AND YOUR PEACE TOUCH OUR HEARTS,
ALL OF OUR HOPE LIES IN YOU.

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.

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-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

“*Rain Down”*

RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE ON YOUR PEOPLE.
RAIN DOWN, RAIN DOWN,
RAIN DOWN YOUR LOVE, GOD OF LIFE.