



July 7, 2024
7th 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 celebration of the life of Alfred (Fred) Wilson on his birth date, July 7, from his wife Helen, Children, Roberta and Alfred, and his grandchildren, who will be celebrating his life today at Masonic Hall, service at 2:30 p.m. with a reception to follow.

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary

We sing: VU 235 O Worship the King Hanover

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.

Gathering Words

Welcome to this summertime place of gathering and witness.

We come to worship God as revealed in Jesus, our friend.

Open our hearts to the movement of the Spirit within.

We come to live our faith in a world of need and of opportunity.

Widen your understanding of the movement of God within and without.

We come to pray in mind, in body, in spirit, and in action.

May God's Spirit move within us as we worship.

Gathering Prayer:

God who seeks justice and abundance for all,

we yearn for but have not lived up to your vision of the world.

Some live in abundance, while many remain in poverty.

Some are treated with dignity and respect, while others are rejected.

God of passion and compassion do not let us be comfortable with the way things are.

(a time of quiet reflection)

Help us be part of your work of feeding, empowering, and transforming our communities and our world. Amen

We sing: VU 266 Amazing Grace New Britain

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer for illumination:

We come seeking, O God. **We seek wisdom. We seek knowledge. We seek what will restore our spirits and provide refuge from the chaos of the world. Bless to us your word, this day, and guide us to the wisdom we need. Amen.**

Responsive Psalm: VU pp.772-773 Psalm 48
God be praised in the city of Zion.

Lloyd Gill

A reading from the Gospel: Mark 6:1-13
Jesus, rejected in Nazareth, sends out the 12 to teach.

We sing: MV 176 Three things I promise

Promise

Meditation

Musical Reflection

**COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE THROUGH
OUR MINISTRY**

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 sing: MV 191 What Can I Do?

Offering Prayer: Loving God, we offer these gifts so that people may know that you are there with them on choppy waters and you can help them find abundance when they feel they have come up empty. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 357 Tell me the stories of Jesus

Stories of Jesus

We go out into the world:

Let us go forth now, into a world that is craving healing and wholeness.

Let us praise God, whose power is working within us and through us.

Let us go now, surrounded by the love of the Spirit who shows us we can do more that we can ever imagine.

Let us go now in hope and peace. Amen.

We Sing: VU 419 May the Grace of Christ Vs 1

Stuttgart

Postlude

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

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Minister: The Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Youth & Family Minister: The Rev. Rebecca Pike

Minister Emeritus: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy

Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding

Custodian: David Noseworthy

Board Chair: Patrick Griffin

