Gower Street United Church

Open Hearts • Open Minds • Open Arms

November 15th, 2026
25th Sunday After 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. 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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Affirm/S'affirmer UNITED/ENSEMBLE

Deep Spirituality · Bold Discipleship · Daring Justice

100TH ANNIVERSARY 1925-2025 Deep • Bold • Daring

Leading: Rev. Karen Thorne
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
Molly Blake (1926-1971),
an active member of Gower Street United Church
and notable CGIT leader**.**
Molly would have been 100 on Nov. 12, 2026
Dedicated to their aunt, from **Anne, Blake and Allison Fizzard.**

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary: Sonata 1, mvt.2 (Adagio) Mendelssohn

We sing: VU 220 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Lobe Den Herren

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: The light of our candles reminds us today
of the light of Christ which shines before us,
and glows brightly within us, as we are open to the Spirit.

Gathering Words:
Come in from the wind and the rain of this season of change.
We come seeking comfort and shelter.
Come into this space where there is room for all.
We come, seeking kindness and mutual respect.
Come into this place with its reminders of others
who have travelled in faith and trusted in God.
We come, knowing that the path may at times be difficult,
but that we are not alone.
Come, and be strengthened for the journey!
Come, and be encouraged by the Spirit!
Come, and learn from our teacher, Jesus Christ.

Gathering Prayer:
Gracious God, of all places and all times,
thank you for always being with us.
Here we are, once again, gathered for this time of music, of stillness, of reflection.
We bring our whole selves to you.
In this sacred place where many have sat and prayed, shed tears and listened for a word of comfort and hope, we too open ourselves to your Spirit. Fill us with your love, your hope, your Good News today.
Make us ready for the days to come.
We entrust all to your care in Christ's name. Amen.

We sing: VU 273 The King of Love St. Columba

We Sing: TLUS I'm gonna eat at the welcome table. Vs. 1 &4
(with percussion instruments). Spiritual

Conversation with Learners of all Ages: Thinking about our Talents

We sing: MV 104 Know that God is Good
(with percussion instruments)

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer for Illumination: Stephen Connors
Loving God, may your light shine upon and within us as we share sacred words and stories. Enlighten our minds, stir our hearts. Bless and shape our lives through your Word and your Spirit. Amen.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 90 Parts 1, 2 Stephen Connors
VU. P 805 Englert

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 The Parable of the Talents

Anthem: Come, Come Unto Me Ken Dasso

Meditation Rev. Karen

We sing: VU 593 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love Chereponi

A Moment for Affirm: Marking World Children's Day Katie Doyle

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: Gracious God, bless our gifts of time, talent and resources as we offer our whole selves to your glory. Help us to use well the days we are blessed to enjoy on this earth. Magnify our talents and gifts as we share them for the sake of the world you so love. Amen.

Prayers for the World

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 481 Sent Forth by God's Blessing The Ash Grove

We go out into the world:
Let us go forth with joy– for we have been blessed!
May our blessings grow and bless others.
Let us go forth to love – for we are dearly loved!
May our light shine brightly with the love and light of Christ!
Let us go forth in peace – for we need not worry or be afraid!
May we go forth with courage.
May we go forth in peace – for our God goes with us!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude: Postlude in F Thiman

Printed prayers were written by Rev. Karen Thorne.
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Minister: The Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald (on leave)
Youth & Family Minister: The Rev. Rebecca Pike-Winter (on leave)
Interim Youth and 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