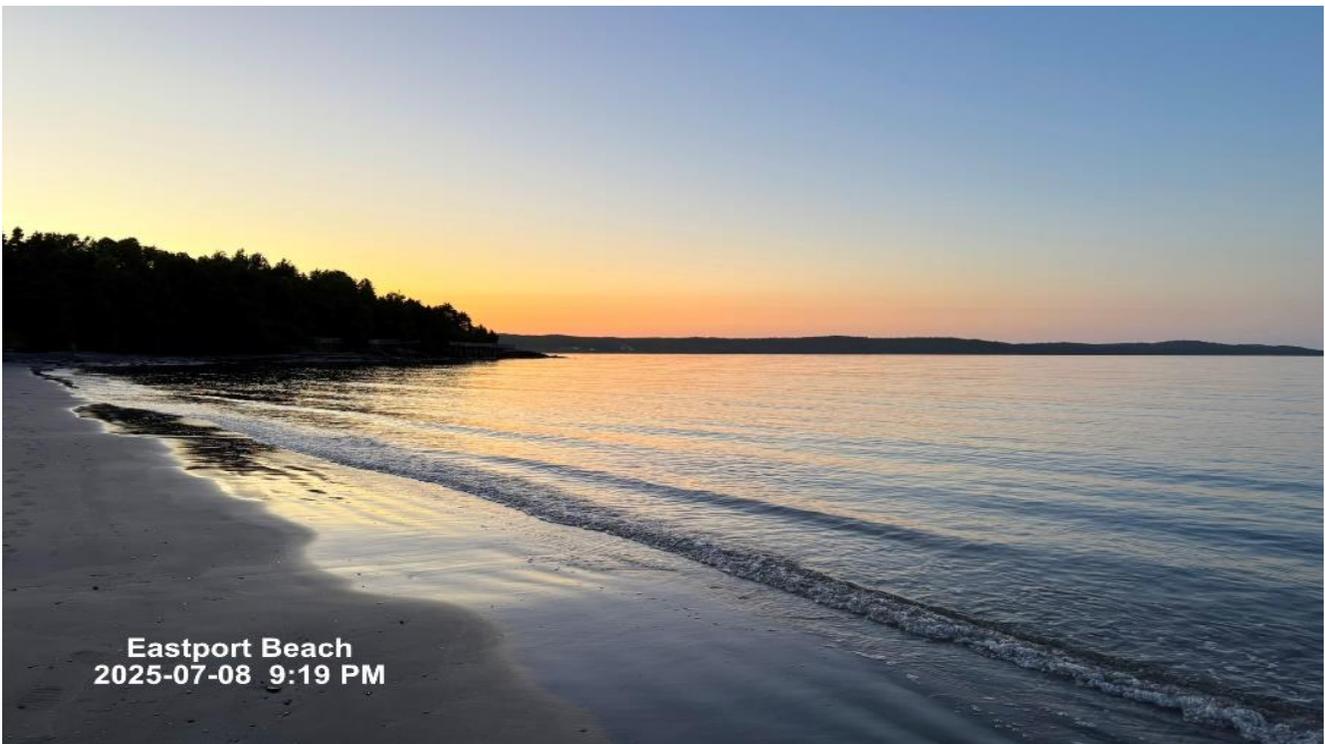


## September 7, 2025 13th Sunday after Pentecost Creation One

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.*



99 Queen's Road – A1C 6M6 Tel: 753-7286 – Fax: 383-0145  
E-Mail: [office@gowerunited.com](mailto: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.**

**Marie-Beth Wright dedicates today's bulletin in appreciation and thankfulness for her new appointment within the Board of Vocation, as she joins the Atlantic Candidacy Board Committee, effective from the 45<sup>th</sup> General Council meeting in Calgary.**

## **THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN**

### **The Life and Work of Gower**

#### **Voluntary**

**We sing:** VU 265 Creating God, Your Fingers Trace Wareham

#### **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 reminder of our soul's connection to eternal mystery, **the unknowable, powerful bonds that weave our existence and purpose together to shine brightly in the world as the light of faith.**

#### **Gathering Words:**

Our hearts ponder the beauty of God's majesty!

#### **It's a poem of love for Creation.**

Our pens are ready to write, our brushes are ready to paint

#### **the wonders of God's work!**

The firmament displays the sea and sky—

#### **proclaiming the majesty of God's presence.**

A God of awe and wonder is worthy of all praise!

#### **May the Creator God come bless our hearts,**

that we may show compassion, love, and care—

#### **for all good gifts made for God's pleasure and our delight!**

#### **May we be humble, respectful, and grateful**

for Creation and for a God who keeps creating.

#### **Gathering Prayer:**

**Loving and merciful God, we are surrounded by your presence in all of creation and reminded of your love through its beauty. Touch us with your Spirit as we worship here, and fill us with the Spirit's joy and energy for our lives, we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries**

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

**Story:** *When God Made the World* By: Matthew Paul Tuner

#### **Exploring Creation**

**We Sing:** VU 296 This is God's Wondrous World Terra Beata

## LISTENING TO THE STORY

**Prayer of Illumination:** Allison Fizzard  
Gracious God, you have created our blessed sun and set it upon its joyful, heavenly course. As we receive your word today, help us to love and know you, as reflected in your good creation and in the words of scripture. We pray, trusting in your grace. Amen.

**A reading from Scripture:** Genesis 1: 1-5 Allison Fizzard  
God begins creation by naming day and night.

**Responsive Psalm:** VU p. 740 Psalm 19 (Refrain 2)  
The heavens and skies proclaim God's glory.

**We sing:** VU 376 Spirit of the Living God Living God

### 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](mailto:gsuc@nl.rogers.com). You can also scan the QR code on your mobile device to be brought directly to our website page.

#### Gathering our Gifts

**We sing:** MV 191 What Can I Do?

#### Offering Prayer:

Holy One, you have called us friends and named us partners in your work of Creation. Accept the gifts we bring and bless them for your use, that they may reveal to others the depth of your love for all people and for Creation itself. Amen.

#### Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

#### WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

**We sing:** VU 567 Will You Come and Follow Me KelvinGrove

#### **We go out into the world:**

Go forth this day with the confidence of God's love written in your heart. Whatever this week brings, trust that your heart will cling to God and God will guide you with grace and surround you with mercy. Amen.



**We sing:** MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts, vs.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 Parady  
**Organist & Music Ministry:** R. Carl Goulding  
**Custodian:** David Noseworthy  
**Board Chair:** Patrick Griffin