

May 3, 2026
5th Sunday of Easter

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. 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 Morning has Broken 409

Bunessan

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:

We light this candle so it can shed its light on each of us. Let us reflect in and on that light as we participate in this service this morning, remembering that Jesus is Light for the World.

Gathering Words:

Who knows what you might hear in worship today?

God knows.

It could be the beauty of a favorite hymn, or a passage of scripture.

It could be the sound of friends gathering for worship.

Or even the silence between all the sounds. As we worship, let us listen for the movement of the Spirit inviting us to hear and see and feel God's presence in our midst.

Let us worship!

Gathering Prayer:

You are a God of dreams; we pray for your vision.

You are a God of hope; we pray for your peace.

You are a God of love; we pray for your fullness.

You are a God of life; we pray for your Spirit.

Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Amen!

We sing: VU 567 Will You Come and Follow Me
(vs 1,2,4,5)

Kelvingrove

Exploring Together

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer of Illumination:

Open your word to us this day, loving God.

Open to us the sacred story of journeying in faith.

Open to us the sacred story of giving thanks in all things.

Open to us the sacred story of walking in trust.

Open to us a life of thankful living.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Responsive Psalm : Psalm 31 :1-5, 15-16 VU. Page 758,
Part One (1-5), Part three (15-16)
My times are in your hands.

A reading from the Gospel: John 14:1-14

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.

Solo

Meditation

We sing: VU 374 Come and Find the Quiet Center

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: Easter is a celebration of new life. Our offering each week helps to plant seeds of new life in our own church and community and around the world. During the season of Easter, we celebrate the new life given to us through Jesus' resurrection by passing on opportunities for new life to others.

We sing: MV 191 What Can I Do

Offering Prayer: Loving God, we present these gifts, pleased to be part of bringing the kin-dom and excited to share with those around us. May they speak to the world of your love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

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

Londonderry Air

We go out into the world:

Go now with joy in your hearts!

God will go with us!

Rest assured in the comfort of God's love!

God loves us!

Know that Jesus is risen!

Jesus is risen! Hallelujah!

Thanks be to God. Amen!

We sing: MV 154 Deep In Our Hearts (v.1)

Freed

Postlude

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Lent/Easter 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