

## July 28, 2024 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Gower Street United Church is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, ability, cultural background, or sexual orientation.



We respectfully acknowledge the land on which we live, work and worship as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose culture has been lost forever and can never be recovered. We also acknowledge the island of Kaimuki (Newfoundland) as the unceded, traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. And we acknowledge Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut. We recognize all First Peoples who were here before us, those who live with us now, and the seven generations to come. As First Peoples have done since time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land and respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. As we open our hearts and minds to the past, we commit ourselves to working in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all.

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## Bold indicates unison. Rise in body and spirit as you prefer. The projected text in white is a communal response.

## Today's bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of The Brookings and Smith Families from Cheryl Conway.

# THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

# The Life and Work of Gower

# Voluntary

We sing: VU 660 How Firm a Foundation St. Denio

## Words of Welcome:

No matter who you are, where you come from, how you come to be here, what you believe or what you are questioning, you are welcome in fullness.

# Light of Faith:

May the light of this candle symbolize the warmth of self-giving love, the love that guides us each moment in our lives.

## **Gathering Words:**

Let us unite and bring together what we've experienced this past week. Let us unite and bring together all we've been thinking and feeling. The world outside and inside our worship time comes together in the stories of our faith ancestors. It is time to knit this all together. It is time to worship!

## **Gathering Prayer:**

Let us pray, our God, we come in thanksgiving. Some of us are in pain and struggle. We come, each of us unique, each of us specially talented and challenged. Bless us with your presence, for we know how you change each life you touch. In Jesus' name, we come. Amen.

We sing: VU 635 All the Way My Saviour Leads Me All The Way

# LISTENING TO THE STORY

**A reading from Scripture:** Ephesians 3:14–21 Jonathan Stevenson God's power accomplishes more than we can ask for or imagine.

A reading from the Gospel: John 6:1-21

Jesus feeds the multitude and walks on water.

We sing: VU 681 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life Fulda

## Meditation

## **Musical Reflection**

# <u>COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE THROUGH</u> <u>OUR MINISTRY</u>

The offering plates are located near the sanctuary doors. You are invited to place your offerings there when you arrive or leave. You can also scan the QR code on our bulletin to donate via our website.

## Gathering our Gifts:

We receive the startling message that God's love is freely available to all, that God actively offers this love to all and that God calls us to respond.

We sing: MV 191 What Can I Do?

## Offering Prayer:

Let us pray, Giver of Life, today we dedicate this offering to your work throughout the world. May it find the places desperately in need of love. May it be a beacon of hope for all. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

## WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU p.747 The Lord's My Shepherd Crimond

## We go out into the world:

The Eternal God sends us out to feed people the bread of life. May God grant us discernment on how best to show God's love and share the bread of life with all we meet. With thankful hearts, we leave this time together, filled with the joy of God's spirit and love. Go forth with love now. Amen.

We Sing: VU 419 May the Grace of God, Vs. 1 Stuttgart

Postlude

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Pentecost 1 2024, Year B.

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# To the Glory of God

Donation to the Operating Fund in loving memory of Marion Abbott from Maxine Hiscock

Donation to the Roof and Furnace Fund in loving memory of **Yeordis Stokes** from C. Mark Stokes