



September 22, 2024
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Season of Creation

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.

99 Queen's Road – A1C 6M6 Tel: 753-7286 – Fax: 383-0145
E-Mail: office@gowerunited.com Website: <https://gowerunited.com>



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 loving memory of Duane Butt from Maude and Ches Peach.

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary on "Shall We Gather on the River" Richard Elliott

We sing: VU 217 All Creatures of Our God and King Lasst uns Erfreuen

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: Henry Dunsmore

We light this candle to begin our worship.

This candle is the light in the window, reminding us that God will always welcome us home, no matter what has happened or what we have done or left undone.

Come and worship to remind yourself of that vital promise.

We come, knowing that God is here to welcome us.

Gathering Words:

To wake in the morning is to accept God's gift of another day. To get out of bed is to accept God's invitation to live fully and well. To walk in Creation is to commit to its care. To pause for times of prayer is to deepen our communion with God and with our deepest and best selves.

Each new day affords opportunities to help others and to care for the world. May our worship today encourage us and bring us

gratitude for the life God has given us. Come and let us worship God.

Gathering Prayer:

Let us gather our voices in prayer: **God of the heavens and the earth, Creation sings of the good you have done! As birds migrate and squirrels store up, we prepare for what autumn brings. We resume familiar patterns that follow the school year, no matter when we took our last class. We harvest vegetables and wait for leaves to turn their beautiful array of colours. Shorter days mean more hours to enjoy the stars, and so we gather to celebrate everything you have given to us. Open our hearts to notice the abundant blessings of this time and this place and guide us to ways that expand that blessing for others. Amen.**

All ages are invited to come forward as we sing.

Circle Time: We Praise You for the Sun (v.1)

We praise you for the Sun
The golden shining sun,
That gives us healing, strength, and joy;
We praise you for the sun.

We sing: VU 560 O Master, Let Me Walk with You Maryton

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer for Illumination:

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for our scripture readings by praying together. **Open our spirits that we may notice everything you have created and everything you long for your creation to become, O God, Creator and Author of all that is. Amen.**

A reading from Scripture: James 3:13 - 4: 3, 7 - 8a
Wisdom from above is gentle and peaceable.

A reading from the Gospel: Mark 9: 30 - 37
Whoever welcomes a child, welcomes me.

Anthem

Meditation

We sing: MV 176 Three Things I Promise Blann

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 542 We Give You But Your Own Franconia

Offering Prayer:

Let us pray together, **Loving God; we share our gifts in the hope that they will be a witness to others of your coming commonwealth when your vision of Creation will be fulfilled and restored. Amen.**

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 651 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah CWM Rhondda

We go out into the world:

God looks upon Creation and says it is good. You are not a being that exists outside of Creation; you are a part of God's creation, made from the soil of the good earth. God looks upon you and says you are good. Go from this place, knowing you have found favour in God's design. **We go forth to live in harmony and balance within the web of life in which the Creator has placed us. Amen.**

We Sing: VU 418 Go Forth for God Old 124th

Postlude on "CWM Rhondda" Paul Manz

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Pentecost 2 2024, Year B.

All music and lyrics, not in the public domain, are reproduced/broadcast under ONE LICENSE. License #: #A-700000 or CCLI Copyright License: 3157095 & Streaming License: 21279189

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

