

February 15, 2026 Transfiguration Sunday

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.

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary:

We sing: VU 646 We Are Marching

Siyahamba

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.

Lighting of the Candle of Faith:

The Addison Family

We believe Jesus shines with the glory of God.

At the transfiguration, three disciples experienced Jesus shining and radiant. We were not there to experience the mystery of that moment, but we are here now.

We can nurture our relationship with Jesus, so that our living reflects that Christ light, so that we shine in small ways and large.

We light this candle of faith as a symbol of the light that shines through us as we live our discipleship.

Gathering Words:

Building...

Building up...

Building up strong...

Building up strong takes a sturdy foundation.

Raising...

Raising up...

Raising up strong...

Raising up strong takes wisdom and passion.

Growing...

Growing up...

Growing up strong...

Growing up strong takes love grounded in God.

In our faith,
may we build, raise, and grow.

**In our worship,
may we find our foundation,
our wisdom and passion,
our love**

**grounded in God
and rooted in Jesus
who reigns in our lives!**

Alleluia!

Alleluia! May it be so!

Gathering Prayer:

God of transformation and transfiguration,
**we come to the mountaintop, joining Jesus,
Peter, James, and John.**

This is the time of transformation.

**Transformation begins as the Holy is
encountered.**

This is the time of transformation.

**It continues as we listen carefully and are
attentive.**

This is the time of transformation.

**It takes shape as the significance of Jesus is
acknowledged.**

This is the time of transformation.

**It is proved as we go about the work of your
anointed one, O God.**

This is a time of transformation.

**We open our spirits to your transforming love,
Gracious God. Amen.**

Moment for Black History Month:

Jill Handrigan

Part 2 of “A Single Dreadlock” read by author,

Xavier Michael Campbell

We sing: VU 670 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer of Illumination:

It is good that we are here;

**this holy place is a good place to listen for God’s
voice.**

It is good that we are together;

**there is joy and strength as we receive God’s
word together in faith community.**

It is good to reflect on our biblical traditions;

**through the gift of Jewish and Christian
scriptures our way is secured.**

It is good to be inspired to work for just and
compassionate causes;

**the call is to come down from the mountaintop
and go out to serve.**

Bless us and open us to receive your word this
morning, Holy God. Amen

A reading from Scripture: Exodus 24:12-18.

God calls Moses up the mountaintop.

Grace Dunsmore

A reading from the Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop.

Meditation

Organ Reflection:

Toccatina and Fugue in D minor, BWV 538

J.S. Bach

On Transfiguration Sunday the church remembers Christ revealed in divine light on the mountain, a moment of awe, mystery, and transformation. Bach’s *Toccatina and Fugue in D minor (the “Dorian”), BWV 538* mirrors this journey: the

dignified and reflective searching of the opening gives way to music of growing clarity, strength, and brilliance. Its tone colour and long sweeping lines suggest both the solemn ascent and the sudden illumination of God's presence. As the sound unfolds, we are invited to listen for the same transformation of heart that the disciples experienced on the mountain.

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 enter/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 540 Grant Us, God, the Grace

Stuttgart

Offering Prayer:

Mysterious God, we are transformed by the awe and delight of encountering you. **We are radiant as we offer our gifts of time, talent, and treasure. May we always be filled with amazement as we commit ourselves to share our resources. We give in the name of the transfigured Christ. Amen.**

Prayers for our World and Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 330 Jesus Shall Reign

Duke Street

We go out into the world:

In Jesus' transfiguration, we experienced the overwhelming brilliance of self-giving love, revealing within the ordinary commonness of flesh and bone the wonder of God's good news, living love that transforms.

As we go down from the mountain and out into the world, God blesses us in Jesus' name, transforming our lives in the name of Love, a Love that illuminates the entire world. Amen.

We sing: VU 646 We Are Marching, vs. 1

Siyahamba

Postlude on Hyfrodol

Manz

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, 2025/2026, Year C.

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Minister: The Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Youth & Family Minister: The Rev. Rebecca Pike-Winter
Interim Youth & Family Minister: The Rev. Karen Thorne
Minister Emeritus: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy
Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding

Custodian: David Noseworthy
Board Chair: Jonathan Stevenson

WHAT'S UP AT GOWER

Joint Fundraiser: Tickets are selling fast, so get yours today. Hosted by Gower Street United Church, Cowan Heights United Church and St. James United Church, this promises to be an absolute blast when Shift Happens takes the stage on Thursday, February 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$120. NOTE: A \$50 tax receipt will be issued for the charitable portion. To book, please call the office or email gsuc@nl.rogers.com. Payment by cheque, cash, or e-transfer is required at the time of purchase.

Lunch and Learn: The Gower Affirm Advisory Committee invites you to a Lunch and Learn in recognition of Black History Month, Sunday, February 15, 2026, at 12:30 PM in the Lecture Hall. Co-authors Heather Barrett and Xavier Michael Campbell will discuss their revealing book, *Black Harbor: Slavery And The Forgotten Histories Of Black People in Newfoundland and Labrador*.

Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Supper, Feb 17th, 5-6:30pm: Please join us for an all ages Pancake Supper at Gower Street United Church in the lower hall. Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday which marks the start of Lent. Doors open at 4:30. Pancakes, sausages, and fruit to be served from 5:00pm-6:30pm. There will be gluten-free pancakes and vegetarian sausages available. Suggested price: \$7/each, \$20 for a group of 4. Payment accepted at the door: cash, cheque, or e-transfer

Sock it to Ya Sunday: It's time for our annual Sock it to Ya Sunday! We are collecting socks to donate to Choices for Youth and will celebrate on Sock it to Ya Sunday on February 22. You can drop socks off at the church during office hours or bring them to worship any Sunday in February!

A promotional graphic for 'Sock it to Ya Sunday'. The background is light grey with several white snowflake icons scattered throughout. Four pairs of socks are illustrated in different colors: blue and white stripes, red and white stripes, yellow and white stripes, and green and white stripes. The text 'Sock it to Ya Sunday' is written in a large, bold, black serif font. Below this, in a smaller black sans-serif font, it says 'We are collecting socks to donate to Choices for Youth and will celebrate on Sock it to Ya on Sunday, February 22, 2026.' At the bottom, there are two logos: on the left, the Gower Street United Church logo with the tagline 'Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Lives'; on the right, the CHOICES FOR YOUTH logo.

JOIN



AT SPIRIT OF NEWFOUNDLAND FOR



FEB 26
7:00 PM

A THREE-COURSE DINNER THEATRE
GOWER THEATER , 208 GOWER STREET
TICKETS \$120
PLEASE PURCHASE IN ADVANCE
(709) 753-7286 - GSUC@NL.ROGERS.COM

SHROVE TUESDAY

Pancake Supper

WITH GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH

TUESDAY, Feb. 17th FROM 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.

Join us for a pancake supper and a time of
community and activity.
All ages welcome!

Tickets can be purchased at the door for
\$7.00 each
\$20.00 for a group of four
Children under 5 attend for free



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
Brian at (604) 418-5477
or Grace at (709) 727-7345