



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



August 14, 2022

"Will We Approach Division with Care?"

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

“Seed, Scattered and Sown”

Feiten

Addison Albright, Acolyte

The flame represents the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

*****Opening Hymn**

“Praise to the Living God”

#8

Vs. 1 & 4

see next page

Acknowledging Our Humanness and God’s Grace

*****Prayer of Longing**

Kathy Iverson, *liturgist*

God of all, you have given us the power of imagination through which the future grasps our lives today. You have sent your prophets and set them afire with visions of human life as you intend it. Yet we confess that we have chosen other stories, replacing hope with despair, substituting comfort for holy restlessness, masking the truth rather than facing reality. Forgive us and grant us courage, that we may be drawn toward the restored world you envision.

Through Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

prayerful silence

1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
 2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
 3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
 4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -

word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
 Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
 shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
 yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.

Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
 Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
 God toils wher-e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
 In these tu - mul-tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May

vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
 hu - man-kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
 deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
 we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Curtis Beach, born into a family of several generations of ministers, was educated at Harvard University, the Boston University School of Theology, and the University of Southern California. A minister in the United Church of Christ, Beach authored The Gospel of Mark: Its Making and Meaning.

Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.
 George J. Elvey, 1868

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

We share a sign of 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 **Kris** (Strasburg), **Elaine** (Santore) & **Jessy** (Hintze)*

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
We invite infants and toddlers (w/adult) to use our blanketed 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

Jeremiah 23: 23-32 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

Am I a God only when I am nearby, says God, and not a God when far away? Can anyone so hide in secret places where I cannot find them? says God. Do I not fill both heaven and Earth? says God.

I heard what these prophets say—the ones who speak lies in my Name: ‘I had a dream!’ they say, ‘I had a dream!’ How long will these lying prophets maintain these fictions in their hearts—these delusions of their own minds? They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my Name, just as their ancestors forgot my Name and could only remember Ba'al. Let the prophet who has a dream tell it. But let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. What do straw and grain have in common? It is God who speaks. Is not my word like fire, says God, and like the hammer the smashes the rock into pieces?

Therefore, thus says God: I oppose those prophets, imposters who steal words from one another—words presumed to be mine. Thus says God: I oppose those prophets who concoct words of their own and then say, ‘Thus says God.’ I oppose those prophets who prophesy false dreams, says God, who recount them in order to lead my people astray by their lies and their recklessness. Yet I neither sent them nor appointed them. They bring my people no good at all.

Psalm: 82 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

(responsive)

God presides in the divine assembly
and pronounces judgment among the “gods”:
**“How long will you defend the unjust
and show partiality to the corrupt?”**

Defended the lowly and the orphaned;
render justice to the oppressed and the destitute!

**Rescue the weak and the poor,
and save them from the hand of violence!**

But you know nothing
and you understand nothing—
you walk in darkness,
and the foundations of the Earth are shaking because of your
ignorance!

**I said, ‘You are “gods,” all of you—
Children of the Most High!’**

But you will die as any mortal,
and fall like any ruler!”

**Rise up, O God, and bring justice to the Earth,
for all the nations are your possession!**

Luke 12: 49-59 ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

“I’ve come to light a fire on the Earth. How I wish the blaze were ignited already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!”

“Do you think I’m here to bring peace on Earth? I tell you, the opposite is true: I’ve come to bring division. From now on a household of five will be divided—three against two and two against three, father against son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

Jesus said again to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say that rain is coming—and so it does. When the wind blows from the south, you say it’s going to be hot—and so it is. You hypocrites! If you can interpret the portents of Earth and sky, why can’t you interpret the present time?”

“Tell me, why don’t you judge for yourselves what is just? When you’re going with your opponent to appear before a magistrate, try to settle with your antagonist on the way, lest you be turned over to the judge, and the judge deliver you to the bailiff, and the bailiff throw you into prison. I tell you, you won’t be released until you’ve paid your opponent in full—to the last penny.”

Morning Message “Will We Approach Division with Care?”

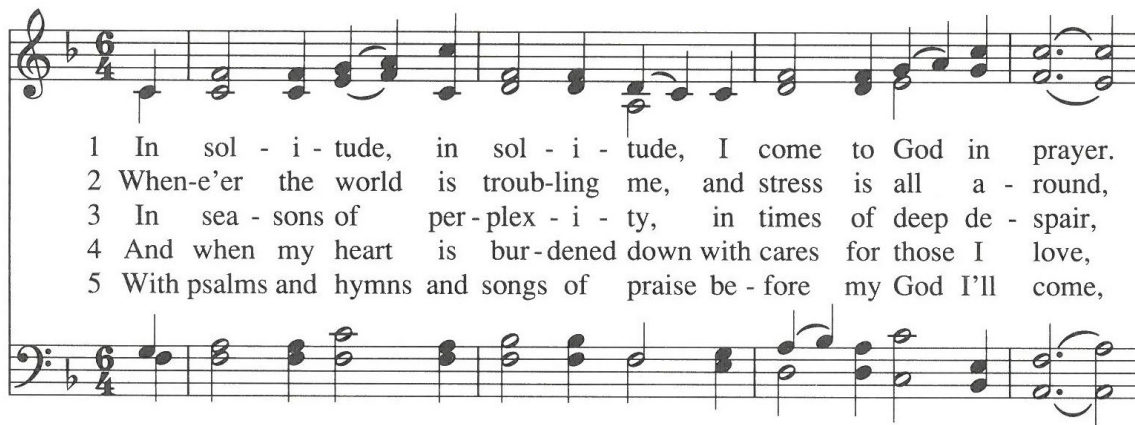
Responding To God's Love

Prayer Hymn

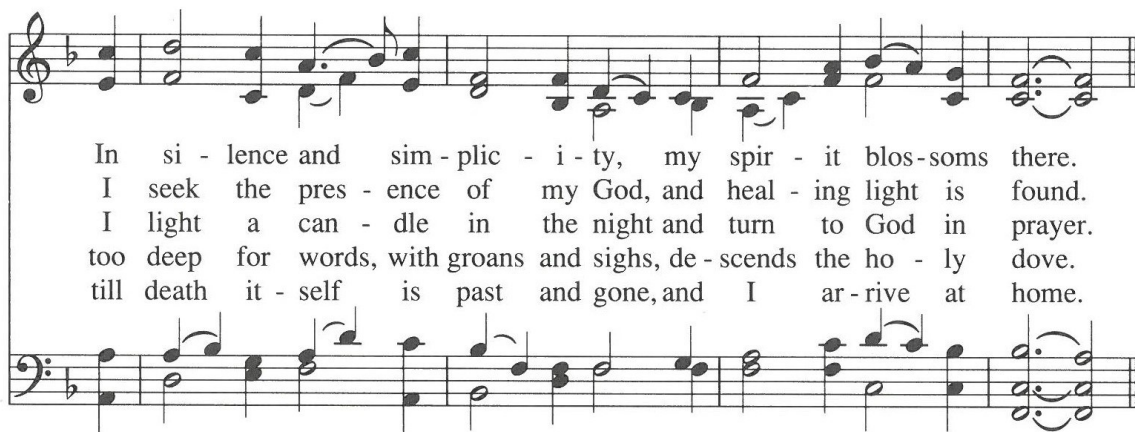
"In Solitude"

#521

Vs. 2, 3, 4



1 In sol - i - tude, in sol - i - tude, I come to God in prayer.
2 When-e'er the world is troub-ling me, and stress is all a - round,
3 In sea - sons of per - plex - i - ty, in times of deep de - spair,
4 And when my heart is bur - dened down with cares for those I love,
5 With psalms and hymns and songs of praise be - fore my God I'll come,



In si - lence and sim - plic - i - ty, my spir - it blos - soms there.
I seek the pres - ence of my God, and heal - ing light is found.
I light a can - dle in the night and turn to God in prayer.
too deep for words, with groans and sighs, de - scends the ho - ly dove.
till death it - self is past and gone, and I ar - rive at home.

Ruth Duck has commented that "these words were inspired by a pentatonic melody which came to me as I taught myself to play the mandolin." They are an expression of her "deep-rooted southern spirituality."

Tune: LAND OF REST C.M.
Traditional United States melody
Harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938

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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)*

**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

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

*We're invited to leave a gift in the offering basket as we depart,
scan the QR code to give electronically, or mail in a check*



Offertory

“God Alone”

unknown

*****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**

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 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

***Sung Response "Come to the Table of Grace"

Vs. 1, 3, 4

#112 Sing! Prayer and Praise

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. _____

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. _____

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.

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. _____

Sharing the Bread of Life & Cup of Blessing

One The bread of life and strength, for all of us.
All Thanks be to God!

We partake of the bread

One The cup of blessing and salvation, for all of us.
All Thanks be to God!

We drink from the cup

*****Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of all, for the healing you have given us in the brokenness of bread and the pouring out of cup, we thank you. For the community that you have restored in us through the sharing of life, we thank you. For the courage and strength that you have promised us, we thank you. Send us forth from this place in love, letting justice be worked out with gentleness and power known in the presence of your Spirit. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God's Love

*****Closing Hymn** "Lead On Eternal Sovereign"

#573

see page 14

*****Benediction**

“Lead On Eternal Sovereign”

1 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low in your way;
 2 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low not with fear,
 3 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,

loud rings your cry for jus - tice, your call for peace this day:
 for in each hu - man con - flict your words of strength we hear:
 and all your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace;

Through prayer-ful prep - a - ra - tion, your grace will make us strong,
 That when we serve with glad - ness, you will not let us fall,
 Then all in your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free,

to car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong.
 our trust is in your prom - ise that love will con - quer all.
 to love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.

At Andover Seminary, fellow students asked Ernest W. Shurtleff to write a hymn for their graduation. This is the result. Shurtleff became a Congregational minister and in his last years established churches in Europe and did relief work during World War I.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
 Henry T. Smart, 1836

*****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**

“Send Us Out”

M. Parks

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:

*For **Jere Fetter**, as he undergoes testing at Mayo Clinic on Aug. 18-19 for ongoing upper leg pain.

*For **Landon**, 17-year old great nephew to Jackie Savage, who was present in the group that was attacked while tubing on the Apple River. Landon witnessed at close range as Isaac Schuman bled to death and other friends were violently injured. May love surround all who are grieving Isaac's death. May the other four victims experience full physical recovery. May all who witnessed the attack be met with supportive companionship as they find healthy ways to process the trauma they've experienced.

*For **Alicia**, friend of Cindy Parsons & Bob Dickie, as she continues to heal and recover after a fall wall hiking resulted in multiple injuries.

*For the **Bacon** family, friends of Cheri & Bob Schwartz, celebrating the birth of baby Astrid after experiencing pregnancy complications and now facing Astrid's need for a new kidney.

*For **David Silverman**, husband of Connie (Horak) and son-in-law of Milan Horak, who had removals of a cancerous lesion on his tongue and lymph nodes in his neck. We hope for a clear oncology report and complete recovery.

*We offer deep condolences to **Patti and John Mueller** and their extended family upon the recent death of Patti's mother, Dolores Beach. Patti and John Muller are former members and current friends of People's Church.

*We pray for safe and enjoyable travels for **Rolf Dittmann** and **Jill Greenhalgh** as they visit the country of Norway, August 4-18.

*We give thanks for deepening connections with our neighbors at **St. Peter's United Church of Christ**.

*For Rev. **Linda Tossey**, a former pastor of our church, who has a difficult cancer diagnosis. She welcomes our prayers as she continues with radiation and chemotherapy treatments.

*We celebrate birthdays with **Kris Strasburg** (8th), **Elaine Santore** (9th) & **Jessy Hintze** (14th) and the anniversary of **Claire & Michael Bjork** (9th)

And in the wider community...

*May tangible support reach eastern Kentucky communities devastated by recent flash floods. May love surround all who grieve the deaths of 38 beloved persons of all ages and wait to hear from two women who are still missing.

The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC), on behalf of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, is gratefully receiving funds to assist with Kentucky relief efforts. In times of crisis, the MOMC makes every effort to work through member churches and missions closest to those in need. Where our churches and missions are not present, we work through respected and responsible organizations. One organization to receive funds will be Convoy of Hope. Kentucky governor Andy Beshear has also set up a “Team Eastern Kentucky Flood Relief Fund” which will be considered. To mail a check or donate online, please include a note with your donation indicating that the funds are for Kentucky flood relief efforts.

NACCC – OGHS

PO Box 288

Oak Creek WI 53154

Donate online at www.naccc.org/donate

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.



Peace Poles - on our Front Lawn and at People's Park!

Our Leadership Team has approved a plan to order two Peace Poles - one to place at People's Park and one to place in a visible spot outside our church building. We thank Mindy Peters for spearheading this project!

Please consider donating to this project by sending in a check, stopping by the church

office with check or cash, or by giving electronically through our church website. Please designate your gift to the "Peace Pole Project." The total cost will be \$800. Excess funds raised will go into our Blessing Fund for other Justice and Outreach causes.

Please vote on what languages to include on our People's Peace Poles. English, Dakota, and Ojibwe will be represented. Five more languages will complete the pole. The link to fill out the survey (by Aug. 22) as well as more information regarding the Peace poles can be found in the Mid-Week.

Harvest Fest

The 2022 Harvest Fest planning begins!

An organizational meeting will be held on **Aug. 16 @ 11 am**, anyone is welcome to attend.


If you are interested in joining the team, please reach out to Mary Binger

PEOPLE'S
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

Harvest Fest
2022

DO YOU LONG FOR STUDENTS OF ALL AGES & STAFF AT THEIR SCHOOLS
TO FEEL SUPPORTED BY EVERYONE THIS FALL?

People's Congregational Church seeks to be relevant
and responsive to life in our wider community.



Join us for our 1st Annual...

ST. CROIX VALLEY STUDENT SEND-OFF:

Hearing & Affirming Students,
S'mores & Park Exploration

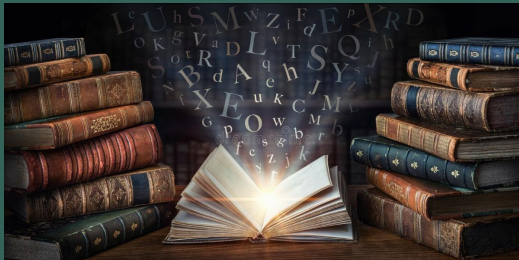
AUGUST 24TH, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
AT PEOPLE'S PARK | 1003 5TH AVE. N., BAYPORT, MN

Questions? Contact our church office @ 651-439-5667
peoplescongregational.org



out of
office

Pastor Clare will be out of the office:
Aug. 16-17 (vacation, available by phone for
urgent pastoral concerns)



People's Book Club

We aim to read books that matter from
diverse genres, topics and authors.
tentative fall reboot date:
September 21st, 6:30pm


Hey, Everybody! In preparation for the fall Book Club season, the Welcome Team would appreciate your sending us your book recommendations. We look for books from varied genres, topics, fiction or nonfiction. If you like a book, we want to hear about it – title and author and your comments, if you want to share them.

Send to Paula at pkrichey55@gmail.com

Thank you for all who made today wonderful:
Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Kathy Iverson (liturgist),
Addison Albright (acolyte), Mindy Peters (communion setup) Paul, Bob & Mark
(tech), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider)



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