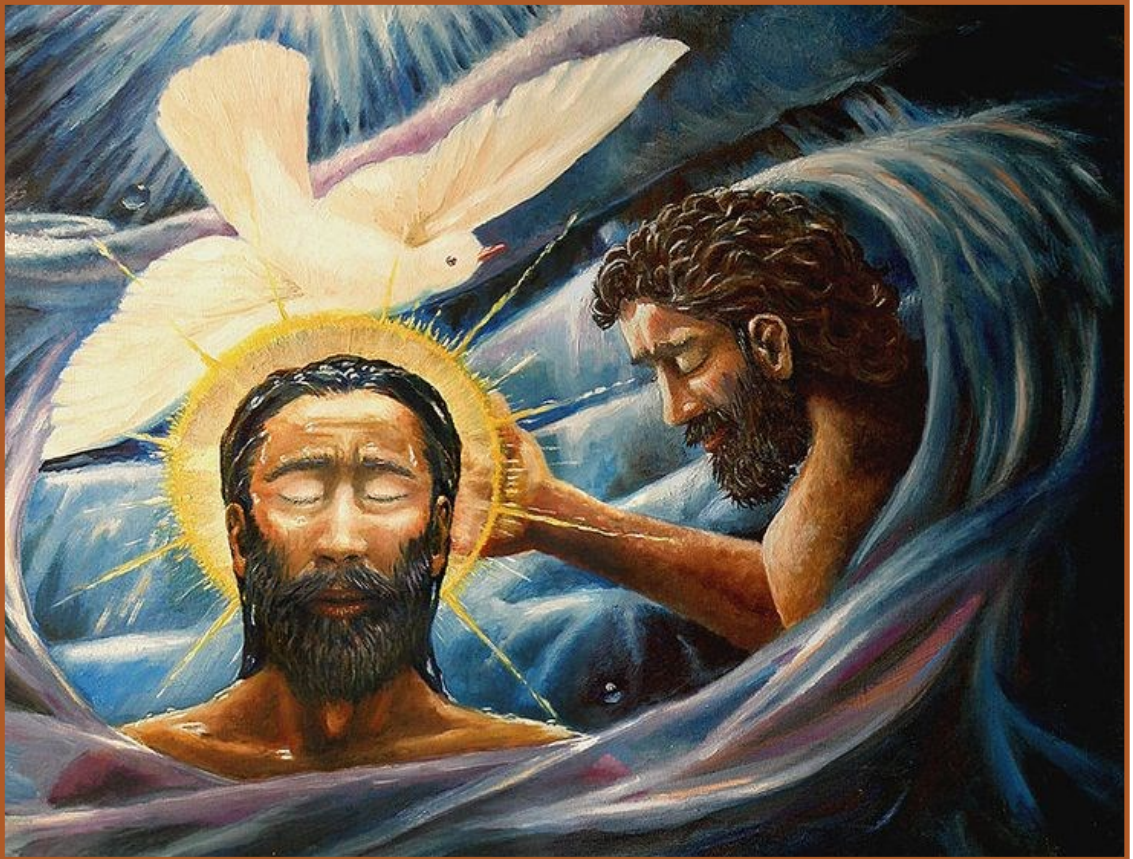




*"An inclusive community, celebrating God's unconditional love
through engaging worship and faithful service"*



January 16, 2022

"For What Purpose Has Love Anointed You?"
Baptism of Christ Sunday

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

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

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude

“Tú Has Venido a la Orilla ”

Cantantes De Dios

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

*****Call to Worship**

Mary Maren Bjork

One: Water!

All: Life making. Body filling. World changing!

One: Spirit!

All: Life making. Soul filling. World changing!

One: Child of God!

All: Life making. Spirit filling. World changing!

One: Blessed—and blessing. Water. Spirit. Children of God.

All: Together in this place. Remembering who we are. Remembering who we are.

One: Worshiping God. Alleluia!

All: Alleluia!

*****Opening Hymn**

“O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word”

#168

Acknowledging Our Humanness & God's Grace

*****Prayer of Longing**

God of all people, we come here as your church this morning to worship you in community. May we listen with our hearts as you call each of us by name and as you speak in silence, in song, in scripture, in a sermon this Sabbath morning. May we continue the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others who have peacefully worked for justice and equality for all people. Forgive us for what we have left undone. Help us to recognize our responsibility to fight racism, sexism, economic poverty, homophobia, environmental destruction, and injustice wherever it is. We share the same hopes, tears, laughter, and dreams with all humanity. May we respond to Jesus' prayer "that they may all be one." Amen.

prayerful silence

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

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

We safely share a sign of peace with those nearest to us

Proclaiming God's Love

A Time with Young People

Pastor Clare invites children forward to the front row of pews

Blessing One Another

Seated, the congregation opens their arms to the children

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

Children return to their families for the remainder of worship

We welcome our children's sounds and movements

Families are also welcome (if needing to move around more) to listen to the service from the play area in the Narthex or via the baby monitor in the Nursery downstairs

Scriptures

1 Corinthians 12: 1-11 & Luke 3: 15-22

The Inclusive Bible

1 Corinthians

Now, dear siblings, I want to instruct you on the matter of spiritual gifts. Remember how, when you were still nonbelievers, you were drawn to mute idols and led astray by them?

It is for this reason that I want you to understand that no one can be speaking under the influence of the Holy Spirit and say, “Curse Jesus”; by the same token, no one can say, “Jesus Christ reigns supreme,” unless under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts, but always the same Spirit. There is a variety of ministries, but we serve the same One. There is a variety of outcomes, but the same God is working in all of them. To each person is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

To one, the Spirit gives wisdom in discourse; to another, the word of knowledge through the same Spirit. Through the Spirit, one person receives faith; through the same Spirit, another is given the gift of healing; and still another, miraculous powers. Prophecy is given to one; to another, power to distinguish one spirit from another. One receives the gift of tongues; another, that of interpreting tongues. But it is one and the same Spirit who produces all these gifts and distributes them as she wills.

Luke

The people were full of anticipation, wondering in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. John answered them by saying, “I am baptizing you in water, but someone is coming who is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not fit to untie! This One will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire. A winnowing—fan is in his hand to clear the threshing floor and gather the wheat into the granary, but the chaff will be burnt in unquenchable fire.”

Using exhortations like this, John proclaimed the Good News to the people. But Herod the tetrarch—whom John rebuked for his wickedness, including his relationship with his sister-in-law, Herodias—committed another crime by throwing John into prison.

When all the people were baptized, Jesus also came to be baptized. And while Jesus was praying, the skies opened and the Holy Spirit descended on the Anointed One in visible form, like a dove. A voice from heaven said, “You are my Own, my Beloved. On you my favor rests.”

Morning Message “For What Purpose Has Love Anointed You?”

Prayer Hymn “God of Day and God of Darkness” Gather
#551

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

One: God, in your love,

All: Hear our prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Eternal Spirit,
Source of all that is and ever shall be,
Loving Parent in whom we discern heaven,
May knowledge of your holiness inspire all peoples,
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom flourish on Earth
Until all of humankind heed your call to justice and compassion.
May we find the bread that we need for today,
And for the hurts we cause one another
May we be forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.
In times of trial and temptation, help us to be strong;
When life seems overwhelming, help us to endure;
And thus from the yoke of sin deliver us.
May you reign in the power of human love,
Now and forever.
Amen.**



Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“All In All”

Hernandes/Saunders

***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**

***Prayer of Dedication

**God of glory, in baptism we dedicate our lives to you and pledge to become your voice of love in the world. Hold us close in our baptismal vows as we bring ourselves, our time, and our possessions to you, that they may be gifts of your love in a world in which your tender voice is often drowned out by voices of violence, hatred, and oppression. Use us and all we have to your glory.
Amen.**

Sharing in Holy Communion

*Holy Communion is open to members and friends of all ages
We welcome you in the name of Jesus,
whom we follow in the way of radically inclusive love*

*****The Invitation & Prayer**

Pastor: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All: All-loving God, you are Creator of energy and matter, the heavens and the Earth. Therefore, we celebrate you - joining our voices with the wind and the streams, the animals and the flowers, the living and the dead (*pause*), the stars and the planets and all the company of creation, who forever sing their unending hymn to proclaim your glory. Amen.

*****Sung Response** “Santo, Santo, Santo”

CH #111

Sung twice - first in Spanish, then in English

see page 8

San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Señ - or!
 heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

Words of Remembrance & Blessing

Sharing the Bread of Life & Cup of Blessing

Pastor Clare will cue us to partake of the elements

Sung Response

“Eat this Bread”

CH #414
 see page 9

G C Am D Bm

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and

Em Dsus D G D Em Bm

nev - er be hun - gry. Eat this bread, drink this cup,

C D G

trust in me and you will not thirst.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving

Faithful God, we are thankful that you have revealed to us the vision of life in covenant with you and with one another. We are thankful that you sent Jesus Christ to invite people of all ages, tongues, and races into faithful covenant. Christ has been present with us in the breaking of bread. Through your Spirit, strengthen us to be faithful in all we have promised today.

Amen.

Going Forth to Share God's Love

*****Singing "Happy Birthday"**

..Happy birthday dear Dennis, Hannah, Wilkie, Claire Bjork & Carol

*****Closing Hymn "Lift Every Voice and Sing"**

#593

*****Benediction**

*****Sung Response** Irish Blessing
Sung twice

**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**

Postlude "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

Vajda

*As we depart this worship space, we are each invited to touch our
fingertips into the water and then to our own forehead,
marking ourselves as beloved of God.*

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

***Rolf Dittmann**, who has been managing symptoms of ear infections (including ringing in his ears and significant temporary hearing loss). Unless symptoms abate, he will have ear tubes placed in February.

***Cheri and Bob Schwartz** as they welcomed their first great granddaughter, Violet Nicole, born January 5th.

***Jenna Hirte**, daughter to Cindy and John Siegel, who went home on December 27th after many weeks of progressing from the ICU to transitional care following brain surgery. She is working with physical, occupational and speech therapists to slowly regain strength and capacities and needs an adult family member to accompany her at all times. The family appreciates our ongoing support and prayers.

*For those who are without family and loved ones due to death and other forms of distance. May we all be surrounded by love and community at the turn of a new year.

*We celebrate birthdays with Dennis Albright (10th), Hannah Wulff (five the 12th), Wilkie Bjork (one the 16th), Claire Bjork (19th) & Carol Dusbabek (22).

And in the wider community...

*For the well-being of the people of Ukraine. And for justice-based peace among Russia, the United States and NATO allies.

*For increased access to safe, warm, stable housing for our local neighbors as winter weather deepens in Minnesota.

*For access to safe shelter, food and water for all global citizens, particularly asylum seekers and refugees.

*As the pandemic rages on with heightened fury (having killed 5.5 million persons worldwide and with 64.3 million current active cases in this land), may we continue to protect one another.

Faith Conversations



Faith Conversations

Our adult ed. Forum | in-person and zoomed
Most Sundays, 11-11:45 am

Join us in the Fireside Room. Bring your 10:30 am after-worship fellowship treats with you!

In 10-minute videos, contemporary progressive faith leaders present key concepts of God, religion, Jesus, salvation, cross, Bible, church. We'll explore biblical texts and faith concepts, applying them to our own lives.

Today's Topic: Church | "An Imperfect Family"

HSAT

Homeless Strategy and Advocacy Team



Neighbors from St. Croix Valley faith communities working together on housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness.

Items for Homeless Needed

The Homeless Strategy and Advocacy Team (HSAT) is a collaboration of church members from numerous congregations in the St. Croix Valley and throughout Washington county, that are working to reduce homelessness.

The Justice & Outreach Team is answering the call to aid the HSAT (Homeless Strategy & Advocacy Team) of Washington County. HSAT has asked members to appeal to their congregations for help gathering items needed for the cold weather. After collecting a reasonable amount, they will be picked up and distributed to those in need.

Items needed are:

- Warm socks
- Hand and foot warmers
- Blankets (not fleece)
- Gloves (men's L and XL)
- Individual bottled water
- \$25 gas cards

The bin for items will be in the Narthex.



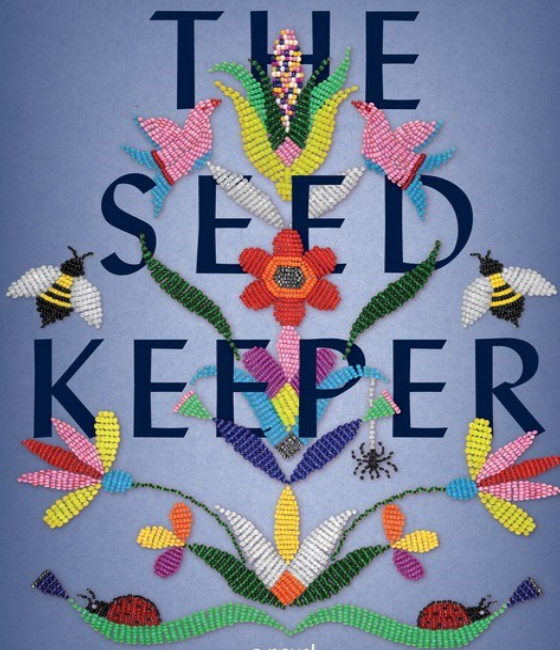
CHURCH CLEANING
WE COULD USE YOUR HELP...

Church Cleaner Needed

We are in need of a church cleaner.

Please contact Sue Favilla if you know of someone who would be interested in cleaning the church once per week.
wicompound@gmail.com | 612-381-4996

"Compelling . . . *The Seed Keeper* invokes the strength that women, land, and plants have shared with one another through the generations." —ROBIN WALL KIMMERER



DIANE WILSON

PCC Book Club

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

Calling all readers! We will read local Dakota author Diane Wilson's debut novel, *The Seed Keeper*, in January.

Hybrid gatherings
(Zoomed & In-person at church)

Jan. 27, 6:30 – 8 pm

If interested please contact
Pastor Clare
pastor@peoplescongregational.org
651-600-6409

Volunteers Needed

Please sign up for an open spot to volunteer as greeter, lay reader, service recorder or fellowship host.

Find the sign-up clipboard in the Narthex before worship and downstairs during Fellowship.

Or contact Kimberly in our office (651-439-5667, office@peoplescongregational.org).

Volunteering in advance greatly helps Kimberly.
Thank you!

Date	Lay Reader	Greeter #1	Greeter#2	Fellowship host #1	Fellowship host #2	Acolytes	Recorder
12/26/2021	Carol Dusbabek	Mary Maren Bjork		Kathy Iverson	Bob Iverson		Paul Spilseth
1/9/2022	Cheri Schwartz	Kris Strasburg		Lori Mildon	-		Paul Spilseth
1/16/2022	Mary Maren Bjork	Kris Strasburg		Cheri Schwartz	-		Bob Dickie
1/23/2022	Mary Binger	Kris Strasburg					Paul Spilseth
1/30/2022	Carol Dusbabek						
2/6/2022	Mary Maren Bjork						
2/13/2022	Cheri Schwartz						Paul Spilseth

Church Directory



**TIME
TO
UPDATE!**

The PCC Members & Friends directory is updated every Jan. & June. Kimberly is in the process of making sure all current information is correct.

She sent an email on Jan. 6 with current (as she knows it) information. Please look to see if any of your contact information needs to be changed/updated.

The directory is no longer added to the Mid-Week due to privacy concerns.

office@peoplescongregational.org | 651-439-5667



**ANNUAL
MEETING**

Notification of Annual Meeting... Jan. 30

Zoom only 11 - 11:45

- Review the Annual Report.
- Advise the membership of any significant changes to Church policies.
 - Adopt plans for the year.
 - Adopt a budget that supports the plans for the year.
- Transact any other business stated in the notice of meeting.

Electronic and hard copies of the Annual Report and Plans and Budgets will be available one (1) week prior to the Annual Meeting

Acolytes


Our children served beautifully as acolytes during the season of Advent. Those turning 4 and above are welcome to serve as acolytes any time of year. They would come up onto the Chancel when they hear the bell ring at the start of the service. Then I would assist them as they light the 2 altar candles during the prelude. We could practice together right at 9:15am on the Sunday of your family's choosing.

Do we have a pic?

Thank you for all who made today wonderful: Music Dir. Michael Bjork, & Worship Accompanist Sharon Neuenfeldt (beautiful music), Mary Maren Bjork (liturgist), Kris Strasburg (greeter), Cheri Schwartz (fellowship hosts), Bob Dickie (recorder) and Jill Greenhalgh (Faith Conversations facilitator).



People's Congregational Church

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