

July 26, 2026
9th Sunday after Pentecost
A Celebration of Songs of the Gospel

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 **The Rev. Florence Sanna**, who died July 15, 2021, friend of Gower, friend of Linda Braine, Jean Smith, Marion Davis, Marion Pardy and many others

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

Presider for today's service: Mr. Bert Riggs

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary

We sing: Come let us sing of a wonderful love

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:

Our Creator abides as close as our breath and as far as the distant vistas.

Blessed is God's great name.

God is both Mother and Father, parent-like, full of grace.

We whisper the holy name of the eternal source of mercy.

Let us worship, aware of God's steadfast compassion.

Gathering Prayer:

God, precious Parent of all your people, fill us today with your Holy Spirit, uplift us with your presence, uphold us in your love and grace, strengthen us in faith, now, in this time of worship, and forever. Amen.

We sing: VU 672 Take Time to be holy

LISTENING TO THE STORY

A Reading from Scripture: Psalm 17:1-7,15 (VU. p.739)

Guard me as the apple of your eye. Anne Fizzard

A reading from the Gospel: Matthew 5:3-10

The Beatitudes

We sing: In the Garden

Meditation and Musical Reflection

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Meditation and Musical Reflection

Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is calling

We sing: VU 664 What a friend we have in Jesus

Meditation and Musical Reflection

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Meditation and Musical Reflection

Sweet Hour of Prayer

We sing: He Leadeth Me

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: MV 191 What Can I Do?

Offering Prayer:

We lift these gifts of our hands and hearts to the glory that is in you, O Jesus. We offer our gifts of talents and time that each of us brings to this community of faith. Receive these gifts, given freely for the greater good of the world. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 716 My life flows on

We go out into the world:

May God's great love lead you. May Jesus's great compassion compel you. May the Spirit's song uplift you, this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Postlude

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Pentecost 1 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