

August 10, 2025 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

The people of Gower Street United Church are committed to doing right by Jesus' teachings: loving, serving, giving generously in our local, regional, and global communities. We envision a vibrant and evolving community where tradition is honoured, change is embraced, and injustice is challenged.

We are dedicated to being welcoming and affirming, engaging participation of all, including people of any age, colour, race, ethnicity, faith, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, marital status, family composition, and social or economic circumstances.

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. This province of Newfoundland and Labrador is home to diverse populations of Indigenous and other peoples who have contributed to 9,000 years of history. We acknowledge with respect the deep histories and cultures of the Mi'kmaq, Innu, and Inuit. 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 seekers of justice, 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
our nephew & cousin Jonathan Anstey
from the Nickerson Family

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:

We lit this candle as a symbol of our intention to be open to God's presence and action during this time of worship.

We welcome this flickering flame, we wait to be transformed by the divine Spirit!

Gathering Words:

In worship, we meet our God, who understands us,

who knows us deeply and calls us by name.

Through prayer, we seek our God, who restores us,

who fills us with joy and helps us follow the divine calling.

In praise, we give thanks for our God, who remembers us,

who cares for us when troubles appear, and shelters us when others hurt us.

In worship, we affirm God's promise to be with us.

When we feel inadequate to the task and insufficient for the calling, we seek God's presence, cherish God's mercy, and proclaim God's love for us, now and forever.

Gathering Prayer:

Blessed God, all seasons are a season to draw near to you. Every moment of our lives—easy or hard, restful or busy—each is a moment ready for you. So, make us ready, dear God, more ready to notice you, to experience you, to turn to you, to welcome your presence. Help us to be honest about our faults, sincere in our repentance, and committed to fulfilling our purpose. In this summer season, refresh us with your wisdom. Guide us with your power. Renew us with your Spirit. Awaken us again to you, our God. We are yours. Make us yours, in action and intention. Amen.

We sing: VU 672 Take Time to be Holy Holiness

LISTENING TO THE STORY

A Reading from Scripture: Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16 Karen Butt
Faith is the assurance of things hoped for.

A reading from the Gospel: Luke 12: 32-34
Jesus urges his followers to trust in God.

We sing: VU 688 O Day of God, Draw Nigh Old 134th

Meditation

Musical Reflection

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

You can offer your financial gifts to Gower Street United Church in many ways. As you leave the sanctuary, there are offering plates where you may lay your offerings. You can also continue to drop off offerings in the secure mailbox outside the church office or you can donate via E-Transfer, using the email address gsuc@nl.rogers.com. You can also scan the QR code on your mobile device to be brought directly to our website page.



Mission and Service Stories: General Council 45

Gathering our Gifts

We sing: MV 191 What Can I Do?

Offering Prayer:

Welcoming God, you invite us to share. We give with tender hearts, aware of the need around us. We share these offerings so that your good news might be experienced. Fill us with generous spirits. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 601 The Church of Christ in Every Age Wareham

We go out into the world:

May your intentions reach out in love and tenderness.

May your actions declare comfort and delight.

May your spirits move with inquisitiveness and wonder.

May your hearts be filled with holy love, and may God embrace you with divine grace.

May that be so! Amen.

We sing: MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts (v. 1) Freed

Postlude

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2025, Year C.

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Minister: The Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Youth & Family Minister: The Rev. Rebecca Pike-Winter

Minister Emeritus: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy

Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding

Custodian: David Noseworthy

Board Chair: Patrick Griffin