



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

...And the Greatest of These is Love



I CORINTHIANS 13:13

July 10, 2022

"...And the Greatest of These is Love"

## 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 & Lantern Lighting**

“Love Has Come”

*Maher*

Jonah Gromoll, *Acolyte*

*The flame represents the light of Christ among us*

### **Words of Welcome**

Pastor Clare Gromoll

### **\*\*\*Prayer of Gathering**

Sharri Kinkead

**O God, we thank you for calling us into your church - to be your people in the world. We are ready to hear your Word. Speak to us and give us courage to do your will. Even with our doubts, fears and shortcomings; we have decided to follow Jesus in our time and place. Guide us by your loving Spirit. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **\*\*\*Opening Hymn**

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

#459

### **Prayer Cards**

If you voice a prayer for a loved one today, we welcome you to start a card for us to sign during fellowship.

*(prayer cards found in Narthex)*

Please take the signed card with you as you leave, stamps provided.

## Acknowledging Our Humanness and God's Grace

### **\*\*\*Prayer of Longing**

One: Creator God, we cast our cares toward you and share our burdens with each other.

**All: Help us strip away our outer selves, dismantling our disguises.**

One: Manifest your presence as we lay bare our hearts and souls.

**All: Let your voice be heard in the silence of our spirits.**

One: Let your acceptance waft over us like a warm breeze as your calm and comfort envelop and cradle us.

**All: Let your love fill us with joy. May others sense your presence in our hearts and see you in our actions. 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!**

## A Time With Children

**Sung Invitation**     *We sing as our 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 Dawn (Fetter), Matt (Wulff), Tom (Dusbabek) &  
Cheri (Schwartz)*

## **Singing About Love** “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

**I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a river,  
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.**

**I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a river,  
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.**

**2. I’ve got joy like a fountain**

**3. I’ve got love like an ocean**

## **Blessing One Another** *Seated, we open our arms to the children*

**Children :** God be with you

**All:** And also with you

## **Sung Affirmation** *We sing as children depart 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 the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship*

*Lisa (Childcare Provider) supervises children in the Nursery downstairs*

*One adult, please briefly walk interested children down to her*

*If 3 or more children, we ask that a second adult assist Lisa*

## **Proclaiming God’s Love**

### **Scriptures**

**Deuteronomy 30: 9-14** ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

God will make you prosper in all the work of your hands, and in the fruit of your body, of your livestock and of your lands. God will once again delight in you and make you prosperous, just as God delighted in your ancestors and prospered them, if you obey your God, and keep the commandments and decrees that are written in this Book of the Law, and return to God with your heart and soul.

For this Law that I give to you today is not too difficult for you, nor is it beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you need to ask yourselves, “Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?” Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, “Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?” No, the word of God is very near to you; it is in your mouth, and in your heart, so that you can keep it.

**Psalm 25: 1-10** ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

*(unison)*

**To you, God,  
I lift up my soul.  
My God, I trust in you;  
don't let me be ashamed,  
don't let my enemies triumph over me.  
No—none who hope in you will be ashamed,  
but shame will come to the wantonly treacherous.**

**Show me your ways, God!  
Teach me your paths!  
Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation.  
I wait all the day long for you.  
Remember your mercies, God, your love—  
your ancient and unwavering love!  
Pardon the sins of my youth  
and my rebellious ways;  
remember me because of your love,  
because of your goodness, God!**

**And how good and upright you are, God!  
You instruct sinners in the path,  
you guide the humble in what is right,  
and teach them your way.**

## 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

Even if I can speak in all the tongues of Earth—and those of the angels too—but do not have love, I am just a noisy gong, a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy such that I can comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge, or if I have faith great enough to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own to feed those poorer than I, then hand over my body to be burned, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, and it is not snobbish; it is never rude or self-seeking; it is not prone to anger, nor does it brood over injuries. Love doesn't rejoice in what is wrong, but rejoices in the truth. There is no limit to love's forbearance, to its trust, its hope, its power to endure.

Love never fails. Prophecies will cease; tongues will be silent; knowledge will pass away. Our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect. When the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away. When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child. But when I became an adult, I put childish ways aside.

Now we see indistinctly, as in a mirror; then we will see face to face. My knowledge is imperfect now; then I will know even as I am known. There are, in the end, three things that last: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**Morning Message**     "...And the Greatest of These is Love"

*Gleanings from participants at the 68th Annual Meeting & Conference  
of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC)*

Sharon Binger & Pastor Clare

## Responding To God's Love

### Prayer Hymn

### "The Gift of Love"

CH #526

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,  
2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,  
3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift to all in - spire,  
and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,  
our spir - its long to be made whole.

and have not love, my words are vain,  
but not be given by love with - in,  
Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;

as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.  
the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.  
by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

## Prayers of the People

*When sharing a joy or concern for yourself, another, or a part of the world;  
please project your voice so we can hear it.*

*We'll add it to our printed Prayer Corner.*

One: God, in your love,

**All: Hear our prayer**

## Musical Interlude

*We listen as our own prayers quietly arise*

## Prayer of Jesus

*Feel free to call God by names that are true for you  
(Parent, Creator, Spirit, Friend)*

**Our Father and Mother who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name.**

**Thy kin-dom come. Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:**

**For thine is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

**Amen.**

## Invitation to the Offering

*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 bowl as you depart,  
scanning the QR code to give electronically, or mailing in a check*



## Offertory

“Schaff's Mit Mir, BWV 514”

J.S. Bach

\*\*\*Sitting or standing



### **\*\*\*Doxology**

**“Praise God”**  
*sung twice*

*by John Mueller*

**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.**

### **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 bread is gluten free, spaced out across a tray  
Juice is served in individual cups.*

*Please take a piece of bread and a cup without touching others  
Consume the elements as you step away from the table  
Place your empty cup in a receptacle on either front row pew*

### **\*\*\*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 the planets and all the company of creation - forever singing our unending hymn to proclaim your glory. Amen.**

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

#111, CH

*Sung twice - first in Spanish, then in English*

C G7 Am F G C

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

F G7 C Am F G7 C

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**

*Please approach the Communion Table by the central aisle,  
 returning by the side aisles.*

**\*\*\*Sung Response “Come to the Table of Grace”**

*#112 Sing! Prayer and Praise*

*Sung as we come forward to receive Communion*

F C/E Dm F7/C

1. Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Come to the ta - ble of peace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Come to the ta - ble of love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. Come to the ta - ble of joy. \_\_\_\_\_

Bb C7 F C

Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of peace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of joy. \_\_\_\_\_

F Gm7 F/A Bbsus2

This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.  
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.  
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.  
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.

F/C Bb/C C7 F Bb/F F

Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of peace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of joy. \_\_\_\_\_

### **\*\*\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Strong and tender God, because the broken bread has meant our healing, because the outpoured cup has meant our life, because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have been graced by your presence; we give you thanks and pray that our lives may be renewed in the life and the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Going Forth to Share God's Love**

**\*\*\*Closing Hymn** "I Am The Light of the World" #584

**\*\*\*Benediction**

**\*\*\*Sung Response**

**"Let There Be Peace on Earth"**

*by Jill Jackson-Miller and 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** "Our God Has Done Great Things for Us" *Hamm*

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

## After-Worship Fellowship

*Treats and beverages enjoyed in good company!  
All are welcome to gather downstairs*



### Monthly People's Backyard Potlucks

**Tues., July 19, 5:30-7:30 pm**

**Home of Rolf Dittmann & Jill Greenhalgh**

**273 ST. ANNE'S PARKWAY**

**HUDSON WI 54016**

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

**\*\* Label your serving container and spoon/tongs with your name! \*\***  
Host provides beverages, dishes, flatware, napkins, indoor restroom.

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

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Jill ([jillstcroix@msn.com](mailto:jillstcroix@msn.com)), though feel welcome to come at the last minute if it works out.

## **PRAYER CORNER**

*Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:*

\*For **Jeanette Schachtner**, co-leader of our St. Croix Valley Prayer Circle, as she prepares for hip replacement surgery on the 13th.

\*For newlyweds **Alex** (né Favilla) and **Andrew Sommerfeld**, that their bond of love will continue to strengthen as they step into their marriage together.

\*For love and comfort to surround **Cecilia Martin** and her extended family as they grieve the death of her husband, Harry Martin. He served on our Leadership Team and was instrumental in designing our Narthex addition and acquiring the land we now call People's Park. Pastor Clare met them in early 2022. A mysterious infection developed in Harry's body in recent years, leading to many health challenges including loss of limbs. May he rest in peace. Rev. Bob Furniss, Chaplain with Lakeview Hospital and Lakeview Hospice, will officiate at a celebration of life at Bradshaw Funeral Home on July 13th. We offer our condolences to Cecilia and their extended family. Cecilia is legally blind and had eye surgeries in recent days. She remembers People's Church friends fondly and hopes to become more active outside the home in coming months (though cannot drive herself). If you remember Cecilia and Harry, we encourage you to reach out to her: [cechmartin@comcast.net](mailto:cechmartin@comcast.net), 1443 Old Toll Bridge Rd. Lakeland, MN. 55043

\*For our Childcare Provider Lisa Culbertson's partner **Ted Miller**, for healing of an infection in his foot.

\*For Lisa Culbertson's granddaughter **Alisea**, struggling with emotional and physical pain. For peace for Alisea and guidance for her mother in making decisions related to Alisea's well-being.

\*For **Gary McLaughlin**, as scar tissue builds in his lungs and makes breathing difficult. We pray for Gary's well-being and comfort.

\*For Cindy Parsons & Bob Dickie's friend, **Alicia**, recovering from broken back, heals, and wrists after a fall from a 15-foot cliff.

\*For Mary Anne Litfin's friend, **Claire**, as she goes through a relationship ending and unemployment.

\*For former PCC pastor **Linda Tossey**, as she faces serious medical issues.

\*We celebrate birthdays with **Dawn Fetter** (4th), **Matt Wulff** (6th), **Cheri Schwartz** & **Tom Dusbabek** (11th)

*And in the wider community...*

\*We lament excessively easy access to guns in this nation. We acknowledge the grief of those mourning the deaths of loved ones after July 4th shootings in Highland Park, IL and Minneapolis as well those mourning the death of Jayland Walker (an unarmed black man shot 60 times by police officers in Akron, OH in late June). We give thanks for recent passage of bipartisan gun control legislation and hope that its key provisions cause a significant decrease in gun violence.

\*We lament the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, imperiling so many lives. May our St. Croix Valley Prayer Circle this week be a space that nurtures mutual support and empowerment. We pray for justice seekers, for all who need access to safe reproductive health care, and for all children to be born into situations in which they are wanted and nurtured. The national officers of our United Church of Christ offer these prayerful words: *"God loves and cares for people who have abortions, and so does the United Church of Christ. We believe all people have the right to make their own decisions about their bodies and medical treatment."*

\*We grieve with communities affected by the deaths of persons migrating northward into the United States last week. *"Desperate families of migrants from Mexico and Central America frantically sought word of their loved ones as authorities began the grim task Tuesday of identifying 51 people who died after being abandoned in a tractor-trailer without air conditioning in the sweltering Texas heat. It was the deadliest tragedy to claim the lives of migrants smuggled across the border from Mexico..."* (AP News)

\*We give thanks that children as young as 6 months old now have access to COVID vaccines! As the virus continues to infect people, may we each do our part to help protect the immunocompromised among us.

\*We bear witness to the grief of Native American communities in which girls and women continue to be trafficked and disappear.

\*As Select Committee Investigation hearings continue to unfold, may justice be served in regard to the January 6, 2021 attack on the US capitol.

\*As genocide and warfare continue in Ukraine, may refugees be met with welcome and resources.



out of  
office

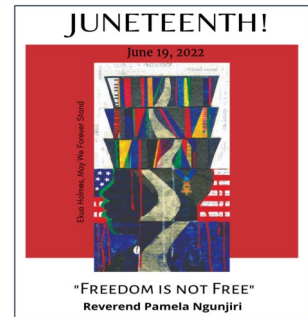
Kimberly will be out of the office:  
**July 12-14** (vacation, unavailable) back in the  
office on July 19th  
There will be no Mid-Week next week

Pastor Clare will be out of the office:  
**July 22-28** (vacation, unavailable)



On July 3rd, in conjunction with our  
Ecumenical Community Worship Service,  
the people of BLC and PCC gave Valley  
Outreach a combined gift of \$358 and 2-3  
shopping bags full of nonperishable items!

On June 19 and in the week afterward, People's  
Congregational raised \$525 to give to the Twin  
Cities' *Sounds of Blackness*.




Thank you for all who made today wonderful:

Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Cheri Schwartz (cantor), Jane Hanson  
Carol Dusbabek (greeters), Sharri Kinkead (liturgist), Jonah Gromoll (acolyte),  
Lori Mildon & Aidan Gromoll (fellowship), Mindy Peters (communion setup &  
server) Paul, Bob & Mark (tech), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider)



## People's Congregational Church

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