



**May 19, 2024
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 to the celebration of the upcoming wedding of Meghan McKibbon and Fred Whitmarsh.
Meghan and Fred invite all to join them on Thursday, May 23rd, at 4:30 in the sanctuary as they exchange our vows.

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary: Choral Varié sur le thème "Veni Creator" Duruflé

We sing: VU 333 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Hyfrodol

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.

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Jesus is the light of the world!

We remember that Jesus will always be with us.

We light this candle to welcome the presence of the risen Christ here with us today.

We light this candle praying we may be warmed, inspired, and ignited by the dancing flames of the Spirit working in us. Amen!

Pentecost Message from Moderator

Gathering Words:

The Spirit is at work in our faith community,

bringing us together in joy, comforting us in sorrow.

The Spirit is discovered in our faith community,

helping those bereaved, listening to those who are troubled.

The Spirit is with any who are downhearted in our faith community,

the voice of hope, the unseen good deed.

The Spirit will not be overcome, because in our faith community,

the Spirit is inspiring, the Spirit is eternal.

Come, let us worship in the presence of the Spirit.

Gathering Prayer:

God of wind and fire, come and be with us. **Energize us with power and jubilation. Loosen our spirits that we might share messages of inclusion. Open our hearts that we might receive your call to action. Fill us with your Spirit, great God of glory. Amen.**

We sing: VU 375 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (v. 1, 4)
Spirit of Gentleness

Circle Song

Circle Time

LISTENING TO THE STORY

A reading from Scripture: Acts 2: 1-21 Mark Peters
The coming of the Holy Spirit

A reading from the Gospel: John 15: 26-27; 16:4b-15
Jesus will send the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth

Sung Response: VU 958 Halle, Halle Halle Caribbean

Meditation

Musical Pause

We sing: VU 378 Spirit of God, Descend upon my Heart
Morecombe

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: VU 540 Grant Us, God, the Grace Stuttgart

Offering Prayer:

With open hearts and open spirits, we come to you, God most holy. **With all that we have and all that we are, we bring our offerings. We lift our voices in prayer and celebration. May your Spirit fill our words. May your Spirit fill our actions. May your Spirit fill our lives. In Jesus' name, we ask these things. Amen.**

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 625 I Feel the Winds of God Today Kingsfold

We go out into the world:

Go out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill your calling as disciples of Jesus Christ. **We go to join Jesus in the world, healing and sharing words of freedom, witnessing to the sacred in daily life. Thanks be to God. Amen!**

We sing: VU 567 Will You Come and Follow Me (verse 5) Kelvingrove

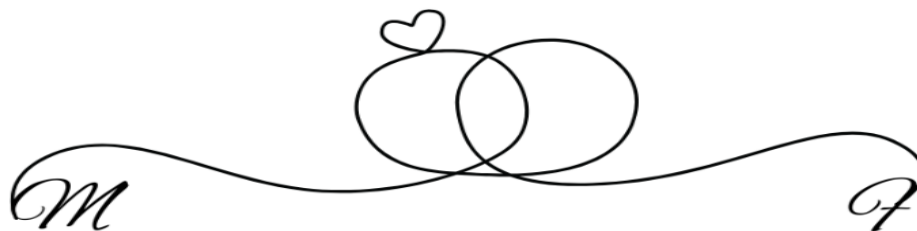
Postlude: Choral Varié sur le thème "Veni Creator" Duruflé

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 Parody
Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding
Custodian: David Noseworthy
Board Chair: Patrick Griffin





Meghan McKibbon & Fred Whitmarsh

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