



“INCLUSIVE, INSPIRING WORSHIP IN BEAUTIFUL SACRED SPACE”

# GRADUATE SUNDAY

*Congratulations  
Graduates*



June 6, 2021

Celebrating: Lou Favilla, Claire Stokes, Emily Wulff  
& graduates in our extended families.

“What Does Rising Up Look Like For You?”

## Gathering in Love

### Gathering Music

*You are invited to greet those around you or to sit quietly and reflectively prior to the beginning of the service.*

### Ringing of the Bell

*Signifies the beginning of the service*

### Prelude

**“Take God By the Hand”**

*Miller*

Sharon Neuenfeldt, *Worship Accompanist*

### Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

### \*Gathering Prayer

**God of our hope,  
we give thanks for this day and these people,  
and for your gospel that gives this day meaning  
and provides your people direction.**

**Stay close to us.**

**Do not pass from our view  
Lest we lose our way, and our heart.**

**Encourage us, root us in you.**

**Make us desire your life in us**

**That our only fear is your absence,**

**And our greatest joy is your love.**

### \*Opening Hymn

**“We Love Your Realm, O God”**

#312

Cheri Schwartz, *cantor*

1 We love your realm, O God, all places where you reign.  
2 We love your church, O God, for Christ has given life  
3 We recognize, with pain, that we have not achieved  
4 Yet Christ, our friend and guide, continues to forgive,

We rec - og - nize, with hope and joy, the world as your do - main.  
 To form com - mu - ni - ties of love that seek to heal our strife.  
 The faith - ful - ness of our re - solve when we at first be - lieved.  
 De - liv - ering us from our mis - takes, in - vit - ing us to live.

## Acknowledging Our Humanness and God's Grace

### **\*Prayer of Longing**

**Most holy and most merciful God, in your presence we face the errors of our ways—intended and accidental. You know how often we have failed by wandering from your paths, wasting your gifts, and underestimating your love.**

**Have mercy upon us, O God, for we have broken your requirements for justice and overlooked opportunities for kindness. Humble us with your truth and raise us by your grace that we may more nearly be people of Christ and witnesses of your Spirit. Amen.**

*Please continue in silent prayer and mindful breathing*

### **\*Assurance of Grace & Invitation to Pass the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

## Proclaiming God's Love

### **A Time with Young People**

*Pastor Clare invites children forward to gather with her*

*\*Sitting or standing*

## Recognition & Gifts To Graduates

**Lou Favilla**, graduate from Hudson High School, diploma  
Lou will attend the Aerospace/Commercial Aviation Program at UND.

**Claire Stokes**, graduate from UW-Stout, MS  
Claire will teach transcribed courses to students so that they can earn college credits while in high school.

**Emily Wulff**, graduate from The College of St. Scholastica, MBA  
Emily will lead and manage changes as she advances in her career.

## Blessing One Another

Children: God be with you    **All: And also with you**  
*Children may follow leaders to Children's Activity or remain with their families.*

**Scriptures**        Psalm 130, 2 Corinthians 4: 1, 6-16    Mary Maren Bjork

**Morning Message**    “What Does Rising Up Look Like For You?”

**Prayer Hymn**        “Out of the Depths I Call”

#483

1 Out of the depths I call, to God I send my cry: Oh,  
2 For you my soul still waits with pa-tience un - de - terred; My  
3 My faint-ing spir - it longs for your en - liv - ening ray, More  
4 Let Is - rael trust in God, whose mer - cy bound-less grows, The

hear my sup - pli - ca - ting voice and gra - cious-ly re - ply.  
hopes are on your prom - ise built, your nev - er - fail - ing word.  
ea - ger than the morn - ing watch to greet the dawn-ing day.  
plen-teous source and spring from whom re - demp-tion ev - er flows.

## Responding To God's Love

### **Prayers of the People**

*You are invited to speak a brief prayer for yourself, another, or a part of the world.  
Raise your hand or stand and project your brief joy or concern as loudly as possible.  
Pastor Clare will follow your prayer with the words, "God, in your love..."*

**One: God, in your love,  
All: Hear our prayer**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come  
on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.  
AMEN.**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory**

**"Prayers"**

*Steven*

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen**

*\*Sitting or standing*

## **\*Prayer of Dedication**

**O God of limitless love, we offer ourselves with our gifts, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. Expand our limited vision to embrace new possibilities. We rededicate our lives at this altar. May our offerings reach beyond the barriers of our former thinking and doing. In the Spirit of Christ, we would pray and live. Amen.**

## **Going Forth to Share God's Love**

**\*Closing Hymn**      “Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed”

#537  
*see next page*

**\*Singing**                                      “Happy Birthday”

*..Happy birthday dear Deb, Sue, Pastor Clare, Zoey and Sam*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sung Response**      “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

*By Jill Jackson-Miller & Sy Miller*

**Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God as creator, family all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;  
To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally!  
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.**

**\*Postlude**                                      “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

*Welsh Melody*

1 Chris - tian, rise and act your creed; let your  
 2 Hearts a - round you sink with care; you can  
 3 Of - fer oth - ers hope and joy, and God's  
 4 Come then, law di - vine, and reign: faith that

prayer be in your deed; Seek the right, per - form the  
 help their load to bear; You can bring in - spir - ing  
 wor - ship your em - ploy; Giv - ing thanks in hum - ble  
 doubt as - sails in vain, Per - fect love be - reft of

true, raise your work and life a - new.  
 light, strength - en them to do the right.  
 zeal, learn - ing all God's will to feel.  
 fear, born in heaven and ra - diant here.

\*Sitting or standing

## **PRAYER CORNER**

*Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:*

- Lou Favilla, Claire Stokes, Emily Wulff, the Hillard's grandson Ben and granddaughter Lisa, the Fetters' grandson Jacob Helmer and Sharon Binger's grandson Justin, all celebrating graduations this spring.
- Barb Hilliard, for relief from chronic pain due to post-polio syndrome.
- For our global neighbors: for the COVID vaccine to reach everyone, for the people of Yemen to experience relief from intense suffering, and for all who live without sufficient resources or with constant threats of violence.
- *"We fervently pray for our Palestinian partners and for the people too long suffering under occupation and fear, and that a peace with justice will prevail, and we commit to continue to oppose the injustices that we see."* (from Global Ministries of the United Church of Christ and Christian Church Disciples of Christ, full statement linked in the Mid-Week)
- For accountability for killings of black and brown people, for legislative police reform, and for all of us to work to build an antiracist society.
- This week, we celebrated birthdays with Deb Francis (Wednesday) and Sue Favilla (Thursday) and a wedding anniversary with Jim & Shizuko Purnick (Wednesday) In the coming week, we celebrate birthdays with Pastor Clare (Wednesday), Zoey Graf (turning 10 on Friday), and Sam Gromoll (turning 7 on Saturday)!

Thank you for all who made today wonderful: Sharon Neuenfeldt and Cheri (beautiful music), Mary Maren Bjork (lay reading), Claire Spilseth, Sue Favilla, and Carol Dusbabek (Children's Activity) and Mike Bjork, Rolf Dittmann, Paul Spilseth, Mark Stephan, and Kimberly Jackson (tech team).




### **People's Congregational Church**

Rev. Clare Gromoll, Pastor

309 Third St. N, Bayport MN 55003-1028

(651) 439-5667 / office@peoplescongregational.org

www.peoplescongregational.org  @PCCBayport

**Credits & Permissions** | **Gathering Prayer** Reprinted from More Than Words: Prayer and Ritual for Inclusive Communities, Copyright © 1988 by Pat Kozak, CSJ, and Janet Schaffran, CDP. All rights reserved. **Prayer of Longing** Adapted by permission of the publisher from Touch Holiness, ed. Ruth C. Duck & Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright © 1990 The Pilgrim Press. **Lord's Prayer** from the New Zealand *Book of Prayer*. **Prayer of Dedication** Adapted from *Flames of the Spirit: Resources for Worship* by Ruth C. Duck. Copyright © 1985 Pilgrim Press. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-703858. All rights reserved.