

May 24, 2026 Day of 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 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.



99 Queen's Road – A1C 6M6 Tel: 753-7286 – Fax: 383-0145
E-Mail: office@gowerunited.com Website: <https://gowerunited.com>



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: Andante Religioso *from* Sonata IV

Mendelssohn

We sing: MV 176 Three Things I Promise

Blann

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:

Flames dancing, tongues of fire burning brightly, illuminating the shadowed places of our lives and searing radiance, all remind us of the first Pentecost. **The light of faith brings a reminder of Pentecostal splendour. May the dazzling light be for us a spark of Holy Wonder.**

Gathering Words:

The Spirit of God is upon us,

**and in the shelter of the Spirit,
we will rejoice and be glad.**

The heavens are telling of the glory of God,

**and beneath those very stars,
we raise our spirits and proclaim that God is good.**

The gifts of the Spirit are offered to us,

**and, when we put them to use,
we discover that our gifts blend with the gifts of others
into a wonderful song filled with hope, energy, life, and love.**

In this house of prayer, may we find shelter, lift our hearts in prayer, and sing songs of praise.

May we find strength in knowing we are the Body of Jesus, enlivened by the Spirit, engaging the work of God in this world.

Come, let us worship our God!

Gathering Prayer:

Come, O Holy Spirit,

break into our world, for we need you.

Come, O Holy Spirit,

dance your way into the corners of our lives,
**where we are overwhelmed and angered by the tragedy,
injustice, and horrors unfolding in this world.**

Where we are grieving, questioning, wondering, and waiting.

Caress us with your comfort.

Mend our broken spirits.

Tickle us with your joy.

Inspire us with God's vision.

Come, O Holy Spirit.

We need you. The world needs you. Amen.

We sing: VU 382 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Trentham

Exploring Pentecost

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer of Illumination:

In humility, we earth creatures come, to hear your Word, O Holy God, and to be stirred by the wisdom of your Spirit. Amen.

A reading from the Epistle: Acts 2:1-21

The Holy Spirit comes in wind and flame.

A reading from the Gospel: John 7:37-39

Let the thirsty come and drink!

Response: VU 381 Spirit of Life

Spirit of Life

Anthem: Lead Me, Lord

Wesley

Meditation:

We sing: MV 142 Oh a Song Must Rise

Paul Svenson

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 540 Grant Us, God, the Care

Stuttgart

Offering Prayer:

Creator God, we are so thankful for the gifts that you have given us through the Holy Spirit.

We desire and need a constant connection to you.

You have provided that connection through the Holy Spirit.

We praise you for ongoing knowledge, wisdom, and gifts that we receive through the Holy Spirit.

We thank you for your promises made and never forgotten through the Spirit of Life.

And so, we bring our gifts and tithes, that they may become a blessing through the winds of God today and tomorrow. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 625 I feel the winds of God today

Kingsfold

We go out into the world:

The Holy Spirit inspires us and gives us clear perspective.

The Holy Spirit prompts us to discover the presence of Jesus all around us.

The Holy Spirit inspires us and works through us.

The Holy Spirit prompts us to think and act in ways that reveal Jesus' light to others.

As we go from this place,

we trust the Holy Spirit to fill us with inspiration and to prompt us to act in ways that share the Good News of Jesus' ministry.

May the grace of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

We sing: VU 378 Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart, vs 1

Morecambe

Postlude: Prelude of the Te Deum

Chapentier

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Lent/Easter 2026, Year C.

All music and lyrics, not in the public domain, are reproduced/broadcast under ONE LICENSE. License #: #A-700000 or CCLI Copyright License: 3157095 & Streaming License: 21279189. No portion of services may be recorded or distributed without explicit permission from Gower Street United Church.

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