

# April 6, 2025 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.

#### -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Make Us One"

MAKE US ONE, LORD, MAKE US ONE;

HOLY SPIRIT, MAKE US ONE.

LET YOUR LOVE FLOW SO THE WORLD WILL KNOW

WE ARE ONE IN YOU.

#### -WELCOME-

### -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Make Us One"

MAKE US ONE, LORD, MAKE US ONE;

HOLY SPIRIT, MAKE US ONE.

LET YOUR LOVE FLOW SO THE WORLD WILL KNOW

WE ARE ONE IN YOU.

#### -CALL TO WORSHIP-

We come to worship because we long for mercy.
WE LONG FOR COMMUNITY.
WE LONG FOR GOD.

We come to worship because we need a good word. WE NEED CONNECTION.

WE NEED MORAL REMINDERS.

We come to worship because we are in between:

HOPE AND GRIEF, FAITH AND DOUBT, JOY AND LONGING.

CURIOSITY AND CONVICTION.

So we come to worship, and God meets us here.

SURELY, WE ARE NOT ALONE.

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR MEETING US IN THE MIDDLE.

AMEN.

# -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Make Us One"

MAKE US ONE, LORD, MAKE US ONE;

HOLY SPIRIT, MAKE US ONE.

LET YOUR LOVE FLOW SO THE WORLD WILL KNOW

WE ARE ONE IN YOU.

#### -COMMUNAL PRAYER-

MERCIFUL GOD,
WHEN WE FAIL TO BE RIGHTEOUS,
SHOW US MERCY.
WHEN WE FAIL TO BE MERCIFUL,
SHOW US WHAT IS RIGHT.
AGAIN AND AGAIN,
BRING US CLOSER TO YOU.
AGAIN AND AGAIN,
SHOW US THE WAY.
AMEN.

#### -GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

#### -SINGING TOGETHER-

"There's A Wideness in God's Mercy"

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY,
LIKE THE WIDENESS OF THE SEA;
THERE'S A KINDNESS IN GOD'S JUSTICE,
WHICH IS MORE THAN LIBERTY.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD IS BROADER THAN THE MEASURE OF OUR MIND; AND THE HEART OF THE ETERNAL

#### IS MOST WONDERFULLY KIND.

IF OUR LOVE WERE BUT MORE SIMPLE, WE WOULD REST UPON GOD'S WORD; AND OUR LIVES WOULD BE ILLUMINED BY THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

#### -SCRIPTURE-

Luke 19: 1-10 (CEB)

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. A man there named Zacchaeus, a ruler among tax collectors, was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but being a short man, he couldn't because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When Jesus came to that spot, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay in your home today." So Zacchaeus came down at once, happy to welcome Jesus.

Everyone who saw this grumbled, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

Zaccheaus stopped and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give you half of my possessions to the poor.

And if I have cheated anyone, I repay them four times as much."

Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this household because he too is a son of Abraham.

The Human One came to seek and save the lost."

#### -THE MESSAGE-

"Zacchaeus Was a Tax Man" Chris Prichard

#### -THE MESSAGE-

"SAVED!"
Pam Lee-Miller

#### -AFFIRMATION OF FAITH-

IN A WORLD THAT LOVES TO CAST BLAME AND POINT FINGERS,
JESUS LOVED BY DIFFERENT RULES.
HE OFFERED MERCY.
HE INVITED PEOPLE TO DINNER.
HE TOLD STORIES OF LOVE.
HE CHOSE TO SEE THE BEST IN OTHERS.
WE BELIEVE THAT SMALL ACTS
OF MERCY AND COMPASSION
HAVE RIPPLE EFFECTS IN OUR LIVES.
WE BELIEVE THAT SMALL ACTS
OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUSTICE
ARE INTEGRAL TO A LIFE OF FAITH.

SO LIKE CHRIST, WE BELIEVE IN OFFERING MERCY,
INVITING PEOPLE TO DINNER,
TELLING STORIES OF LOVE,
AND CHOOSING TO SEE THE BEST IN OTHERS.
WITH GOD'S HELP, MAY IT BE SO.
AMEN.

#### -SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Quiet Curve of Evening"
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.

-JOYS & CONCERNS-

-PASTORAL PRAYER-

#### -SINGING TOGETHER-

"In the Quiet Curve of Evening"
YOU ARE THERE,
YOU ARE THERE,
YOU ARE THERE.

#### -INVITATION TO COMMUNION-

#### -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

#### -IN GRATITUDE-

#### -OFFERING-

#### -ANNOUNCEMENTS-

# -INVITATION TO RESPOND-

#### -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

AMAZING GRACE! HOW SWEET THE SOUND

THAT SAVED A WRETCH LIKE ME!

I ONCE WAS LOST, BUT NOW I'M FOUND;

WAS BLIND, BUT NOW I SEE.

'TWAS GRACE THAT TAUGHT MY HEART TO FEAR; AND GRACE MY FEARS RELIEVED. HOW PRECIOUS DID THAT GRACE APPEAR THE HOUR I FIRST BELIEVED.

> MY CHAINS ARE GONE, I'VE BEEN SET FREE. MY GOD, MY SAVIOR HAS RESCUED ME. AND LIKE A FLOOD GOD'S MERCY REIGNS, UNENDING LOVE, AMAZING GRACE.

THE LORD HAS PROMISED GOOD TO ME; HIS WORD MY HOPE SECURES. HE WILL MY SHIELD AND PORTION BE AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES.

> MY CHAINS ARE GONE, I'VE BEEN SET FREE. MY GOD, MY SAVIOR HAS RESCUED ME. AND LIKE A FLOOD GOD'S MERCY REIGNS,

# UNENDING LOVE, AMAZING GRACE.

THE EARTH SHALL SOON DISSOLVE LIKE SNOW,
THE SUN FORBEAR TO SHINE.
BUT GOD WHO LOVES ME HERE BELOW,
WILL BE FOREVER MINE,
WILL BE FOREVER MINE,
YOU ARE FOREVER MINE.

# -BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

# -SINGING TOGETHER-

"Make Us One"

MAKE US ONE, LORD, MAKE US ONE;

HOLY SPIRIT, MAKE US ONE.

LET YOUR LOVE FLOW SO THE WORLD WILL KNOW

WE ARE ONE IN YOU.