



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



May 8, 2022

"Will We Support or Diminish Each Other's Lives?"

Mother's Day

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

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

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting

Happy are Home
The Family Prayer Song

Dykes
Chapman

Sam Gromoll, Acolyte

A flame represent the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

*****Call To Worship**

Kathy Iverson

One: The Christ said, "This is my commandment: Love one another."

All: We come to worship the God who is Love, that we may learn to love one another.

One: The Christ said, "No longer do I call you servants; now I call you my friends."

All: We come to worship the God whose friends we are through Christ.

One: May we worship God by embodying love.

All: May we honor our interdependence as a human community, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

*****Opening Hymn**

"In The Bulb There Is a Flower"

#433, NCH

see next page

Unison

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Acknowledging Our Humanness & God's Grace

*****Prayer of Longing**

God, you heap your love upon us like a parent or grandparent providing for a family's needs, embracing a child with tenderness. Forgive us when we keep your generous love possessively to ourselves. Nurture our trust, that we might live securely and abundantly in your love. Guide us to share love freely with others in open-handed confidence that your grace will never run out. Amen.

prayerful silence

*****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 to bring their chairs forward with them

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 Sharon (Binger), Evelyn (Wulff), Jane (Hanson),
John (Norheim)*

****Sitting or standing*

Learning To Sing with the Earth

"Garden Song" by David Mallett

*Michael teaches us the refrain, which we sing together
Feel free to join in on the verse as well*

Refrain:

**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.**

Verse:

**Rainful rain, sun and rain
Find my way in nature's chain
Tune my body and my brain
To the music from the land**

Repeat refrain

Blessing One Another

Seated, we open our arms to the children

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

Children (age 3+) 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

*Lisa, our Childcare Provider, invites infants and toddlers to join her
at our nearby "Outdoor Nursery" blanketed play space
(Adult family members are also welcome!)*

Scripture Readings **Psalm 23** ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

**God, you are my shepherd—
I want nothing more.
You let me lie down in green meadows;
you lead me beside restful waters:
you refresh my soul.
You guide me to lush pastures
for the sake of your Name.**

**Even if I'm surrounded by shadows of Death,
I fear no danger, for you are with me.
Your rod and your staff—
they give me courage.**

**You spread a table for me
in the presence of my enemies,
and you anoint my head with oil—
my cup overflows!**

**Only goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in your house, God,
for days without end.**

Acts 9: 36-43 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

Now in Joppa there was a disciple, a woman named Tabitha—“Dorcas,” in Greek—who never tired of doing kind things or giving to charity. About this time she grew ill and died. They washed her body and laid her out in an upstairs room.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples sent two couriers to Peter with the urgent request, “Please come over to us without delay.” Peter set out with them as they asked.

Upon his arrival, they took him upstairs to the room. All the townswomen who had been widowed stood beside him weeping, and showed him the various garments Dorcas has made when she was still with them.

Peter first made everyone go outside, then knelt down and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, “Tabitha, stand up.” She opened her eyes, then looked at Peter and sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her to her feet. The next thing he did was to call in those who were believers—including the widows—to show them that she was alive.

This became known all over Joppa and, because of it, many came to believe in Jesus Christ. Peter remained awhile in Joppa, staying with Simon, a leather tanner.

Morning Message

"Will We Support or Diminish Each Other's Lives?"

Prayer Hymn

“My Shepherd Is the Living God”

#247, NCH

1 My shep-herd is the liv - ing God, I there-fore noth-ing need;
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

Am G C F G Am G7 C G C

In pas - tures fair, near pleas - ant streams you set - tle me to feed.
 A word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

C F C Dm G C Am Dm Am FM7

You bring my wan-dering spir - it back when I for-sake your ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers come and go—

Em C Am Dm Am Em C G7 C

And lead me for your mer - cy's sake in paths of truth and grace.
 My cup with bless-ings o - ver-flows, your oil a - noints my head.
 No more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

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

A Mother's Day Litany

One: As we celebrate mothers and all women who nurture others,
O God, empower us as we seek to love one another.

**All: For mothers of young ones, mothers of teenagers, and empty
nest mothers. For single mothers, stepmothers, and foster
mothers.**

One: God, in your love,

All: hear our prayer

**For women who carry in their bodies difficult and often distressing
experiences of abortion, miscarriage and infertility. *God, in your love...***

**For children and adults who have lost their mothers and for mothers
who have lost their children. *God, in your love...***

**For those who have placed a child for adoption. And for those who are
adopting or pregnant, awaiting the arrival of a child. *God, in your love...***

**For mothers whose children have disabilities or struggle with chronic
physical, mental or addiction health challenges. *God, in your love...***

**For mothers who manage their own disabilities or struggle with
chronic physical, mental or addiction health challenges.
*God, in your love...***

**For mothers of black and brown children in this nation, daily
affronted by racist ideas and policies that threaten and harm their
children. *God, in your love...***

For those who have been abused by their mothers. *God, in your love...*

For women who have nurtured others by teaching or mentoring.

God, in your love...

For all who yearn for an opportunity to parent. And for all who grieve the dream of becoming a parent. *God, in your love...*

For those who do not feel called to motherhood and yet feel our society expecting them to be mothers. *God, in your love...*

For transgender, gender fluid and gender dysphoric persons; who may feel unseen or unknown on this special day. *God, in your love...*

For mothers and children whose relationships are strained. And for mothers and children whose relationships are intimate and life-supporting. *God, in your love...*

And now, God, in our silence, we call upon your love to sustain the women and others who are rising up in our hearts today.

Musical Interlude *We listen as our own prayers quietly arise*

O God, empower mothers and all people who nurture others. In the relationships we've named silently and aloud, may we fulfill your command to love one another. May we support each other's lives more often than we diminish them.

One: God, in your love,

All: hear our prayer. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering



Offertory

“God Give Us Christian Homes”

Mc Kinney

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

*Please consider leaving a gift in the offering basket as you depart,
scanning the QR code to give electronically 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**

May these gifts bring light to those who walk in darkness, hope to those who live in despair, and justice to those who are oppressed. Grant to each giver a sense of participation in the most important opportunity of all time: to share your love with the world. To this end, we dedicate our offerings and ourselves. 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.*

*Our individually prepackaged Communion elements are gluten free
(found in a basket at the entrance to the park)*

*****The Invitation & Prayer**

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

One: 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 planets and all the company of creation, who forever sing their unending hymn to proclaim your glory. Amen.

*****Sung Response**

“Santo, Santo, Santo”

#111, CH

Sung twice - first in Spanish, then in English

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of two systems. The first system has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The second system has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The score includes a treble clef and a bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The chords are indicated above the treble clef staff.

Chords: C, G7, Am, F, G, C, F, G7, C, Am, F, G7, C

Lyrics:
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 when it is time to partake of the elements

The bread of life and strength, for all of us.
The cup of blessing and salvation, for all of us.

Thanks be to God!
Thanks be to God!

Sung Response

“Eat this Bread”

#414, CH

Sung twice

see next page

***Sitting or standing

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

O Holy One, in this time and place; we have touched, tasted, and heard signs of your love for us. Grant that we may go away from this service of worship filled with your love for us and overflowing with your love in and with all others. May we become the body of the Risen Christ. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Risen One. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God's Love

*****Closing Hymn** “All My Days” #84 *Sing! Prayer and Praise*
see next page
Claire Bjork & Keely Vandre, vocals
Please join in!

*****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** “Send Us Out” *Parks*

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

All are welcome to linger on the lawn after worship
10:30-11:00 am Fellowship | 10:30-10:40 am Healing Prayer

♩=78 N.C. A7sus

1. You

D D/F# G A7sus G/B D D/F# D G

know my_ words, be - fore they're said. You know my need and
 I should fly_ be - yond the_ dawn, the shad - ows will_ not
 ev - ery_ thought, each word we say, - the whole of_ time, the
 mend my_ heart and free my_ voice. From sin re - leased, I

E/G# Esus A F#7/A# Bm F#m7 G Am D7 Gadd9

I am_ fed. You give me_ life. - You know my_ ways, my
 o - ver - come. If I lie_ down in deep - est_ night, still
 pre - sent day, - are held with - in_ your might - y_ hand too
 will re - joice. O search me_ now, my spir - it_ cries, and

D/A G/B Em/C#F#aug Bm D7/A D/G D/F# Em7

strength, my path_ for all my_ days, my strength, my_ path, for
 you are_ there, my truth, my_ light, still you are_ there, my
 won - der - ful_ to com - pre - hend, too won - der - ful_ to
 let my_ song of praise a - rise, - and let my_ song of

Asus N.C. A7sus Asus N.C. Dadd9

1.2.3. 4.

all my days. _____ 2. If praise a - rise. _____
 truth, my light. _____ 3. Our
 com - pre - hend. _____ 4. O

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

*For **Laura Mayaka**, as she prepares for knee replacement surgery on May 18.

*For comfort and thanksgiving for **Dan Maturen** and his family on the peaceful passing of his mother **Clare Maturen** on April 28.

*For **Mary Ann Litfin's** grandson **Ari** and his family as he navigates managing symptoms of ADHD.

*For **Jenni Shaller's** friend **Ronald**, we lift a prayer of fervent hope.

*We celebrate birthdays with **Sharon** Binger (2nd), **Evelyn** Wulff (8 yrs old on the 2th), **Jane** Hanson (7th), & **John** Norheim (10th)

And in the wider community...

*In the wake of the leak of the Supreme Court's draft opinion portending a plausible overturning of Roe v. Wade, may we find courageous and grace-filled ways to engage with others on this sensitive topic. May the palpable presence of Love (God) be with women who are navigating challenging reproductive choices. May love sustain the work of those who deliver courageous, skilled, compassionate healthcare to women in various difficult circumstances. May we live out the gospel Jesus so boldly embodied.

*As the genocide rages on in Ukraine, may refugees be met with welcome and resources. May the violence come to an end. May we find ways to co-create justice-based peace. May our St. Croix Prayer Circle be a place of welcome and spiritual empowerment.

*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.



**People's Backyard
Potlucks
Tuesday, June 7,
5:30-7:00pm**

At the home of
Pastor Clare, Sam &
Jonah
1017 Carlton Dr.
Shoreview, MN 55126

Please let Pastor
Clare know if you
would like host in
July or August



Memorial Day Parade May 30!
*Practicing radical hospitality | refreshments,
drop-in Holy Communion
& blessing of animals!*

Cindy Seigel will set up a canopy on the
church lawn with free coffee,
lemonade & treats for all.
Pastor Clare and sons will bless animals
and offer Holy Communion to anyone
who wants it.

The parade starts at 8:30 am on highway
95 in front of the Legion.

This is Bayport's 100th birthday!
Helpers are needed, particularly with 7:30 am set-up.
It's a great reach-out to the community opportunity.
Donations of cookies, bars, donuts, etc are welcome & needed.
Any questions/comments? Call/text 651-343-3270 or
email cindysiegel98@gmail.com.



**Note from the
May Festival
Co-Chairs**



In a little less than 3 weeks, on May 21, the May Festival will be here!
The planning team has been meeting for several months.

Now we need volunteers on the "day of."

Please plan to help in a myriad of ways, including:

Friday afternoon set-up, Saturday morning set-up
clean-up at the end of the day on Saturday
assist with plant sales, assist with cashiering
assist with the silent auction, contribute to the bake sale
provide exhibitor hospitality (fetch them refreshments, "booth sit")
greet (welcome guests in the spirit of our "friend-raising" focus)

There is a sign-up sheet at church. Or feel free to just call
Sue Favilla 612-381-4996, or Jane Hanson 715-294-0506.

WANTED for May Festival Plant Sale:

House plants and/or garden perennials AND cute pots!

Do you have any house plants to spare or plants with babies you don't want? Do you have any perennials that need to be thinned, divided, or seedlings you don't need? We'd love to sell them at the May Festival Plant Sale!

And we'll even come to your yard/house to get the plants!
We're also looking for cute containers (teapots, casserole dishes, ceramic pots, mugs, cups).

Please purchase and sell 50/50 raffle tickets!

Please see Claire Spilseth this Sunday, before or after worship
Or pick up tickets at our church offices, Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-4pm
Or self serve from a bin on Kimberly's office door

ST. CROIX VALLEY PRAYER CIRCLE

June 1 | 6:30 pm

People's Park
1003 5th Ave. N.
(next to Barker's Alps)
Bayport

FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Save the date for this first gathering of St. Croix Valley Prayer Circle!

~ We welcome people of all faiths and paths ~

More details to come in a flyer next week!

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:
peoplescongregational.org

People's Book Club

May 12 | 6:30-8 pm
(@church, also Zoomed)

Interested? Planning to come?

Contact us:

office@peoplescongregational.org

Valley Bookseller is stocking a limited number of copies for

us at 15% off the \$18.99 list price.

Thank you for all who made today wonderful: Choir Dir. Michael Bjork, Worship Accompanist Sharon Neuenfeldt (beautiful music), Kathy Iverson (liturgist), Sam Gromoll (acolyte), Kathy & Bob Iverson, Aidan Gromoll (fellowship) Paul, Bob & Mark (tech), Mindy Peters (communion) Carol, Sue & Claire (children's activity), Lisa Culbertson (childcare provider)



People's Congregational Church

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