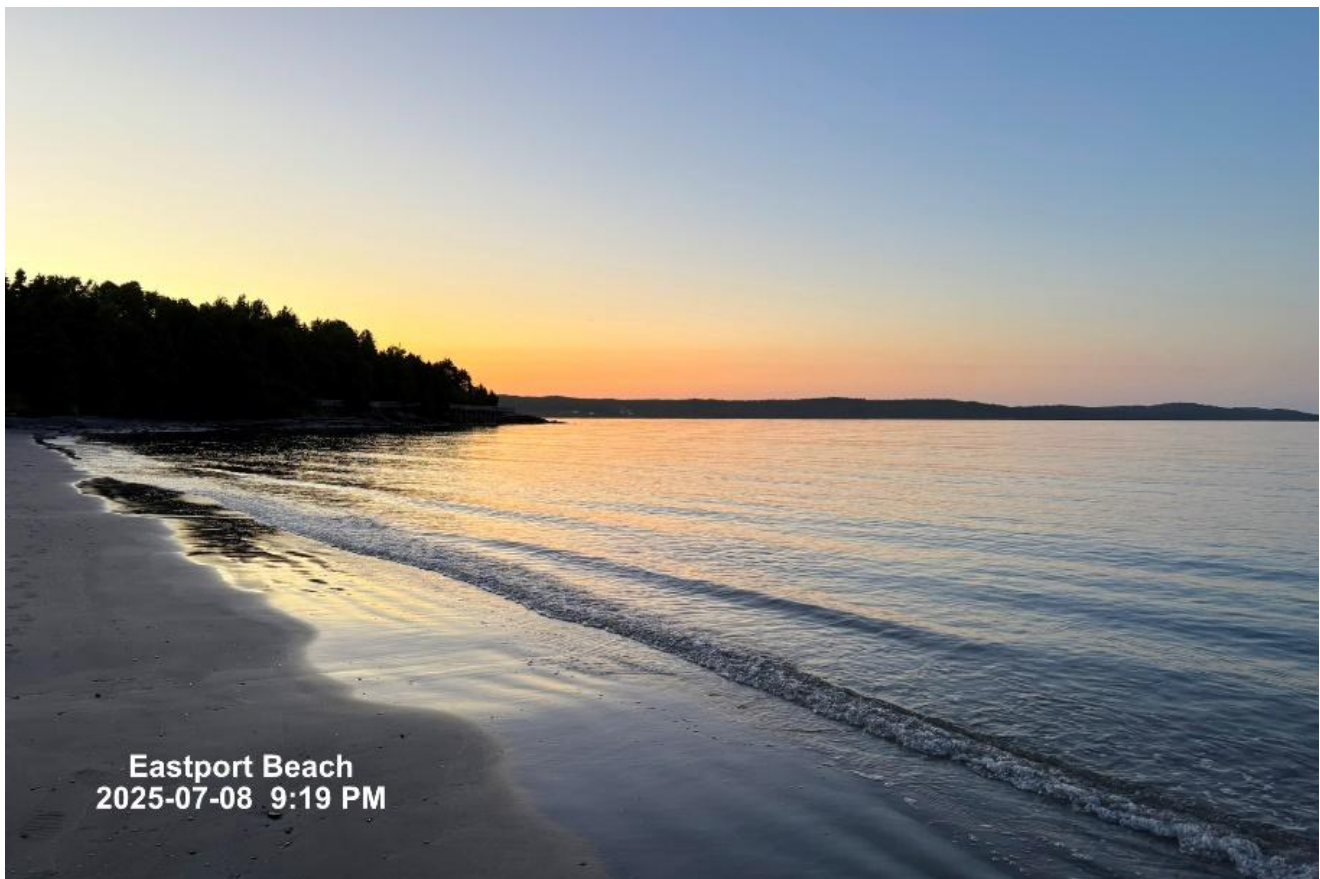


September 6, 2026
15th Sunday after Pentecost

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 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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Leading Worship Today: Mr. Bert Riggs

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 301 Before the Earth Had Yet Begun

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.

Call to Worship:

God, maker of plants and animals and all things, invites us to this place. **We are glad to be here.**

God, who has created all things for our goodness, invites us to this place. **We are glad to be here.**

God, who has called us to care for the Earth and all its inhabitants, invites us to this place. **Come, let us worship God.**

Gathering Prayer:

Creator God, we are awed by the creation you have made – the plants and animals (including humans) that you have placed within this world. In this time of worship, may we be aware of the gifts of flora and fauna that are part of Creation, and all created things. Amen.

We sing: VU 217 All Creatures of our God and King

Prayer of Confession:

God of raptor and puffin, beaver and meadow vole, moose and squirrel, codfish and bluefin tuna; God of violet and daffodil, spruce and dogberry, pine-clad hills and rocky outcrops; we are in awe of all you have done for us. You created a world of plants and animals that can live in such wondrous harmony; yet too often we exploit, we devastate, and we leave things in ruin. Forgive us and guide us in the restoration of the harmony you intended. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

We do not change the world by worrying about it but by dedicating ourselves and our actions to doing God's will. When we fail, God forgives us and asks us to try again. Know that ours is the God of perpetual second chances! **Amen.**

LISTENING TO THE STORY

Prayer for Illumination:

Edward Moores

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voices but your own, so that we may hear your Word and also do it; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from the Old Testament: Genesis 1: 25-31

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Psalm : Psalm 104: 14-23 VU pp. 826-7 (refrain 1)

A reading from the Gospels: Luke 12: 22-31

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

We Sing: VU 227 For the Fruit of All Creation

Meditation: Flora and Fauna Sunday

Musical Reflection:

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:

Holy One, you have called us friends and named us partners in your work of Creation. Accept the gifts we bring and bless them for your use, that they may reveal to others the depth of your love for all people and for Creation itself. Amen.

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 296 This is God's Wondrous World

We go out into the world:

May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all, fill you with the knowledge of God's Wisdom sustaining this planet and the pulsing of Christ deep within you. And the blessing of God, Creator, Reconciler, and Sustainer, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

We sing: VU 276 O God Who Shaped Creation (v. 1)

Postlude

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Pentecost 1 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)

Youth & Family Minister (Interim): Rev. Karen Thorne

Minister Emeritus: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy

Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding

Custodian: David Noseworthy

Board Chair: Jonathan Stevenson