Gower Street United Church
Open Hearts • Open Minds • Open Arms

November 1st , 2026
23rd after Pentecost
All Saints' Day

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. 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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Leading: Rev. Karen Thorne, Minister of Youth & Young Families
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: Variations on "Sine Nomine", Variations I,II,III Bédard

We sing: VU 705 For All the Saints — Sine Nomine

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.

Light of Faith:

Gathering Words:
As we move deeper into the fall season, witnessing the falling leaves, the changes in the colours present in nature, we take time to appreciate God's blessings and presence among and within us.
We come to cherish the gifts we share with one another,
to treasure the riches of our relationships as a body of living faith, connected to all of creation.

Sometimes, O God, this season can remind us of endings, disappointment and loss. The growing bareness of the trees,
the cold winds, can chill us, reminding us of other losses,
and of the seasons of our own lives.
We come to pause, to reflect, and to give thanks to the One
who creates and renews and makes all things new.

Gathering Prayer:
Holy God, you know us as we are.
You know that each one of us comes with things to celebrate
and gloomy thoughts that sometimes cloud our perspective.
Reach out to us in this time of worship, that our perspective may
be clearer and our hearts be comforted and encouraged.
By your Spirit, help us to be empowered as followers of Christ and clearer in our vision of your purpose for our lives. Amen.

We Sing: VU 262 A Mighty Fortress is our God

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries — Judi Somers

We Sing: TLUS I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table vs. 1,4
(with percussion instruments!)

A Story for All Ages: "The Rabbit Listened" by — Cori Doerfeld

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer for Illumination: — Curtis Blackwood
Spirit of Life, come and rest in us, and fill us, however you will: through the holy scriptures, through song and praise, through one another, and through silence, we open our hearts to you. **Amen.**

Reading from Holy Scripture: Revelation 7:9–17 — Curtis Blackwood
Who are these robed in white?

A reading from the Gospel: Matthew 5:1–12
The Beatitudes

Anthem: In Christ Alone Camp and Moore

Meditation

We sing: VU 506 Take My Life Saint Margaret

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 543 We Give Thee But Thine Own Franconia

Offering Prayer: Loving God, we recognize that your blessings come in so many ways; we seek to be a blessing to others.
May our gifts be multiplied and magnified, a witness and sign for all of your caring presence. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

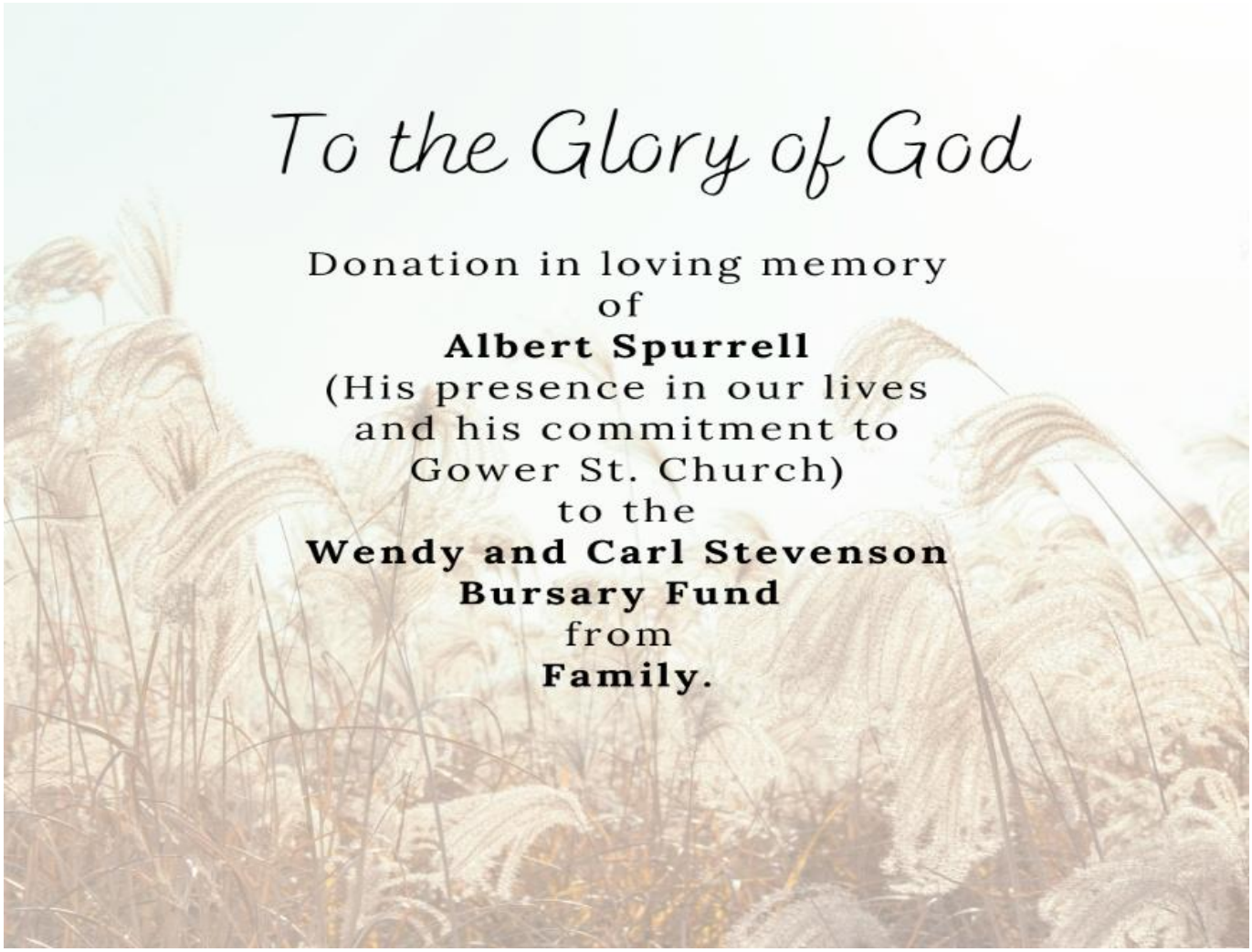
We sing: VU 586 We shall Go Out Londonderry Air

Threefold Amen VU 967 Danish

Postlude: Variations on “Sine Nomine,” IV, V Bedard

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Pentecost 2, 2026, Year A.
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Minister: The Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald (on leave)
Youth & Family Minister: The Rev. Rebecca Pike-Winter (on leave)
Interim Youth & Young Families Minister: Rev. Karen Thorne
Minister Emeritus: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy
Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding
Custodian: David Noseworthy
Board Chair: Jonathan Stevenson


To the Glory of God
Donation in loving memory
of
Albert Spurrell
(His presence in our lives
and his commitment to
Gower St. Church)
to the
Wendy and Carl Stevenson
Bursary Fund
from
Family.