



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



July 24, 2022

"The Madness of Mercy"

People's Congregational & St. Peters UCC

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

“Come, My People”

Martin/Cliffe

Addison Albright, Acolyte

The flame represents the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome

Pastor Daniel Harrell

***Prayer of Gathering

Carol Dusbabek

God of all, open wide the windows of our spirits, and fill us with light. Open wide the doors of our hearts, that we may receive and entertain you with all our powers of adoration and love. Amen.

***Opening Hymn

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

#23 NCH

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 on shelf of entrance sign)

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

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of our minds;

there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
 and the heart of the E - ter-nal is most won-der - ful - ly kind.

There's no place where earth-ly sor-rows are more felt than in God's heaven;
 If our love were but more faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's word;

there's no place where earth-ly fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
 and our lives would show thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our God.

Acknowledging Our Humanness and God's Grace

*****Prayer of Longing**

God of abundant grace, love me from the inside out.

Take the thoughts I hide deep inside and burn them with your purifying fire. Take the roots of my mistrust and deaden their hold on my life. Love me from the inside out, God.

Take the thoughts that run freely in my mind and hold them in your grace. Take the hope you have planted in me and nourish it with the support of the church. Love me from the inside out, God.

Take the gift of the Spirit living within me and ignite my gift in service of love. Take your love within me and let it infuse my living. Love me from the inside out, God. 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 **Tony Graff***

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
Infants and toddlers (w/adult) are welcome to use our outdoor nursery*

*Lisa (Childcare Provider) supervises older children on the playground
(if 3 or more children, we ask that a second adult assist her)*

Children under 3 on the playground must be watched by their own adult

Proclaiming God's Love

Scriptures

Psalm 85 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

(unison)

**God, favor your land once again and restore the fortunes of Israel;
forgive the guilt of your people and cover their sins.
Set aside your anger, and calm the heat of your rage.
Return to us, O God of our deliverance!
Put an end to your displeasure with us.
Will you be angry with us forever?
Will your wrath continue from one generation to the next?
Won't you revive us again so that your people can rejoice in you?
Let us see your mercy, God, and grant us your deliverance.**

**I will listen to what you have to say, God—
a voice that speaks of peace, peace for your people and your friends
so long as they don't return to their folly.
Your salvation is near for those who revere you
and your glory will dwell in our land.
Love and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.
Fidelity will sprout from the Earth
and justice will lean down from heaven.
God will give us what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.
Justice will march before you, God,
and peace will prepare the way for your steps.**

Jonah 4~ NRSV

But Jonah grew indignant and fell into a rage. He prayed to God and said, "Please, God! Isn't this exactly what I said would happen, when I was still in my own country? That's why I left and fled to Tarshish: I knew that you were a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness, relenting from violence. Now, God, please take my life! I'd rather be dead than keep on Living!"

Then God said, "What gives you the right to be angry?"

Jonah then left the city and sat down to the east of it. There he had made a shelter for himself and sat down under the shade to see what would happen to the city. Then God sent a castor oil plant to grow up over Jonah to shade his head and soothe his indignation. Jonah was delighted with the castor oil plant. But at dawn the next day, God sent a worm to attack the castor oil plant and it withered. And after the sun had risen, God sent a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he was overcome and begging for death, and said, "I'd rather be dead than keep on living!"

God said to Jonah, "What gave you the right to be upset about the castor oil plant?"

He replied, "I have every right to be angry, to the point of death!"

God replied, "You feel sorrow because of a castor plant that cost you no labor, that you did not make grow, that sprouted in a night, and that perished in a night. Is it not right, then, for me to feel sorrow for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than 120,000 people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, to say nothing of all the animals?"

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Hymn

“Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You”

#510 NCH

Vs. 1-3

1 Grant us wis - dom to per - ceive you, hearts a -
2 Grant us faith - ful - ness in pray - ing, strength to
3 Grant us dil - i - gence in do - ing, pa - tience
4 Grant us cour - age to pro - claim you; Sav - ior

wak - ened to re - ceive you, minds a - lert to
keep our souls from stray - ing, sense to cease from
when your truth pur - su - ing, ea - ger to re -
of our lives we name you! May our ac - tions

thoughts that grieve you, God of mer - cy, hear us.
dis - o - bey - ing, God of mer - cy, hear us.
ceive re - new - ing, God of mer - cy, hear us.
nev - er shame you; God of mer - cy, hear us.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a treble and bass staff for each system. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

***Sitting or standing

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.*

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 our churches 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*

*Gifts we offer today (including electronically) will be split between
St. Peter's UCC & People's Church*

*If giving your gift to one church, note that explicitly in the memo line
or on the envelope*



*****Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*****Prayer of Dedication**

**God of wildly generous mercy, we offer ourselves with our gifts.
We are confident that you have a purpose for them and for us.
Expand our limited vision to embrace new possibilities.
We rededicate our lives to you. May our offerings reach
beyond the barriers of our former thinking and doing.
In the Spirit of Christ, we would pray and live. Amen.**

Going Forth to Share God’s Love

*****Closing Hymn “Draw the Circle Wide” #123 Sing! Prayer & Praise
Vs. 1-2**

♩=132

Draw the cir-cle_ wide. Draw it wid-er still. Let this be our_

song, no one stands a - lone, stand-ing side by side, draw the cir-cle_

To verses Last time, Fine

wide._____ wide._____

1. God the still - point of the cir - cle, 'round whom all cre -
 2. Let our hearts touch far hor - i - zons, so en - com - pass
 3. Let the dreams we_ dream be larg - er, than we've ev - er

- a - tion turns; noth - ing lost, but
 great and small; let our lov - ing
 dreamed be - fore; let the dream of

held for - ev - er in God's gra - cious arms. _____
 know no bor - ders, faith - ful to God's call. _____
 Christ be in us, o - pen ev - 'ry door. _____

*****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 linger on the lawn*

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

***Calvin Vandre**, a child of our congregation, is mending well after being treated for pneumonia at Children's Hospital a week ago. His family thanks us for our prayers.

*With Mary Binger, we give thanks for how cousin **Stella** shares knowledge of the Czech language as they explore family history and nurture relationships within their wider family.

*With Claire and Paul Spilseth, we give thanks that their friend **John** can stay in his own home.

***Jeanette Schachtner** is moving along the path of healing and recovery after recent hip replacement surgery. She thanks us for our prayers.

***Rev. Linda Tossey**, a former pastor of our church, has a difficult cancer diagnosis. She has begun six weeks of radiation and chemotherapy and welcomes our prayers.

*We celebrate a birthday with **Tony** Graff (28th) & anniversaries with **Jessica & Matt** Buck (17th) & **Matt & Emily** Wulff (30th)

And in the wider community...

*May the love of God abound through our ministries at St. Peter's UCC and People's Congregational Church.

Given the current spread of the highly transmissible and infections BA.5 variant of the coronavirus, may we continue to protect the immunocompromised among us. And may we each make wise, reasonable choices as we go about our daily living during this ongoing pandemic.

*For people to work collaboratively toward an end to our pandemic of gun violence in this land.

*For honest testimony and careful listening in service of justice regarding the January 6, 2021 attack on our U.S. capitol.

*For an end to genocide and warfare in Ukraine.

*Alongside refugees and all who experience homelessness, may we build a world in which all people experience security and prosperity.

St. Croix Valley Student Send-Off!

Do you long for students (PreK - college) to feel support from adults beyond their own parents, grandparents and school staff as they head back to school?

As People's Congregational Church, we want to continue to be relevant and responsive to the lives of people in our wider community.

Pastor Clare has formed this rough idea...

St. Croix Valley Student Send-Off: Hearing & Affirming Young People, S'mores & Playground Time

Our congregation would host the event at People's Park, open to all
A weekday evening in late August, 6:30-7:30 pm (possibly Aug. 31st)
A simple formal program (15-20 minutes in length) at the Outdoor Chapel

- listening - we hear from several students (PreK-college, recruited ahead of time), who simply state one thing they anticipate enjoying in the coming school year and one way they experience adults supporting them
- affirmation - with students at center, adults circle around them, sending them into the school year with words of support & affirmation
- singing - a song to open and close our program (uplifting, familiar, accessible to all, *a cappella* or accompanied by guitar)
- time to linger - make s'mores, playground time, explore our park

**Pastor Clare needs 2-3 people to help her refine,
organize and make the event happen.**

- someone to recruit several students to speak briefly
- someone to organize s'mores supplies
- someone to tend the campfire
- a vocal and/or guitar song leader
- someone to set out and put away chairs
- two greeters to welcome folks

Please let Pastor Clare know right away if you would like to help plan this event.

ST. CROIX VALLEY PRAYER CIRCLE
Aug 11 | 6:30 pm
@People's Park
1003 5th Ave. N.
Bayport
(BY BARKER'S ALPS)
People of all faiths & paths

CHILDREN AT SCHOOL
Safe & Thriving

Join our circle of prayer
Hearts unite & envision healing
Each person contributes to our impact
All ages welcome, bring friends
Please come, rain or shine

hosted by:
People's Congregational Church, Bayport
peoplescongregational.org
Questions? Contact the office | 651-439-5667



out of
office

Pastor Clare is out of the office
July 22-28
(on vacation, away from phone and email,
except in the case of an
urgent pastoral concern)



**Picture from
July 19th
Potluck @
Jill & Rolf's
home.**


**Much fun
was had!**

**Look for Aug.
and Sept
dates coming
soon**

Thank you for all who made today wonderful:
Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Cheri Schwartz (cantor), Jane Hanson
(greeter), Carol Dusbabek (liturgist), Addison Albright (acolyte),
Paul, Bob & Mark (tech), Sue Favilla (fellowship),
Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider)



People's Congregational Church

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