

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Gathering Song

~ Bret Hesla ~

God whose love flows like a river

♪ **Shower your spirit upon us all.**

God whose grace pours down like summer rain

♪ **Shower your spirit upon us all.**

God whose justice pours like crashing thunder

♪ **Make your ever-presence known to us!**

Hear our prayer, O hear our prayer,

Shower your spirit upon us all.

Welcome

Territorial Acknowledgement

The Kosapsum and Songhees moved, traded, and recognized the sacred on the same land where we now gather, long before Jesus walked the earth. The ancestors of our tradition sought to impose the Christian way. We work and pray for a future that is fairer than the past, which ultimately includes a vision of Indigenous and non-Indigenous dwelling in reconciliation.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Opening Prayer

Creating God, you set all life in motion and declared it good. We gather today agreeing that all Creation is good. We revere the creative energy that pulls us toward new life. We revere the water that sustains it all. We honour the path of love and justice. Hear our worship today. Amen.

Hymn This is God's Wondrous World (see Insert)

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Pouring the Water

Passing the Peace of Christ

Choir: *Wake O My Soul*

~ Pat Mayberry ~

Opening to the Word

~ MV 123 ~

♪ **Day after day, night after night,
you speak through everything**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:13-17; Romans 6:3-7

Read by: Bev Tracey

Reflection

Hymn Gentle God, When We Are Driven (see Insert)

~ Shirley Erena Murray ~

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Prayers of the People

Sung Response

~ Bret Hesla ~

♪ **Listen, Listen be open o my heart**

The Lord's Prayer

~ from the First Nations Version ~

O Great Spirit, we honor your name as sacred and holy. Bring your good road to us, where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world is reflected on the earth.

Provide for us day by day--

the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.

The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.

All the things we need for each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong, in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.

Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road, and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Response

~ TLUS 148 ~

♪ **We have been called,
we have been called to celebrate
our home here in Love's wide embrace.
To bear in mind, to bear in mind all that we share.
To join the song of love's good ways.
Hallelujah, we have been called to join
the song of Love's good ways.**

Announcements: Work of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn MV 172 God Says

Commissioning and Blessing

Response:

~ MV 143 Vs. 1 ~

♪ **We cannot own the sunlit sky,
the moon, the wild-flowers growing,
For we are part of all that is
within life's river flowing.
With open hands receive and share
the gifts of God's creation,
That all may have abundant life
in every earthly nation.**

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James Bay United Church

*Following in the way of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward*

September 27, 2026

Third Sunday of Creation Time



- photo with appreciation to Carol Garceau