



“INCLUSIVE, INSPIRING WORSHIP IN BEAUTIFUL SACRED SPACE”



August 8, 2021

“What Do You Hear?”

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

“The Voice of a Song”

English Tune

Sharon Neuenfeldt, *Worship Accompanist*

Words of Welcome

Mary Maren Bjork

*****Gathering Prayer**

Jere Fetter

Gracious and holy god, we come to you because you have first come to us. We know you because you have revealed yourself. Give us in this morning hour of worship a new sense of your Spirit breathing through us. Lift our hearts with the wings of song, heal our souls with the balm of prayer, enliven our minds with the words of scripture and interpretation, and newly enable us to dedicate our strength, our substance, and our service to your work in the world. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*****Opening Hymn**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

#28 NCH

Rolf Dittmann, *cantor*

(see next page)

Acknowledging Our Humanness and God’s Grace

*****Prayer of Longing**

Mary Maren Bjork

God of all, in your presence we must face the errors of our ways, intended and accidental. You alone know how often we have failed by wandering from your paths, wasting your gifts, and underestimating your love. Have mercy on 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 followers of Jesus and witnesses of your Spirit. Amen.

Please continue in silent prayer and mindful breathing

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Follitt S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain
 Conrad Kocher, 1838
 Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

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

Mary Maren: The peace of Christ be with you! **All: And also with you!**

***Sitting or standing

Proclaiming God's Love

A Time with Young People

Mary Maren invites children forward to gather with her (socially distanced)

Blessing One Another

Children: God be with you **All: And also with you**

Children return to their families to remain in worship or enjoy the playground.

Scriptures: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14; Ephesians 5:15-20~NRSV Jere Fetter

Morning Message "What do you Hear?" Mary Maren Bjork
(see insert)

Prayer Hymn "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"
(sung once) #305 Chalice Hymnal

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing, Lord, send your spir - it
in this place; Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. grace!

1 (optional) Final

The musical score is written in 2/2 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics. The second system covers the next two lines. The third system covers the final line of lyrics and includes two endings: a first ending marked '1 (optional)' and a final ending marked 'Final'.

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.*

Mary Maren will follow your prayer with the words, "God, in your love..."

One: God, in your love,

All: Hear our prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.**

We pray for your reign of peace to come,

We pray that your good will be done,

Let heaven and earth become one.

Give us this day the bread we need,

Give it to those who have none.

Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,

From each one to each one.

Lead us to holy innocence

Beyond the evil of our days —

Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.

For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:

Forever your name is All in One. AMEN

Prayer Hymn "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

(sung once ~ see previous page)

Invitation to the Offering

Jere Fetter

Offertory

"Jesus Only Jesus"

arr.Ylvisaker

*****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**

Generous God, through our offerings we identify with the cause of Christ. We proclaim our concern for all people. We identify with their suffering and grief and we rejoice when good comes to them. We offer here both our material resources and our personal time and effort to extend the body of Christ into this moment in history and into the whole world. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God's Love

*****Closing Hymn** “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” #77 NCH
(Vs. 1 & 2 ~ see insert)

*****Singing** “Happy Birthday”
..Happy birthday dear John, Kris, Elaine, Jessy, Gregg, and Gloria

*****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** “Traveling On” *English Tune*



People's Monthly Backyard Potlucks
Mark your calendars for our next!
RSVP to Kimberly

Tues., Aug. 31, 5:30-7:30 pm
at Pastor Clare and sons' home
1017 Carlton Dr.
Shoreview, MN 55126

We could have a carpool from the church for those who would like this option.

Bring a lawn chair and a dish to share (salad, side, dessert).

**** Label your serving container and spoon/tongs with your name! ****

We don't need to know what food item you'll bring.

Host provides beverages, dishes, flatware, napkins, indoor restroom.

Invite a friend or neighbor along to meet your church friends!

Feel free to come at the last minute if it works out!

BAPTISM
CELEBRATION

**The Baptism of
William Shea Bjork**

(Lakeside Park, Bayport)

All are welcome to join us in this celebration of God's love,
embodied in community!

The Bjork family will provide cake and lemonade as we linger afterward,
sharing in this joyous occasion.

***Sitting or standing

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

*For our global and local neighbors: for COVID vaccines to reach everyone, for justice-based peace in the Gaza Strip and in other armed conflicts, for people managing physical and mental health challenges, for those marginalized and oppressed due to part of their identity or life experiences, and for all who live without sufficient resources or with constant threats of violence.

*For accountability for killings of black and brown people, for continued courage and resilience in BIPOC communities as they seek justice, and for legislators to lead all of us in the work of building an antiracist society.

*For the Earth as the drought reminds us of damage we continue to inflict upon the climate. With wildfires raging in Canada and in 87 locations in our country, we note the haze near our own homes and lament tremendous losses for many people and for innumerable other creatures. We cry out for the trees, grass and soil. May we emboldened to participate in healing the Earth.

*For St. Paul gymnast Sunisa Lee as she celebrates her strong efforts and accomplishment in the Olympic Games. For continued strength for US gymnast Simone Biles as she models bravery in speaking out about how pressures of elite athletics have done harm to her mental health.

*For Nat Graf, that she might have smooth healing and recovery from her knee replacement surgery on this past Thursday.


*For resilience for Brian, young adult son of Jennifer and Dennis (new friends of our congregation) as Brian copes with a recent diagnosis of Type 1 Diabetes.

*For this faith community of People's Church and for our wider St. Croix Valley Community, feel deep gratitude. May we create welcoming, empowering spaces wherever we go, day by day.

Thank you for all who made today wonderful: Sharon Neuenfeldt, Rolf Dittmann (beautiful music), Mary Maren Bjork, Jere Fetter (reading) and Mark Stephen (Tech)



People's Congregational Church

Rev. Clare Gromoll, Pastor ~ pastor@peoplescongregational.org
309 Third St. N, Bayport MN 55003-1028
(651) 439-5667 / office@peoplescongregational.org
www.peoplescongregational.org  [@PCCBayport](https://www.facebook.com/PCCBayport)

Credits & Permissions |Gathering Prayer, Prayer of Longing Reprinted or adapted by permission of the publishers from Touch Holiness, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright © 1990 by The Pilgrim Press. **Prayer of Dedication** adapted from Flames of the Spirit: Resources for Worship by Ruth C. Duck. Copyright © 1985 Pilgrim Press. **Lord's Prayer** by Parker Palmer. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-703858. All rights reserved.