



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



April 24, 2022

"How Will We Impact Earth's Web Of Life?"

Integrity of Creation Sunday

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

*We greet those around us or sit quietly
as we settle into sacred time and space*

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting “In Christ, A New Creation”

Ylbisaker

Addison Albright, Acolyte

A flame represent the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

***Prayer of Gathering

Carol Dusbabek

One: All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

All: **Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.**

One: Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

All: **O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.**

One: Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

All: **Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.**

One: Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey toward your infinite light.

All: **We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love, and peace. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn “We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

#563

***Sitting or standing

1 We can - not own the sun - lit sky, the moon, the wild - flowers
 2 When bod - ies shiv - er in the night and, wea - ry, wait for
 3 God calls hu - man - i - ty to join as part - ners in cre -

grow - ing, for we are part of all that is with -
 morn - ing, when chil - dren have no bread but tears, and
 a - ting a fu - ture free from want or fear, life's

in life's riv - er flow - ing. With o - pen hands re -
 war - horns sound their warn - ing, God calls hu - man - i -
 good - ness cel - e - brat - ing. That new world beck - ons

ceive and share the gifts of God's cre - a - tion, that
 ty to wake, to join in com - mon la - bor, that
 from a - far, in - vites our shared en - deav - or, that

all may have a - bun - dant life in ev - ery earth - ly na - tion.
 all may have a - bun - dant life in one - ness with their neigh - bor.
 all may have a - bun - dant life and peace en - dure for - ev - er.

Acknowledging Our Humanness & God's Grace

*****Prayer of Longing for the Earth's Well Being**

One: Creating, Redeeming, and Sustaining God, hear us as we pray for your people and your planet. For each of us, that we might feel called by our faith to protect the earth.

All: God, plant us in the movement for justice, to stop climate change and protect creation.

One: For our land here in Minnesota: the birch tree and spruce, the moose and walleye, the lynx and loon—all threatened by the rising warmth.

All: God, plant us in the movement for justice, to stop climate change and protect creation.

One: For the many ways, near and far, that ecosystems are imperiled by wildfires, ocean acidification, heat waves, rising tides, drought, increasing storms, and pollution.

All: God, plant us in the movement for justice, to stop climate change and protect creation.

One: For those persons pioneering sustainable ways of farming and agriculture, even as climate change makes it harder, and also for those fighting pipelines and pollution from industrialized agriculture.

All: God, plant us in the movement for justice, to stop climate change and protect creation.

One: For young people committed to studying earth sciences and working for an end to climate change.

All: God, plant us in the movement for justice, to stop climate change and protect creation.

One: For the youth who bring energy and anguish, protest and legal action in states and at the national level, on behalf of Earth and all of us.

All: Let us support them and stand with them, so each generation will know you and your goodness, God. Amen.

prayerful silence

***Sitting or standing

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

*We share the peace with those gathered with us now (in-person, virtually)
We extend the peace later by phone call, email or text message*

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

Proclaiming God's Love

A Time with Children

Pastor Clare invites children forward to wonder together

Sung Invitation *We sing as the children come forward*

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.**

Singing "Happy Birthday"

*..Happy birthday dear **Bill** (Stokes), **Jackie** (Savage), & **Shaun** (Stokes)*

Learning To Sing with the Earth

"Garden Song" by David Mallett

**Inch by inch, row by row,
Gonna make this garden grow.
All it takes is a rake and a hoe,
and a piece of fertile ground.**

**Inch by inch, row by row,
Someone bless these seeds I sow,
Someone warm them from below,
Till the rain comes tumblin' down.**

Blessing One Another

Seated, we open our arms to the children

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

Children may follow leaders to Children's Activity or remain in worship

Sung Affirmation *We sing as they follow leaders or return to families*

**Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.**

We welcome our children's sounds and movements

Readings

John 20: 19-29 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were locked in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Temple authorities.

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Having said this, the savior showed them the marks of crucifixion.

The disciples were filled with joy when they saw Jesus, who said to them again, "Peace be with you. As Abba God sent me, so I'm sending you."

After saying this, Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you retain anyone's sins they are retained."

It happened that one of the Twelve, Thomas—nicknamed Didymus, or "Twin"—was absent when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him, "We've seen Jesus!"

Thomas' answer was, "I'll never believe it without putting my finger in the nail marks and my hand into the spear wound."

On the eighth day, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them saying, “Peace be with you.”

Then to Thomas, Jesus said, “Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Don’t persist in your unbelief, but believe!”

Thomas said in response, “My Savior and my God!”

Jesus then said, “You’ve become a believer because you saw me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

“I Go Among Trees” by Wendell Berry

**I go among trees and sit still.
All my stirring becomes quiet
around me like circles on water.**

**My tasks lie in their places
where I left them, asleep like cattle.**

**Then what is afraid of me comes
and lives a while in my sight.
What it fears in me leaves me,
and the fear of me leaves it.
It sings, and I hear its song.**

**Then what I am afraid of comes.
I live for a while in its sight.
What I fear in it leaves it,
and the fear of it leaves me.
It sings, and I hear its song.**

**After days of labor,
mute in my consternations,
I hear my song at last,
and I sing it. As we sing,
the day turns, the trees move.**

Acts 5: 12-16, 27-32 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

Through the hands of the apostles, many signs and wonders occurred among the people. By mutual agreement, they used to meet in Solomon's Porch. But none of the others dared to join them, despite the fact that the people held the apostles in great esteem.

Even so, more and more believers, women and men in great numbers, were continually added to their community—to the extent that people even carried their sick relatives and friends into the street and laid them on cots and mattresses, in the hope that when Peter passed by, his shadow might fall on one or another of them. Crowds from the towns around Jerusalem would gather, too, bringing their sick people and those who were troubled by unclean spirits, and they were all being healed.

The apostles were taken before the Sanhedrin, and the high priest began to interrogate them: “We gave you strict orders not to teach about that name, yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching—and you're determined to make us responsible for this Jesus' blood.”

To this, Peter and the apostles replied, “Better for us to obey God than people!” The God of our ancestors has raised Jesus, whom you put to death by hanging him on a tree. This One, who has been exalted to God's right hand as Ruler and Savior, is to bring repentance and the forgiveness of sins to Israel. We are eyewitnesses to this. And so is the Holy Spirit, who has been given to those who obey God.”

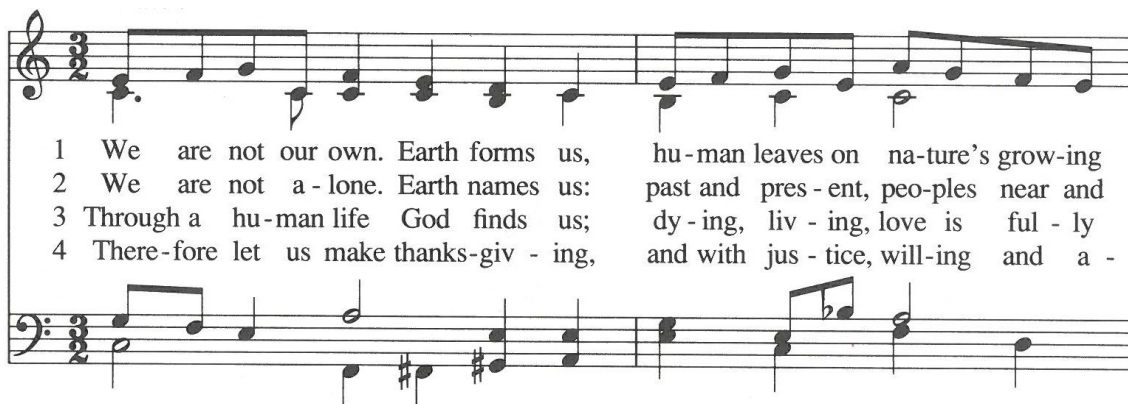
Morning Message "How Will We Impact Earth's Web of Life?"

Prayer Hymn

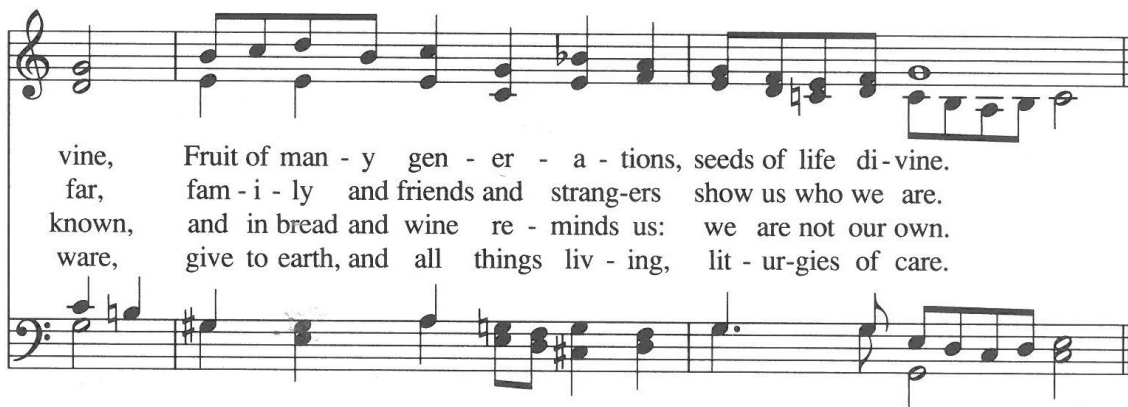
“We Are Not Our Own”

#564

Vs. 1, 2, 4, 6



1 We are not our own. Earth forms us, hu-man leaves on na-ture's grow-ing
2 We are not a-lone. Earth names us: past and pres-ent, peo-ples near and
3 Through a hu-man life God finds us; dy-ing, liv-ing, love is ful-ly
4 There-fore let us make thanks-giv-ing, and with jus-tice, will-ing and a-



vine, Fruit of man-y gen-er-a-tions, seeds of life di-vine.
far, fam-i-ly and friends and strang-ers show us who we are.
known, and in bread and wine re-minds us: we are not our own.
ware, give to earth, and all things liv-ing, lit-ur-gies of care.

5 And if love's en-coun-ters lead us
on a way un-cer-tain and un-known,
All the saints with prayer sur-round us:
we are not a-lone.

6 Let us be a house of wel-come,
liv-ing stone up-hold-ing liv-ing stone,
Glad-ly show-ing all our neigh-bors
we are not our own!

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*

*To include a prayer in our Prayer Corner in coming days,
please share it with Pastor Clare by email, phone call or text message*

One: God, in your love,

All: Hear our prayer

Musical Interlude

We listen as our own prayers quietly arise

Prayer of Jesus

**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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“The Word of God”

unknown

*We support the work of our church with financial gifts
as we have means to do so*

*Please consider leaving a gift in an offering plate at either exit,
scanning the QR code to give electronically (choose “offerings & tithes”),
or mailing in a check*

***Doxology

“Praise God” by John Mueller
sung twice



**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

O Great God, we dedicate ourselves again to serve as full partners with you. You call us to care for creation, to amplify the voices of the oppressed, to change our ways and reverse our course to align with your dream for the world. We offer ourselves and these gifts to partner with you on behalf of Earth, our common home as members of your abundant and diverse creation. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God's Love

*****Closing Hymn** “God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” #556
Vs. 1 & 3

*****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.**

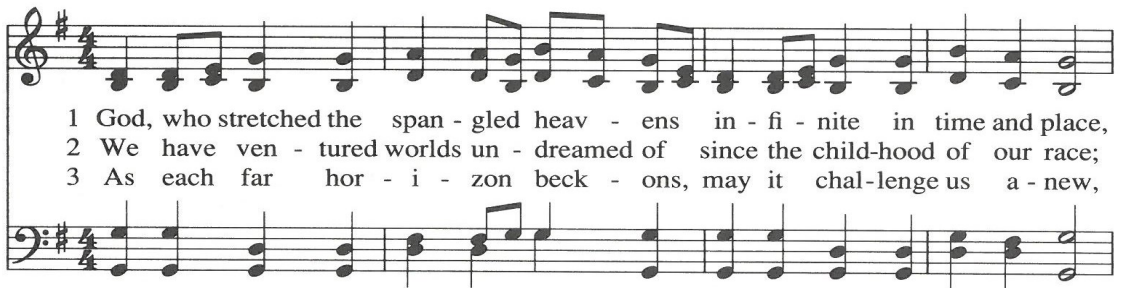
**Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.**

*****Postlude** “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” *Israeli Traditional*

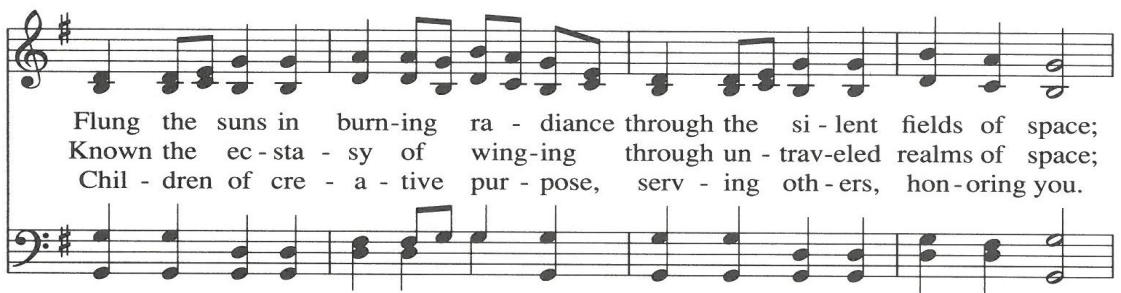
We carry the light of Christ with us in all times and spaces

*All are welcome to linger on the awn after worship
10:30 am Fellowship
10:45-11:45 Antiracism Collective sacred conversation*

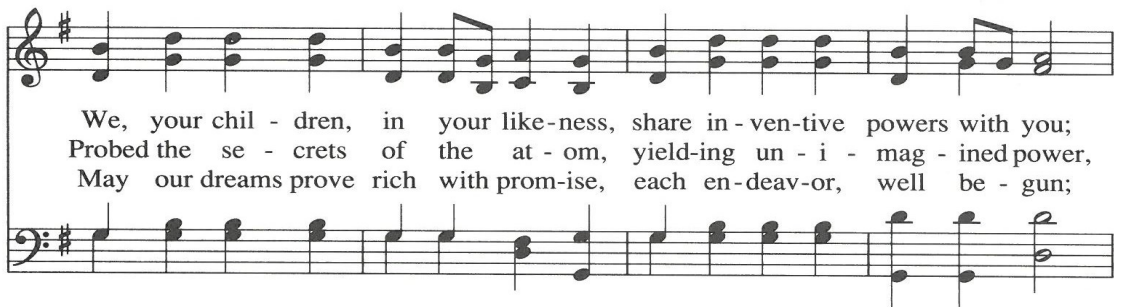
God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens ~ Vs. 1 & 3



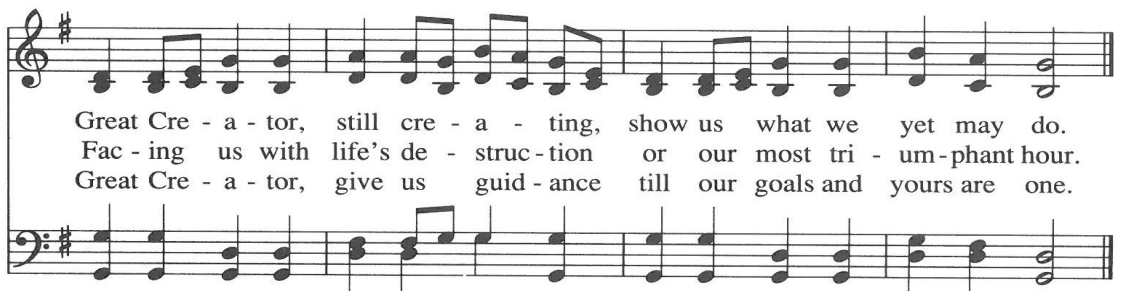
1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
3 As each far hor - i - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new,



Flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
Known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
Chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - oring you.



We, your chil - dren, in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you;
Probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield - ing un - i - mag - ined power,
May our dreams prove rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or, well be - gun;



Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - a - ting, show us what we yet may do.
Fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

- *For new friend **Jeanette Schachtner**, experiencing debilitating hip pain. May an upcoming visit with an orthopedist lead toward relief and healing.
- *For **Sam Gromoll**, healing well after eyelid surgery in early April.
- *For **Kimberly Jackson** and **Jon Hicks**, grieving the loss of beloved dog Zena.
- *With **Lynn**, a friend in our Tai Chi Group, we pray for daughter **Valerie**, whose uterine cancer is spreading after a remission. We pray for healing energy as Valerie prepares for surgery and awaits further information.
- *For **Pat Mazzitello** as she heals from recent carpal tunnel surgery and shoulder surgeries that were more complex than anticipated.
- *We celebrate birthdays with **Kathy Iverson**, **Payton**, **Phillip & Jensen Wright** (11th), **Sarah Deziel** (15th), **Bill Stokes** (17th), **Jackie Savage** (19th) anniversaries with **Peter & Andi Favilla** (8th), **Jere & Dawn Fetter** (16th)

And in the wider community...

- *For the well-being of chickens and turkeys as the avian flu has killed more than 50 million birds in the past two months. We also pray for farmers and others experiencing economic loss as a result of the outbreak.
- *We pause in gratitude and awe for the faithful public witness by imams and other clergy, advocating for mercy in sentencing related to the August 2017 bombing of Bloomington's Dar al-Farooq Islamic center.
- *In the wake of the devastating shooting at a subway station in Brooklyn, New York (ten wounded by gunfire, thirteen sustaining other injuries), may we advocate for more sensible gun control.
- *For the well-being of Ukrainian refugees and sufficient resources for households hosting them. For safety as Ukrainians stay to defend their country. For efficient and just distribution of humanitarian resources. For each of us to participate in creating justice-based peace.
- *We celebrate the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as the newest Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.
- *In the wake of the collapse of an ice shelf in Eastern Antarctica due to warming temperatures, may we faithfully examine how we are acting in solidarity as a global community for the wellbeing of our climate.
- *For all in need of healing as we cope with physical, mental and chemical health challenges. May we feel God's healing touch in new ways.

1ST ANNUAL!



May 21, 2022

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

People's Park

(next to Barker's Alps)

1003 5th Ave. N.

Bayport, MN

**Seeking
Artisans**

Register by May 1st
for our "Early Bird" rate!

Artisan Sale | artist, crafter, vendor & nonprofit exhibitors

Gertens Plant Sale | flowers & gift cards | order online, March 15-April 6

Plant Swap and Sale | perennials, succulents & seedlings

Educational Moments | community garden, labyrinth, prairie restoration & tai chi

Hands-On Activities for All Ages | engage in wonder, appreciation & fun

Silent Auction & 50/50 Raffle | focused on art, nature & experiences

Food Trucks & Booths, Bake Sale | come hungry!

peoplescongregational.org |  @PCCBayport | office@peoplescongregational.org | 651-439-5667

People's Book Club

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

dear white peacemakers



People's Congregational Church (Bayport)
May 12 | 6:30-8 pm (@ church, also Zoomed)

Interested? Contact us: office@peoplescongregational.org
Valley Bookseller is stocking a limited number of copies for us at 15% off the \$18.99 list price.

Learn about People's Antiracism Collective on our website:
peoplecongregational.org

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Thank you for all who made today wonderful: Music Dir. Michael Bjork, Worship Accompanist Sharon Neuenfeldt (beautiful music), Sharon Binger (greeter), Carol Dusbabek (liturgist), Addison Albright (acolyte) Paul, Bob & Mark (tech), Carol, Sue & Claire (children's activity), Joe & Diane Legato (fellowship)



People's Congregational Church

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