

August 2, 2026 10th 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 honored, change is embraced, and injustice is challenged.

We are dedicated to being welcoming and affirming, engaging participation of all, including people of any age, color, 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 **Linda Hogan** former staff at Gower Street United and beloved member of the Senior Choir, by friend Bert Riggs.

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

Presider for today's service: Mr. Bert Riggs

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary

We sing: VU 288 Great is thy faithfulness

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.

Gathering Words (based on Psalm 31):

Sing praises to our God, O you, God's faithful ones!

We will give thanks to God's holy name for God's anger lasts but a moment; God's favor is for a lifetime.

Sing praises to our God and remember: our weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the dawn.

Because God promises to turn our mourning into dancing, because God vows to wrap us in joy,

Because God' faithfulness is so great,

We cannot remain silent; our souls must *sing* praises today and forever.

Prayer of Adoration: VU 381 Spirit of Life

We sing: VU 291 All things bright and beautiful

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer of Confession (Psalm 57):

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me,

For in you my soul takes refuge;

In the shadow of your wings, I will take refuge

Until the destroying storms pass by.

I cry to you, God most high.

Hear my prayers and save me, hear my prayers and save me.

For my heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast.

Because of your love and faithfulness, I will sing and make melody. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Hymn of Confession: VU 135 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Words of Assurance (Psalm 57)

Awake, O harp and lyre, sing out in thanksgiving!

For God's steadfast love is as high as the heavens; God's faithfulness extends to the clouds.

We are a forgiven people. Thanks be to God. Amen!

We sing: VU 224, vs 1-2 Sing a happy hallelujah

A reading of sacred scripture: Isaiah 12:1-6

Karen Butt

A reading of poetry: Psalm 66 (VU 784, Part One)

A reading of sacred scripture: Romans 15:2-9

We sing: VU 224, vs 3-4 Sing a happy hallelujah

Reflection: Why do we sing in church?

Musical Reflection

Statement of Faith The United of Canada,
A New Creed, VU 918

We sing together: VU 381 Spirit of Life

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.



Gathering our Gifts

We sing: VU 541 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Offering Prayer: Gracious God, from you all our blessings flow, and in joy and gratitude we meet you at this table. As we place our offering before you, we acknowledge how much we need your song in our lives. Accept these gifts and transform them by your Spirit that together we may do your work in this world. Amen.

Prayers for the World: O God, hear our prayer.
O God, hear our prayer.

We sing: The Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 424 May the God of Hope Go with Us

We go out into the world:

May the Creator within you and around you, above you and below you, bless you and keep you, both now and forevermore. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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
Interim Youth and Family Minister: The Rev. Karen Thorne
Minister Emeritus: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Parady
Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding
Custodian: David Noseworthy
Board Chair: Jonathan Stevenson