



Sunday, September 24, 2023  
**Truth and Reconciliation Sunday**  
(Hymn Sing)

Welcoming and Announcements

Acknowledgement of Lands

Centring Music      Give Me Jesus  
*Traditional Spiritual, arr. Jack Schroeder*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

In the presence of Creator,  
we gather this day in a spirit of gratitude.

**Gratitude for all the gifts of Creation—  
the air, the water, the land, the change of seasons.**

Gratitude for all the creatures that walk, swim, fly,  
and crawl on this earth.

**We gather seeking wisdom to help us live  
a generous and compassionate life.**

We gather seeking wisdom to help us live together  
with respect and humility.

**We gather seeking hearts and minds that are open  
to new possibilities and new beginnings.**

Opening Hymn      **Let Us Build a House** (More Voices 1)

Verses 1, 4 & 5

*Words and music: Marty Haugen*

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- 1      Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive;  
built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.
  
- 4      Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.
  
- 5      Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.

## Morning Prayer

### A Special Blessing

### Solo Be Not Afraid

### A Time to Wonder

### Scripture Readings

Ephesians 2:14–22

### Reflection “Breaking Down Dividing Walls”

*A Reflection by Shane Goldie*

### Hymn of the Day **Like a River of Tears** (More Voices 98)

*Words: John Oldham, 1996; Music: Ron Klusmeier, 1997*

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- 1 Like a river of tears your love pours upon us;  
like sunshine of blessing your grace will sustain us;  
like a star-studded sky your spirit shines over us,  
Renewing our spirits with courage and faith.
- 2 Like a bird in free flight by windows around us;  
like a wind in the forest that breathes life among us;  
like a phoenix that’s rising from ashes around us,  
renewing our spirits with vision and grace.
- 3 Like a pillar of cloud you promise to guide us;  
like a bright fiery bush you come to speak to us;  
like a calm cooling breeze your spirit breathes in us,  
renewing our spirits with loving embrace.
- 4 Like a lover’s caress your spirit revives us;  
like a song of the soul you come to be with us;  
like a prayer of the heart you heal and restore us,  
renewing our spirits, the future to face.

*Bob Dufford, S.J.*

## Invitation to Offering

### Choral Response **What Can I Do?** (More Voices 191)

*Words and Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore, 2005*

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What can I do?  
What can I bring?  
What can I say?  
What can I sing?  
I’ll sing with joy.  
I’ll say a prayer.  
I’ll bring my love.  
I’ll do my share.

### Offering Prayer

### Joys and Concerns

### Pastoral Prayers

Spoken Response: **We seek to take the path of love.**

### The Lord’s Prayer

### Parting Hymn **Though Ancient Walls** (Voices United 691)

*Words: Walter Farquharson 1974; Music: Ron Klusmeier 1974, arr. 1995*

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- 1 Though ancient walls may still stand proud  
and racial strife be fact,  
though boundaries may be lines of hate,  
proclaim God's saving act!  
*Refrain* Walls that divide are broken down;  
Christ is our unity!  
Chains that enslave are thrown aside;  
Christ is our liberty!

- 2 When vested power stands firm entrenched  
and breaks another's back,  
when waste and want live side by side,  
it's Gospel that we lack. *Refrain*
- 3 The truth we seek in varied scheme,  
the life that we pursue,  
unites us in a common quest  
for self and world made new. *Refrain*
- 4 The church divided seeks that grace,  
that newness we proclaim;  
a unity of serving love  
that lives praise to God's name! *Refrain*
- 5 This broken world seeks lasting health  
and vital unity.  
God's people by God's Word renewed,  
cast off all slavery! *Refrain*

Worship Leadership – Pastor Beth Parsons  
Music Leadership – Sharon Prindle-Collins  
Soloist – Sam Boehner  
Drumming – Glenn Parsons  
Greeters – Deanna Bertelsen and Joanne Thomas  
Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey  
Morning Prayer – Barbara Barton-McMillan  
Scripture Reader – Peter Gray  
Offering Invitation and Prayer – Peggy Dayton  
Spirit Kids Program – Leslie Moffat  
Technical Support – Rob Glenn and Bill Walker  
Fellowship Time – Men's Breakfast Group  
Flowers for the service are offered by Melissa Nagy in celebration of  
her marriage and in memory of her grandparents, Ronald and Roberta  
Stephens, Jim and Mabelle Tyler and Robert Hussey.

### Benediction

### Choral Response **Wherever You May Go** (More Voices 216)

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Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
and your people shall be my people too.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.

### Postlude

The Church's One Foundation

*arr. Lani Smith, Tune: Aurelia" by Samuel S. Wesley*