



"An inclusive community, celebrating God's unconditional love through engaging worship and faithful service"

everyone has a story.



August 22, 2021

"What Stories Do You Tell and Live?"

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

“Gavotta-Choro”

by Heitor Villa-Lobos
Eric Vandre, guitar

You are invited to greet those around you or sit quietly.

Ringling of the Bell

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

*****Gathering Prayer**

Mary Maren Bjork

Living God, come and be known among us. Help us to perceive your presence as near as breath, yet hidden. Help us to seek you even as you seek us. Speak your word of power. Make us true disciples of Christ. Transform us through your fiery Spirit. All glory be to you, O God—in Christ and through the church forever! Amen

*****Opening Hymn**

“You Are Welcome Here”

(see next page)

Sing! Prayer and Praise #26
Keely Vandre, vocals
Eric Vandre, vocals

Join in as you're comfortable

Acknowledging Our Humanness and God's Grace

*****Prayer of Longing**

Pastor Clare Gromoll

Loving God, you have invited us to love you, our neighbors, and ourselves. Although created by Love, surrounded by Love, and made whole in loving; we forget. When we do not believe in your infinite compassion for us, forgive our doubt. When we withhold forgiveness from each other, forgive our desperate control. When we lose hope that we can ever love those who have hurt us, forgive our shallow hope. Free us from the fears that hinder our loving movements. In your name, which is Love, Amen.

****Sitting or standing*

***“You Are Welcome Here”

♩=100

G D G A D G/D D G A

You are wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are,

G A D G D C G A

no mat-ter where you are. on life's jour - ney. You are

D G/D D G A G A

wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are, come and

D G D G/D A D 1.2.3.

join with us, we're u - ni-ted in the church of Christ.

A G/D D A D G/D D

1. Come now all peo - ple, join in the song, come be a part of the fam-
2. We pray for jus - tice; we pray for peace; we hear the word of the Sav-
3. Lift - ing each oth - er; do - ing what's right; stand - ing to - geth - er, what - ev -

G/D A A G/D D A D

- 'ly of God. We are God's peo - ple and you be - long,
 - ior of all. We find God's mer - cy; we find re - lease,
 - er may come; prais - ing our Sav - ior, shin - ing our light,

G/D A 4.

share in the joy of Christ. You are
 shar - ing the joy of Christ. You are
 shar - ing the joy of Christ. You are

*****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 (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:

Psalm 15

Mary Maren Bjork

**O Lord, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?
Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;
who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honor those who fear the Lord;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9

Morning Message “What Stories Do You Tell and Live?”

Prayer Hymn

“Be Still and Know” #111/Sing! Prayer and Praise
sung three times (in English)

Join in as you're comfortable

***“Be Still and Know”

♩=108

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and
 Cal - ma tu ser, que soy tú Dios. Cal - ma tu

know that I am God. Be still and know
 ser, que soy tú Dios. Cal - ma tu ser,

that I am God. Be still and
 que soy tú Dios. Cal - ma tu

know that I am God.
 ser, que soy tú Dios.

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 joy or concern so we can hear it.
 Pastor Clare will follow your prayer with, “God, in your love...”*

One: God, in your love,

All: Hear our prayer

Lord's Prayer

(see next page)

***Sitting or standing

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

Mary Maren Bjork

Offertory

“You've Got To Be Carefully Taught”

by Richard Rogers/Oscar Hammerstein II, sung by James Taylor

You've got to be taught, to hate and fear
You've got to be taught from year to year
It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear
You've got to be carefully taught

You've got to be taught, to be afraid
Of people whose eyes are oddly made
And people whose skin is a different shade
You've got to be carefully taught

You've got to be taught before it's too late
Before you are six or seven or eight
To hate all the people your relatives hate
You've got to be carefully taught
You've got to be carefully taught

*****Doxology**

“Praise God”
sung twice

by John Mueller

Join in as you're comfortable

**Praise, God, for these gifts;
we lift them up for heaven's blessing.
Praise God, for these gifts;
we lift them up to serve you, Lord.**

*****Prayer of Dedication**

God of all, we bring our offerings because of the love you have poured out on us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Your gifts call for responses that cannot be contained in envelopes or baskets. We dedicate all that we have and all that we are to your will and purposes. With awe and trembling, and also joy and gratitude, we bring you our whole selves. Use us to realize your love, justice and peace among all people. Amen

Going Forth to Share God's Love

*****Closing Hymn**

"Deep Peace" #201/Sing! Prayer and Praise
vs. 1 & 2 (see next page)

Join in as you're comfortable

*****Singing**

“Happy Birthday”

..Happy birthday dear Mark, Kaari, Barb, Alex, Jenni and Paula

*****Benediction**

****Sitting or standing*

*****Sung Response**

“Irish Blessing”

sung twice

Join in as you're comfortable

**May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
The rain fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again
Till we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of God's hand**

*Our Antiracism Collective organizers invite us to partake
of After-worship Fellowship snacks and beverages.
Then please move right back to our seats to begin our sacred conversation
(which concludes at 11:30).*



Reminder: People's Monthly Backyard Potlucks

Tues., Aug. 31, 5:30-7:30 pm
at the home of Pastor Clare, Sam & Jonah
1017 Carlton Dr.
Shoreview, MN 55126

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!

***“Deep Peace”

♩.=44

G D Em Bm C G/B Cmaj7 D

1. Peace, peace, deep peace, my peace I give to you. _____
 2. Love, love, strong love, my love I give to you. _____
 3. Joy, joy, great joy, my joy I give to you. _____

E Bm7 Cmaj7 Gmaj7 Cmaj7 D G

Peace, peace, deep peace, my peace I give to you. _____
 Love, love, strong love, my love I give to you. _____
 Joy, joy, great joy, my joy I give to you. _____

Em Bm7 Cmaj7 G Am7

Not as the world gives, I give to you, not as the
 Not as the world gives, I give to you, not as the
 Not as the world gives, I give to you, not as the

B¹¹ B B⁷ Em D G D Em

world gives, I give to you. Peace, peace, deep
 world gives, I give to you. Love, love, strong
 world gives, I give to you. Joy, joy, great

Bm C Am7 Bm/D D⁷ G Am/G G

peace, my peace I give to you. _____
 love, my love I give to you. _____
 joy, my joy I give to you. _____

***Sitting or standing

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

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

*For the people of Haiti as they suffer in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Grace. To contribute financially go to *UCC.org* and search for Haiti.

*For the people of Afghanistan. *"Let us hold on to the hope that peace is possible and commit ourselves not only to keeping our Afghan siblings in prayer, but also to committing: our churches to welcome refugees; our voices to engage in advocacy; our hearts to establish partnerships; and our minds and bodies to support the 'things that make for peace.'"* For more information go to <https://www.ucc.org/ucc-officers-we-must-not-turn-on-our-back-on-afghanistan/>

*For our U.S. military veterans to be affirmed for sacrifices made in service to our country, and that they find welcoming spaces for processing grief and trauma.

*For the global community as the COVID-19 Delta variant spikes infection and death rates. May we protect one another from the virus. We hope for the well-being of all struggling with vaccination questions. Bob Dickie & Cindy Parsons feel grateful and relieved that all of their children are now vaccinated.

*For the Earth as droughts deepen, wildfires rage and the UN's "Code Red" report confirms the terrible damage we are doing to the climate. As we lament tremendous losses for people, other creatures, and plant life; may we begin to heal the Earth.

*For students, parents, teachers, bus drivers and other workers in school settings. May all experience safe learning environments and enjoy the growth that occurs.

*For all who are experiencing job transitions or struggling with burnout during this uncertain, stressful time of "the great resignation."

*For Pastor Clare's sister Aidan as she begins serving as a volunteer pediatrician in a refugee camp near Serajevo, Bosnia for a stretch of several months.

*For the small international Lowe Syndrome community, grieving two recent deaths of young men with the rare (2 in a million) syndrome that Sam Gromoll has.

*For Cindy & John Siegel's daughter, Jenna, who will begin three months of radiation on Sept. 2 on her brain tumor. Radiation could cause new tumor growth. May healing energy surround Jenna, her husband and their daughter.

VOLUNTEER

all that's missing is U!

Greeters Needed for Worship Services

We need two greeters for each Sunday service.

Duties include: Arrive by 9:15. Set out bulletins, offering bag, welcome cards and sanitizer by the "entrance" near the People's Park Sign. Welcome people warmly as they arrive. Ring the bell as worship begins. Take a head count. Pass out prayer corner cards for signing at the start of worship (Pastor Clare will cue you). Put all materials back into the black rolling cart.

Please let Kimberly know if you are able to be a greeter:
office@peoplescongregational.org - 651-439-5667.

Dates: Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19 26- (1 more need at each)



People's Book Club

People's Book Club

(We aim to read books that matter from diverse genres, topics and authors)

See No Stranger by Valarie Kaur

In-person: (Saturdays) Sept. 25, Oct. 9, 23
9-10:30am (outdoors as long as possible)

Zoom: (Wednesdays) Sept. 29, Oct. 6, 20
6:30-8pm(ask pastor Clare how join in-person)

We will order paperback copies from Valley Bookseller (discounted to \$14.50). Contact Kimberly by Sept. 6 to purchase a copy.

All Teams/Committees Share Out

We invite all members and friends to hear teams and committees share about their current work and ways we can participate.

In-person: Sunday after worship, Sept. 12

or

Zoom: Wednesday, Sept. 15, 6:30 pm



After-worship Fellowship

We are now serving food during After-worship fellowship. See below for guidelines. Please contact Kimberly to sign up to bring treats. 651-439-5667
office@peoplescongregational.org

Food Guidelines:

Keep it simple. Be as sanitary as possible.

Food should be provided in one of these ways:

- individually wrapped (grab one for yourself)
- spread out on a plate, distanced enough that a person can grab one for themselves without touching other food
- a host/food provider (gloved) serves/hands out food to individuals


Pitchers of water, lemonade etc. are fine
(again, we recommend a gloved server pours).

Please avoid any food items that need to be assembled or "dipped."

Thank you for all who made today wonderful: Keely & Eric Vandre, (beautiful music), Mary Maren Bjork (reading) and Kimberly Jackson (Tech)



People's Congregational Church

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