

**Visions United Spirit Gathering  
October 1, 2023  
Room at the Table for Everyone  
Worldwide Communion Sunday**

\* *Stand as able*

**Our Community Gathers**

**Gathering Music/Prelude**

**Welcome**

*God's Doors Are Open to All!*  
*Open Doors · Open Minds · Open Hands · Open Hearts*  
Visions United seeks to be a safe place for people of all  
races, creeds, ages, abilities, cultural backgrounds,  
sexual orientations and gender identities to worship

**Acknowledgement of Land**

**\*Song (standing)** VU#460 All Who Hunger (vs.2&3)

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan ©1991 G.I.A. Publications, Arr. David Kai ©1994  
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**Invitation to Gather & Lighting of the Christ Candle**

One: There once was someone who said such amazing things  
and did such wonderful things, that people followed him.  
As they followed him, they wondered just who he was.  
Once when they asked, he said:

**All: "I am the Light...Come, follow me".**

One: Gathered at table with friends and with stranger  
there was once someone who said,

**All: "I am the bread of life...Come, be nourished".**

One: Celebrating the gift of community,  
there was once someone who said,

**All: "I am the vine...you are the branches".**

One: Here and now, we are beloved community.  
There is room for all.

**Gathering Prayer (unison)**

Holy One,  
may your welcoming Spirit  
move within and among us,  
opening our hearts to your vision for life.  
Here in this place:  
may Grace provide  
may Love empower  
may Hope sustain  
may Peace prevail  
may Welcome be proclaimed  
on this journey we share  
as a beloved community  
in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Music Video** Room at the Table *by Carrie Newcomer*

## **Sharing our WOW Moments**

*Children's Programming Begins*

### **We Listen for Wisdom**

#### **Introduction to Wisdom Reading**

**Wisdom Reading** Luke 14: 1, 12-14; 15-24

**Special Music** Bread of Life, Feed My Soul Words/Music Stephen Spencer ©2005, Arr. Rick Gunn  
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**Reflection** Kindom Parables of Open Tables

**Video** At the Table *by Phuc Luu* ©The Work of the People  
<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/at-the-table>  
(Children return for communion)

### **We Gather at the Table & Respond with Prayer and Gratitude**

#### **Welcoming of New Member by Transfer**

Linda Burns from St. Paul's United (Riverview)

**\*Song** (*standing*) MV#198 When We Gather at the Table (*vs. 1, 2, 4, 5*)  
Words: Walter Farquharson ©1995; Music: Ron Klusmeier ©2006  
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#### **An Invitation to Generosity and to Gather at the Table**

One: We seek to be a beloved community  
gathered in Jesus' name.

**All: We are a spiritual community**  
**Welcoming a diversity of people**  
**Celebrating and exploring**  
**in faith together**  
**Reaching out in love**  
**Daring to make a difference**  
**One act of kindness at a time.**

One: We offer these gifts at this Table:  
Our offerings of love  
Simple bread and fruit of the vine.

**All: We pray they may be blessing for all**  
**in Jesus name!**

One: We seek to be a beloved community  
gathered in Jesus' name.

**All: Living an Extravagant Openness**  
**We are bold to proclaim,**  
**"There is Room for Us All!"<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> "Room for Us" All inspired by Carrie Newcomer's song.

One: There's room at the table for everyone

**All: all ages and classes,  
all orientations and identities  
all races and cultures  
all creeds and denominations  
all seekers and believers  
doubters and questioners  
All are welcome!**

One: All are welcome, indeed!  
So come to the Open Table  
Share in this meal of celebration.

**All: Feast on bread.  
Be nourished by Love.  
Fill your spirit with the Holy Spirit!**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

One: Peace of Christ be with you

**All: And also with you!**

**Song** (*seated*) MV#195 Long Ago and Far Away (*v.1 & refrain*) Words/ Music: Pat Mayberry ©2000  
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### **The Great Thanksgiving Prayer**

#### **Sharing Our Gratitude**

**Song** (*seated*) MV#195 Long Ago and Far Away (*v.2 & refrain*) Words/ Music: Pat Mayberry ©2000  
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#### **Remembering the Story**

**Song** (*seated*) MV#195 Long Ago and Far Away (*v.3 & refrain*) Words/ Music: Pat Mayberry ©2000  
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### **Our Community at Prayer**

#### **Prayer for the Spirit** (*unison*)

Bless us.

Bless this bread we break.

Bless this drink we share.

May we be strengthened to be a beloved community -  
light in the world, bearers of peace, Christ's presence  
known in words spoken and in deeds shared. Amen.

**Song** (*seated*) MV#195 Long Ago and Far Away (*refrain*) Words/ Music: Pat Mayberry ©2000  
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### **Breaking of the Bread & Pouring the Cup**

#### **Sharing the Bread & Cup at Table**

*All the bread is gluten free.  
Pass the bread around the table and the tray of glasses.  
Eat together as you are served.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

One: For food the feeds us,

**All: Thanks Be!**

One: For the Way of Jesus,

**All: Thanks Be!**

One: For Spirit that inspires Vision,

**All: Thanks Be!**

One: We journey forth to be Christ's body

**All: welcoming the stranger as friend,  
loving our neighbours as ourselves,  
working for healing and wholeness.  
May it be so!**

**Song** (*seated*)      MV#195 Long Ago and Far Away (*refrain*)      Words/ Music: Pat Mayberry©2000  
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### **The Work of the Congregation – Announcements**

#### **We Go Forth to Be a Blessing**

\* **Song** (*standing*)      MV#178 Who Is My Mother      Words: Shirley E. Murray ©1992, Music: Ron Klusmeier  
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### **Changing of the Light and Blessing**

### **Postlude Music for the Journey**

*Thank You for Joining Us!  
May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.*