



November 3, 2024
Twenty-Fourth 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 Anne Saunders from Gwen and David Alcock.**

We welcome The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy as our worship leader today.

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary: Prelude on Song 13 Healey Willan

We sing: VU 240 Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven Lauda Anima

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:

Gathering Words

We are invited here by our holy God,

who calls each by name, and gathers us together in the unity of Jesus, the Christ.

From classroom, construction, home and office,

we are called into the presence of God.

Young and old and middle-aged, individuals and families, soft-spoken and outspoken,.

we hear our names being called to join in worship.

This house of worship is a place to pursue God's vision for our church and for all people:

faith and faith-in-action through sharing our different gifts.

Drawn by the Spirit, let us pray that we may find healing places in our worship and discover anew the wonder and greatness of God's love for all people. (Adapted: **Celebrate God's Presence**, p. 23)

We Sing: (seated) VU 381 Spirit of Life Spirit of Life

Gathering Prayer:

Spirit of Life, come to us.

Come to us, as we confess the times when we fail to see your divine image within us and others, when we harboured grudges with hostility and refused to forgive; when we have belittled others, times when we supported decisions in our church and world that led to injustice and harm.

Spirit of Life, come to us.

Come to us and help us with the people who are difficult to love. Bless us, for a moment, with grace to see them in the light of your love.

We pray for enough love to confront those who hurt and betray us and embrace those who are different from us.

We pray for the gift of reconciliation – with ourselves, others and with you, Forgiving God.

Meet us in our brokenness and whisper a word of hope to our hearts.

We Sing: (seated) VU 381 Spirit of Life Spirit of Life

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries: Judi Somers

We sing: VU 579 The Church Is Wherever God's People (v.2) Old Cornish Carol

Circle Time: VU 365 Jesus Loves Me (v, 1, 2) Jesus Loves Me
All ages are invited to come forward as we sing

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer for Illumination: (Unison) Bert Riggs
God of sacred stories, we give thanks for the witness of holy Scripture, for seekers of truth who recorded your Word, diligent translators who make the Word available, thoughtful scholars, preachers and readers who open the Word for our understanding, and for all who seek to be 'doers' of the Word. Through scripture, sermon and music, give us a clearer visit of truth so that your Spirit may live in our hearts by faith and be proclaimed in our lives by compassion and justice. Amen.

A reading from Scripture: Deuteronomy 6: 4, 5 Bert Riggs

A reading from Scripture: Leviticus 19: 15 -18 Bert Riggs

Responsive Psalm: VU p. 861 Psalm 139 Hopson

A Reading from Gospel: Matthew 5: 23, 24; 43 - 48

A Reading from Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12: 12 - 27 Karl Wells

Anthem: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace Channel of Peace

Meditation: Still Needed – A Good Dose Of Holy Manners

We Sing: VU 602 Blest Be the Tie That Binds Dennis

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: For Gower and Mission and Service

We sing: VU 541 Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow Old 100th

Offering Prayer:

World Wide God and God of this moment and place; we give with thanksgiving for all of your goodness. Use our gifts to proclaim the good news within this church and community, and through Mission and Service, throughout a needy world, to bring light where there is gloom; hope where there is despair; peace where there is turmoil. Bless each gift and each giver and make us a blessing. In the Spirit of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 642 Be Thou My Vision Slane

Commissioning and Benediction:

We Sing: VU 964 Go Now in Peace

Sleeth

Postlude: Postlude on A Mighty Fortress is our God

Jan Bender

*Worship today was inspired by **Celebrate God's Presence**.*

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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



Holy Manners

(Source: The United Church Manual 2023, p. 192)

The Very Reverend Marion Pardy introduced Holy Manners as a resource for the 38th General Council 2003. Holy Manners has been used as resource for the conduct of meetings by subsequent General Councils and their executives. It has been adapted here for use as a resource by all councils and church bodies.

We will

- keep God at the centre of everything we do;
- each speak for ourselves;
- speak for a purpose;
- separate people from problems;
- allow for full and equitable participation;
- attend to others carefully without interruption;
- welcome the conflict of ideas;
- take a future orientation;
- demonstrate appreciation;
- honour the decisions of the body;
- commit to holding one another to account when we do not keep our holy manners;
- keep the discussion at the table;
- be mindful of our body language;
- check in about good use of time;
- allow the quiet people to speak, with an invitation to speak; and
- sincerely say what we really feel.

To the Glory of God


Donations to the
Operating Fund
in loving memory of

Anne Saunders
from Barry and Marie Codner,
Lima Spurrell, and Sandra Nightingale


my mother, Ada Best
from Margo Kendall

Donations to Seniors Gala: We are looking for small Christmas items to fill the Christmas baskets. These can be brought along on Sunday, dropped off at the office, or picked up by a committee member. Contact Linda Nickerson at 782-1288.

2024 Gower Online Auction Help make it a success! Request for Donations: Our Annual Online Auction has become a significant revenue generator for the Gower Congregation and Service and Social Club, bringing in over \$7,000 each of the first two years. This year, we wish to increase that even more! We would like your help in getting donations of items, in particular items exceeding \$100 in value. We will only be accepting new or homemade items or gift cards. We will be providing a tax-deductible receipt for all items exceeding \$100.00, so please be our ambassador in soliciting donations from businesses or individuals who can provide such items. An official letter that you can provide to potential donors can be acquired from the Church Office. Items can be dropped off at the church on November 6 or 7 between 11 AM and 4 PM. If you cannot drop off items during this time, please get in touch with Lorne LeDrew.



Gower Street United Church
invites you to our
**Seniors' Christmas
Gala**
Tuesday, November 26, 2024
Tickets are \$25.00
Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings
Entertainment by the Walsh Family
Accepting Food Bank Donations (or a Loonie)
Draws for Door Pizes
Doors Open at 5:30 PM - Dinner starting 6 PM
Ticket Sales Start on November 6, 2024
Purchase tickers via Gower Office
99 Queens Rd. 709-753-7286.
Office Hours Wednesday - Thursday
11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Payment (cash, cheque or e-transfer)
due on ticket distribution



Open Hearts • Open Minds • Open Arms

 Gower Community Band
presents

2024 TERRA NOVA PROGRAM CONCERT

03 SUNDAY
3PM
NOV D.F. Cook Recital Hall
MUN School of Music

Tickets: \$20 general; \$10 seniors/students
Available for purchase at the door

An afternoon of concert band music
featuring award-winning
compositions and arrangements by
MUN music student
composers/arrangers:

- Madison Braye
- Emma Hamilton
- E. R. Steele
- Kaitlin White

Reception to follow

