



St. Peter's United Church of Christ
July 31, 2022

Welcome our friends from
People's Congregational Church

Music to Gather

Debi Orff, piano

Welcome, Community News & Greeting One Another

*** Responsive Reading**

Psalm 107:1-9 (NRSV)

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

Those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress;

He led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town. Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

*** Opening Song 9**

"We Sing to You O God"

Our Prayer of Confession (prayed together)

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent,
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

An Assurance of God's Grace and Peace

God's Word in Scripture

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23; Luke 12:13-21 (NRSV)

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"

And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I

will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

"Do We Invest More in Abundance or in Emptiness?"

Rev. Clare Gromoll

*** A Song of Faith 563 "We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky"**

Joys and Concerns + Prayer + Our Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Give + We Gather our Gifts

*** Our Song of Thanks: Hale, hale, hallelujah...**

*** Prayer of Dedication for Our Offerings**

*** A Closing Song 583 "Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us"**

*** Blessing**

*** Music as We Go Out**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**August 14, 10AM: Worship with Parkview UCC, 3737 Bellaire Ave,
White Bear Lake, MN 55110**

**August 28: Worship with People's Congregational at People's
Park, 1003 5th Ave N, Bayport.**

**August 30: Potluck Dinner at St. Peter's with People's
Congregational Church**

St. Peter's United Church of Christ

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