

February 8, 2026 Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

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.

Today's bulletin is dedicated to the Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir and former choir director, Helen Murphy, who taught the power of community through music and song. Rev. Pamela

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

Choral Gathering: It is Well with My Soul arr. Mark Wahlberg

Today we gather in gratitude and remembrance, lifting our voices in a Memorial Hymn Sing to honor those who have gone before us in faith. Through these familiar hymns, we give thanks for lives that have shaped our community and continue to inspire us. We begin with "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah," a prayerful journey hymn that asks God's steady presence through every wilderness and valley. As we sing, may its words remind us that even in loss, we are still guided, sustained, and led home.

We sing: VU 651 Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM Rhondda

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 Christ Candle:

Rev. Karen

We may come here with hope, with joy, with pain, or with the heaviness of life.

We come together to be renewed and to comfort each other.

We come to find hope and to receive courage and strength for our daily journey in the gifts of music and song.

Like moths to a flame, let us gather around this candle, a light for the world in the life of Jesus. Amen.

(Candle is lit.)

Gathering Prayer:

Loving God, we gather in your presence with grateful hearts and tender memories.

As we lift our voices in song, we remember those we love who now rest in you, giving thanks for the gift of their lives. Let these hymns hold our sorrow and our hope together and draw us closer to your comfort and peace. Amen.

Exploring Black History Month

Rev. Karen

His Eye is on the Sparrow

His Eye Is on the Sparrow is a beloved gospel hymn of trust, affirming God's constant care for every living thing. Rooted in Jesus' words about the sparrow, the hymn offers comfort and assurance in times of uncertainty and sorrow. In this song we are reminded that we never walk alone, for God watches over us with faithful love.

Duet: His Eye is On the Sparrow

Lia Churchill, Emma Neville

In the Bulb

In the Bulb There Is a Flower uses gentle imagery from nature to express the Christian hope of new life hidden within what seems dormant or lost. Written by Natalie Sleeth, the hymn speaks tenderly to times of grief, reminding us that God is already at work beyond what we can see. Its message assures us that love and life will unfold in God's perfect time.

We sing: VU 703 In the Bulb

Promise

Listening to the Story

We sing: VU 436 Abide with Me

Eventide; Verse 1: Choir; Verse 5: All Sing

A reading from the Gospel: Matthew 5:3-12

Stuart Gill

Psalm 121

Unto the Hills draws on the words of Psalm 121, lifting our eyes to God as the source of help, strength, and protection. The anthem reassures us that the One who watches over us neither slumbers nor sleeps, offering constant care on life's journey. Through its flowing lines, the music becomes a prayer of trust in God's steadfast presence.

Anthem: Unto the Hills

Charles H. Purday

Meditation:

In the Sweet By and By

In the Sweet By and By is a cherished gospel hymn of hope that looks toward a joyful reunion in God's promised future. Its gentle refrain and vision of a heavenly home have long brought comfort in worship, especially at services of remembrance and hope.

Solo: In the Sweet By and By

Megan Barnes

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.roges.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:

We do offer our whole lives to you, O God. **Music, like songs of faith encourage us with memory, moving us forward with hope. Accept these gifts today that they might support the discipleship and discovery of this congregation. We pray in the name of the one we follow, Jesus. Amen.**

We sing: VU 266 Amazing Grace

New Britain

Pastoral Prayer and The Prayer of Jesus

We sing: VU 374 Come and Find a Quiet Centre (Verse 1)
Beach Spring

We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection

We shall Go out with hope of resurrection is a sending hymn that links worship with daily living, reminding us that faith is not confined to the sanctuary. Its text affirms that Christ's resurrection power accompanies us as we go into the world to serve, love, and witness. With confidence and joy, we are sent forth to embody hope in word and action.

We sing: VU 586 We Shall Go Out in Hope and Resurrection

Londonderry Air

We go out into the world:

As we leave this place of song and remembrance,
may the love we have shared linger in our hearts.

May the voices we lifted together remind us
that those we remember are never far from us.

**We go in peace, carrying comfort, gratitude, and hope,
until we sing together again.**

God be with You till We Meet Again

God Be with You till We Meet Again is a cherished parting hymn that wraps the congregation in prayer as worship draws to a close. Its text speaks of God's guiding, protecting presence as we go our separate ways, trusting that we remain held in divine care.

Choral Benediction: God be with Us till we Meet Again
W. G. Tonner

Song of Dismissal

How Great Thou Art

How Great Thou Art is a hymn of awe and thanksgiving, inviting us to marvel at God's presence in creation and in Christ's saving work. From the beauty of the natural world to the promise of redemption, the text leads us into grateful praise. We join generations of believers in proclaiming the greatness of God with both humility and joy.

Solo: How Great Thou Art

Justin Goulding

The liturgy for today's Memorial Hymn Sing was written collaboratively by Carl Goulding and Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald.

Given with Gratitude

Amazing Grace

- ❖ For those who have lost and continue to lose their lives to violence, those who struggle with mental illness and those who continue the journey to find peace and healing from Rev. Pamela
- ❖ In memory of Aunt Elsie Barbour by Carl, Marie-Beth and family.
- ❖ In memory of Charles Freres and Madge Howe from Pat and Roy West

Guide Me, O, Thou Great Jehovah

- ❖ In loving memory of Parents and Grandparents, Brother and Uncle, by Pat, Scott and Jeff Humber from Pat Humber
- ❖ In memory of both our parents, Bonabelle (Barbour) Vincent and Thomas Vincent, Julia (Boland) Gill and Isaac Gill from Roberta and Lloyd Gill.
- ❖ In memory of Mildred and Leslie LeDrew from Lorne LeDrew.
- ❖ In loving memory of my parents Rev. Dr. Robert (former minister of Gower) and Evelyn Braine, from Linda Braine.
- ❖ In loving memory of much-loved departed family members and friends from Daphne Newhook.
- ❖ In memory of Parents James and Mabel West from Pat and Roy West
- ❖ In memory of Herman and Olive Bishop from Helen Bowering
- ❖ In loving memory of loved ones, Gwen and David Alcock

In the Bulb There is a Flower

- ❖ In memory of loved ones from Angeline Anstey
- ❖ Expressing gratitude in the celebrations of Joyce Power's 90th birthday, from Sharon Monahan.
- ❖ In Loving Memory of Mom and Dad, Harrison and Susie Noseworthy from daughter and son-in-law Grace & Seymour Kell.
- ❖ In memory of Brother and Uncle Robert Green by Carl, Marie-Beth and family.

We Shall Go Out with Hope and Resurrection

- ❖ In memory of friend and active Gower supporter, The Rev. Florence Sanna, from Jean Smith, Marion Parry, Marion Davis and Linda Braine.
- ❖ In memory of Jean and Joe Hanley from Lorne LeDrew.
- ❖ In loving memory of my friend Dr. Betty Brett from Linda Braine
- ❖ In memory of Rev Ralph Moores, love from his wife Shirley and family.
- ❖ In Memory of Parents Lillian and Clunie Moore, Adonzel and George Roberts from Gail and David Roberts.
- ❖ In memory of my brother Derek West who died last week (31.01.2026) from Pat and Roy West.
- ❖ In memory of our dad Stanley Noftall and loved ones in the Noftall family from Albert, Reg, Linda and Brenda.

It Is Well with My Soul

- ❖ In memory of both our parents, Bonabelle (Barbour) Vincent and Thomas Vincent, Julia (Boland) Gill and Isaac Gill from Roberta and Lloyd Gill.
- ❖ In Memory of Rev Lloyd And Loraine Moores from Sharon Moores
- ❖ In loving memory of my dear sister Gola Roberts from Daphne Newhook
- ❖ In memory of Doctor Morley Hodder and Eric Hodder from Helen Bowering.
- ❖ In memory of our loved ones from Karen and Ken Butt.
- ❖ In loving memory of my grandfather John Doughan and father Clement Alex Mensah, from Felyn Kharis.

Unto the Hills

- ❖ In loving memory of parents, Rosa Blanche (Dean) and James Parry, from daughter, Marion.
- ❖ In loving memory of my sister, Joan (Braine) Wilkins, from Linda Braine
- ❖ In memory of parents, Wilfred and Getrude Peters, Lillian and Clunie Moore from Marilyn and Douglas.
- ❖ In memory of deceased choir friends from Gwen Alcock.

How Great Thou Art - Justin Goulding

- ❖ Expressing gratitude for mother and father Harry and Madeline Earle from Kathryn, Ken Slaney and family.
- ❖ In Loving Memory of Mom and Dad, Harrison and Susie Noseworthy from daughter and son-in-law Grace & Seymour Kell.
- ❖ In memory of loving parents Eva and Jabez Jones from son Jack and daughter-in-law Judy Jones.
- ❖ In memory of parents and grandparents Harry and Wilhelmina Wright by Carl, Marie-Beth and family.
- ❖ In Memory of Loved Ones from Carl, Jackie Goulding and Family.
- ❖ In memory of Albert Spurrell from the Family.
- ❖ In memory of Heber Bowering from family.
- ❖ In memory of our loved ones from Karen and Ken Butt.

In the Sweet By and By - Megan Barnes

- ❖ In memory of both our parents, Bonabelle (Barbour) Vincent and Thomas Vincent, Julia (Boland) Gill and Isaac Gill from Roberta and Lloyd Gill.
- ❖ In memory of our mother Hannah Ford from daughters Augusta and Joan.
- ❖ Expressing gratitude for our mother and father Gladys and Loyola Slaney from Kathryn, Ken Slaney and family.

- ❖ In memory of loving parents John and Mary Dearing from daughter Judy and son-in-law Jack Jones.
- ❖ Dedicated to Ches and Violet Vaughan from Paula Vaughan and Dolores Vaughan.

His Eye Is on the Sparrow - Lia Churchill, Emma Neville

- ❖ I would like to dedicate to my parents, Carl and Wendy Stevenson, who were life-long members of the Senior Choir at Gower from Jonathan Stevenson
- ❖ In appreciation of Gower music from Gwen Alcock

Come and Find a Quiet Centre (Verse 1)

- ❖ In memory of parents and grandparents George and Dinah Green by Carl, Marie-Beth and family.

Abide with Me (Verses 1 & 5)

- ❖ I would like to dedicate to my grandparents, Robert and Decima Bolander (my Mom's parents) who were also long-time members of the Gower congregation in two periods (~1957-64, and then 1978 until their deaths in 1995/1997). Grandpa Bolander (Mr. B) was also a Senior Choir member during those periods from Jonathan Stevenson

God Be With Us till we Meet Again.

- ❖ In loving memory of my beloved father Rev. Clement Alex Mensah who was my rock and great guide in life. Life hasn't been the same since you left daddy. I love you forever till we meet again, from Felyn Kharis.

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, 2024/2025, 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

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*.

The Affirm Committee is requesting the assistance of four volunteers to help with food service and cleanup following our Black History Month Lunch and Learn event on Sunday, February 15th following church service. Please help us to make this a successful Gower event. Thank you! larrykelly@nl.rogers.com

Transfiguration Sunday: Sunday, February 15 marks **Transfiguration Sunday**, celebrating the “unveiling of Christ’s true presence”. The Organ Reflection will be *Toccata and Fugue in D Minor (“The Dorian”)*, BWV 538, J.S. Bach

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!

Gifts with Vision: Give meaningful gifts that make a difference with Gifts with Vision! Each year's gift catalogue gives a glimpse of the breadth of our Mission and Service ministries and programs. Gifts with Vision has gift ideas to suit every interest, budget, and person. It’s a great way to celebrate special occasions and honour loved ones! The gift catalogue is updated online regularly and is fully refreshed every fall. You can visit <https://giftswithvision.ca/> to view online catalogue.

Bulletin Dedications: The Worship and Sacraments Committee invites members of our faith community to help with the cost of printing weekly bulletins. It costs us approximately \$15.00 to have color-printed bulletin covers. You may dedicate a bulletin of any Sunday in memory of a loved one, in celebration of a significant event, or in celebration of a life's milestone. The name of Memoriam/Celebration/Milestone and Donor will appear in the bulletin on the specified Sunday. Please forward any donations to the church office and contact Felyn, the office administrator, during office hours via email (gsuc@nl.rogers.com) or phone 709-753-7286 ext. 200

COMING UP AT GOWER

Sunday Worship Services:

February 8: Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 15: Transfiguration Sunday

Upcoming Weekly Activities:

February 8: Gower Learners Club – 11:00am

February 11: Gower Youth Group Meeting - 4:30pm

GIVING TO GOWER – HOW TO DONATE TO GOWER?

Ways to maintain your financial support of our church -There are options available!

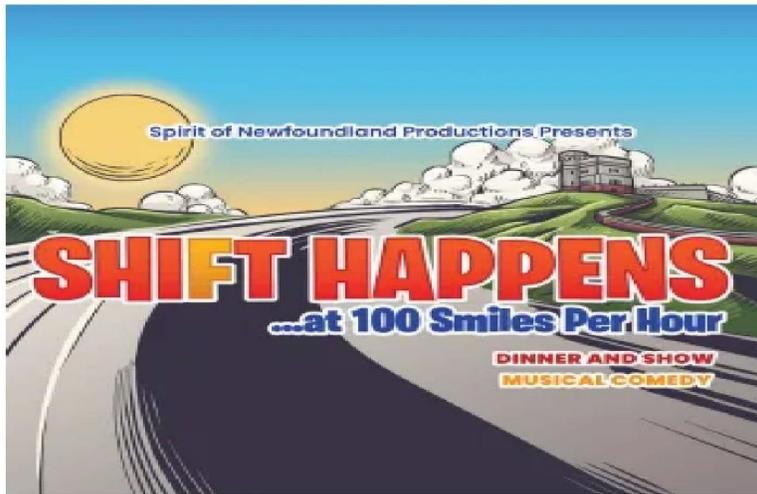
- Sign up for P.A.R. (Pre-Authorized Contributions), or consider increasing your contribution if you are already on P.A.R. This can be done by contacting the office by phone (709-753-7286) or by email (office@gowerunited.com)
- You can also go to our website by clicking the DONATE below
- We also accept e-transfer. Just send it to gsuc@nl.rogers.com
- You may also send a cheque via mail or drop it in the dropbox accessible to the right of the office entrance. Our mailing address is 99 Queens Road, St. John's, N.L., A1C 6M6



JOIN



AT SPIRIT OF NEWFOUNDLAND FOR



FEB 26
7:00 PM

A THREE-COURSE DINNER THEATRE
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