



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



September 11, 2022  
"Are We Open to Being Found?"  
Connection Sunday

## 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**

“Welcome to this Place”

*Cowen*

*Addison Albright, Acolyte*

*The flame represents the light of Christ among us*

### **Words of Welcome**

Pastor Clare Gromoll

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

*Mindy Peters, liturgist*

**Gracious God, we welcome your uplifting presence among us today. We move with excitement toward autumn, even if wistful for summer rhythms. Bless this church family as we sing, pray, learn and serve together. May our worship and ministry be to your greater glory. May our gifts of the Spirit build up the body of Christ. Amen.**

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

“Gather Us In”

*All verses*

#284 CH

*see next page*

### **Prayer Cards**

If you voice a prayer for a loved one during Prayers of the People, we welcome you to start a card for us to sign during fellowship.

*(prayer cards on entrance sign shelf)*

Unison D A C G Gm/B $\flat$  Dm

1. Here in this place, the new light is stream-ing, sha-dows of doubt are  
 2. We are the young—our lives are a mys-tery; we are the old, who  
 3. Here we re-ceive new life in the wa-ters; here we re-ceive the  
 4. Not just in build-ings, small and con-fin-ing, not in some heav - en,

C G D A C G

van-ished a - way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his - tory,  
 bread of new birth; here you shall call your sons and yourdaugh-ters,  
 light years a - way, here in this place the new light is shin - ing;

Gm/B $\flat$  Dm C Am7 D

brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is God pres-ent, and now is the day.

## Acknowledging Our Humanness and God's Grace

### **\*\*\*Prayer of Longing** *(responsive)*

O God, this is a month of changes.

**We feel it in the cooler air.**

Some are finding our way back to school, and we all want to learn.

**Let us all grow in wisdom and maturity.**

Some of us are watching the harvest arrive, while gardens of others among us produce less and less.

**Let all of our hearts produce love and kindness.**

Many of us are leaving vacations behind.

**But God, you renew our lives by filling us with your joy and your rest.**

Creative God, every year the world spins through its seasons as new troubles emerge.

**Steady and soothe your Earth, that its changes may be good changes and its struggles end in peace.**

Loving God, our steadfast friend, watch over the changes in our lives.

**May we stretch and grow, yet always remain your children. Amen.**

### **\*\*\*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 **Claire** (Spilseth), **Mindy** (Peters), **Dale** (Shaller) &  
**Gary** (Mclaughlin)*

**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.**

*Children (age 3+) follow leaders to the picnic shelter for Children’s Activity*

*We also welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship*

*Lisa (Childcare Provider) welcomes infants and toddlers at our  
blanketed outdoor nursery*

*Children on the playground must be watched by their own adult*

## Proclaiming God's Love

### Scriptures

**Luke 15: 1-10** ~ *The Inclusive Bible*

Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the “sinners” were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, at which the Pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, “This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!”

Jesus then addressed this parable to them: “Who among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, doesn’t leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and search for the lost one until it’s found? And finding it, you put the sheep on your shoulders in jubilation. Once home, you invite friends and neighbors in and say to them, ‘Rejoice with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’ I tell you, in the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to repent.

What householder, who had ten silver pieces and loses one, doesn’t light a lamp and sweep the house in a diligent search until she finds what she had lost? And when it is found, the householder calls in her friends and neighbors and says, ‘Rejoice with me! I’ve found the silver piece I lost!’ I tell you, there will be the same kind of joy before the angels of God over one repentant sinner.”

## 1 Timothy 1: 12-17~ *The Inclusive Bible*

I thank Christ Jesus of Savior, who has strengthened me, given me this work, and judged me faithful. I used to be a blasphemer, a persecutor, a violent man; but because in my unbelief I didn't know what I was doing, I have been treated mercifully, and the grace of our God has been granted to me in overflowing measure, as was the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

Here's a saying that can be trusted and is worthy of your complete acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Of these I myself am the worst. But I was dealt with mercifully for this reason: so that in me—the worst case of all—Jesus Christ might demonstrate perfect patience; and so that I might become an example to those who would later have faith in Christ and gain everlasting life. To the Ruler of ages, the immortal, the invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever! Amen.

**Morning Message**      "Are We Open to Being Found?"

### Responding To God's Love

**Prayer Hymn**      "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"      #489  
*Vs. 1-4*      *see page 8*

### **Prayers of the People**

*When sharing a joy or concern for yourself, another, or a part of the world; please project your voice to be heard. We'll add it to our printed Prayer Corner.*

**One:** God, in your love,

**All:** Hear our prayer

# “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” ~ *Vs. 1-4*

Horatius Bonar, 1846; alt.

Matt. 11:28-30; John 4:7-15; 8:12

1 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, “Come un-to me and rest;  
2 I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn, and sad,  
3 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, “Be - hold, I free - ly give  
4 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life-giv - ing stream;

Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast.”  
And there I found a rest-ing place, where Je - sus made me glad!  
The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst-y one, draw near, and drink, and live.”  
My thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I am re - deemed.

5 I heard the voice of Je-sus say,  
“I am this lost world’s Light,  
Look un-to me; your morn shall rise,  
and all your day be bright.”

6 I looked to Je-sus, and I found  
my guid-ing Star, my Sun;  
And in that light of life I’ll go  
till trav-eling days are done.

*Horatius Bonar was one of the founders of the Free Church of Scotland. A man of wide scholarship and great devotion to his ministry, he wrote nearly one book a year, as well as some 600 hymns.*

Tune: EVAN C.M.  
William H. Havergal, 1847  
Arr. Lowell Mason, 1850  
Alternate tune: KINGSFOLD  
(Pair stanzas 1-2, 3-4, 5-6)

## **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*



## **Offertory**

**“Ground and Source of All That Is”**

*Colligan*

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

**“Praise God”**

by John Mueller

*Sung once*

**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 are all welcome to follow Jesus in the way of radically inclusive love*

*Our children and their leaders return to worship at this time*

*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**

**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*

# 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. \_\_\_\_\_

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

**God of all, we thank you for knowing when we are hungry before we know it. We thank you for the friendship of Christ that greets us with a meal when we are weary, have come up empty, and are powerless to provide for ourselves. Grant us the humility and enthusiasm to keep coming back for sustenance at Christ's feast of love – now and in all our days. Amen.**

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

**\*\*\*Closing Hymn**      “Draw the Circle Wide”      *see page 14*  
*All verses*      #123 Sing! Prayer and Praise

### **\*\*\*Benediction**

**\*\*\*Sung Response**      “Irish Blessing”  
*Sung Twice*

**May the road rise to meet you  
May the wind be at your back  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
The rain fall soft upon your fields  
And until we meet again  
Till we meet again  
May God hold you in the palm of God's hand**

**\*\*\*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*

# "Draw the Circle Wide"

♩=132

E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup>

Draw the cir-cle\_ wide. Draw it wid - er still. Let this be our\_

B<sup>b</sup> Dm7(b5)/A<sup>b</sup> G G/B Cm Fm7 A<sup>b</sup>maj7 B<sup>b</sup>9sus Am7(#5) B<sup>b</sup>7

song, no one stands a - lone, stand - ing side by side, draw the cir-cle\_

E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> Fm7 E<sup>b</sup>/G Fm7 A<sup>b</sup>maj7 E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> Fm7 E<sup>b</sup>

To verses Last time, Fine

wide.\_\_\_\_\_ wide.\_\_\_\_\_

E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> Fm7 B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> Fm7

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

Gm7 A<sup>b</sup>maj7 B<sup>b</sup> Cm Fm7

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

B<sup>b</sup> Gm7 Cm7 Fm7 Gm7 A<sup>b</sup>maj7 Fm7 A<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup> Gm/B<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup> D.C.

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. \_\_\_\_\_



## A Survey of People's Congregational Church

*Sunday Mornings @ People's  
Schedule and Opportunities  
(Fall 2022 – Spring 2023)*

Our Spiritual Life Team supports worship.

Our Welcome Team supports fellowship time.

Our Adult Faith Formation Team offers faith conversations.

All three teams value your input related to our shared experiences on Sunday mornings.

Our Leadership Team will review our responses on Sept. 14 and select a fall Sunday morning schedule according to the preferences we assert.

This schedule will begin when we shift indoors on October 2.

We value your input, whether or not you have recently been frequently present with us on Sunday mornings.

Please consider completing this brief survey (*found in the Mid-Week and Pastor's Postscript*) **by tomorrow**. Thank you!



## Next Joint Church Potlucks

*(with St. Peter's UCC)*

**Thursday Sept. 15, 5:30-7:30 pm**

home of **Sharri Kinkead**

444 County Road F, Hudson WI 54016

Bring a lawn chair and a salad, side, or dessert

**\*\* Label your serving container 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 Kimberly

[office@peoplescongregational.org](mailto:office@peoplescongregational.org)

Feel welcome to come at the last minute if it works out.

## **PRAYER CORNER**

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

\***Sam Gromoll** has begun a 6-month trial of growth hormone treatments. We pray for courage as he and his parents grow accustomed to nightly shots

\*For **Elizabeth**, client of Cindy Siegel, who took a fall on Wednesday. We pray for excellent care, healing and smooth recovery.

\*For **David Silverman**, son-in-law to Milan Horak, who has cancer in his neck. We pray for healing as he begins treatment.

\***Rev. Mark Horst**, a well-known pastor and friend of Mary Binger and Rolf Dittmann, passed away recently. May he rest in deep peace and may all who loved him be surrounded by support as they grieve.

\*For **Addison Albright**, a child of People's, who was recently hospitalized with fever and rapid breathing. Addi was treated for Kawasaki disease, recuperated at home, and has begun preschool.

\*For **Frank Cole**, a new friend of People's, whose son died recently from a complex illness. May Tim Cole rest in deep peace and may all who loved him be surrounded by support as they grieve.

\*We celebrate birthdays on these dates: **Claire Spilseth** (11th), **Mindy Peters** (12th), **Dale Shaller** (14th), **Gary McLaughlin** (15th)

\*We celebrate an anniversary on this date:  
**Cindy Parsons & Bob Dickie** (24th)

*And in the wider community...*

\*We give thanks for time spent in recreation with family and friends across the summer. We pray that students, teachers and all school staff members feel well supported as they dive into a new school year.

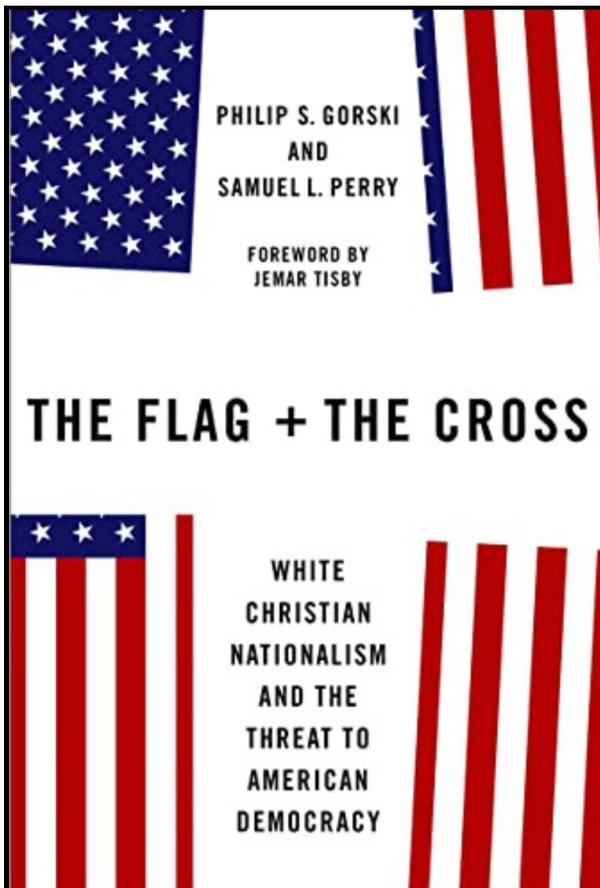
\*UCC officers lead us in praying for healing, understanding, unity in love on the anniversary of 9/11. Find the full statement at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) (search for "unity in love on 9/11"). Here are a few excerpts:

*It is our hope and our prayer that this [20th] anniversary will rekindle within us all a desire less to retaliate than to heal, less to avenge than to understand...*

*Let us unlearn the ways of war. Let us no longer cultivate fear for the purchase of political power. Let us be eager to know both the conditions that make for suffering, and the requisite empathy needed to alleviate it.*

*We call for continued prayers for those grieving loved ones who died in the attacks on Sept. 11, for whom this anniversary will serve to re-open their healing wounds.*

*We name our complicity with the ways in which a centered Christianity in America has authorized Islamophobia and marginalized Muslim peoples. And finally, we embrace the hope that people of faith will unite in a common love for all. That love is the only pathway we see to the vision we have of a just world for all... Amen and Ashe.*



## People's Book Club

*We aim to read books that matter from diverse genres, topics and authors*

**Sept 21 | 6:30-8 pm**

at church and Zoomed

Interested? Contact us:

[office@peoplescongregational.org](mailto:office@peoplescongregational.org)

People's Congregational Church  
309 N. 3rd St. Bayport, MN  
[peoplescongregational.org](http://peoplescongregational.org)





## Refreshment Stand & Blessing of Animals

**Friday, Sept. 16 | 5-8 pm**

@ Our Church Lawn

During Bayport's annual Derby Days, Friday's 5-10pm "Party in the Park" will occur at Perro Park - right next to our building! During the early evening hours, we will meet and greet neighbors as we serve them refreshments and offer blessings to animals. Bring your lawn chair!

Thanks, Cindy and John Siegel, for bringing a canopy and taking lead on this event! Please contact Cindy (651-343-3270, [cindysiegel98@gmail.com](mailto:cindysiegel98@gmail.com)) to help in one of these ways:

- **Bring 2 dozen cookies or bars** (dropped off at church on Thursday, wrapped for freshness, plated and ready to be grabbed by passersby)
- **Assist Sam, Jonah, Pastor Clare, Cindy & John** (1 hour of 5-8 pm)  
*We will benefit from having several adults present each hour.  
The front doors will be open, the Narthex and Sanctuary lit up,  
welcoming visitors to see our sacred space  
(one of our adults will be present in the Narthex at any given time).*



## Harvest Fest

The 2022 Harvest Fest planning has begun!

The next meeting will be held on

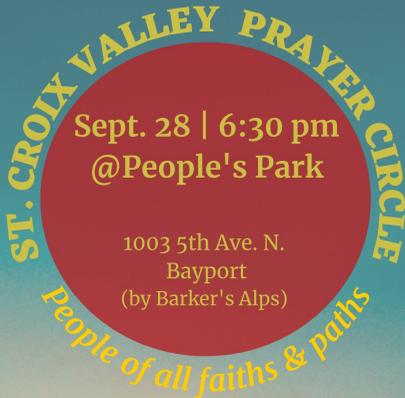
**Sept. 15 @ 1 pm**, anyone is welcome to attend.

If you are interested in joining the team, please reach out to Mary Binger at [mehbinger@gmail.com](mailto:mehbinger@gmail.com)

Do you have an account with THRIVENT? We just learned that THRIVENT will generously donate \$250 to People's Harvest Fest as part of their "Thrivent Action Team" program which supports local community fundraisers/projects. Anyone with an account can apply, so (for example) if 4 of us at People's have an account with THRIVENT, Harvest Fest could receive \$1000!! Yay!

We'll help you with the process. Please contact Mary Binger. No personal/financial information will be disclosed. Thank you!





## MENTAL HEALTH:

*Less Stigma, More Support*

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  
peoplescongregational.org  
Questions? Contact the office | 651-439-5667

### A Shift in Kimberly's Work as Our Communications Coordinator (a transition to mostly remote)

Kimberly will work from home the week of **Sept. 27-29**

You can reach her (9 am - 4 pm) at 651-439-5667 and [office@peoplescongregational.org](mailto:office@peoplescongregational.org)

Need access to the church building in order to take care of something?

Want to visit with Pastor Clare or Kimberly in one of our offices?

Typical office hours:

Tuesday-Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm

Please contact us before you stop in (to check that one of us is there to receive you).

Thank you for all who made today wonderful:

Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Michael Bjork (Choir Director), Mindy Peters (liturgist), Addison Albright (acolyte), Carol Dusbabek (Children's Activity), Mindy Peters (communion setup & fellowship) Bob & Mark (tech), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider)



### People's Congregational Church

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**Hymnals used:** New Century Hymnal, Sing! Prayer & Praise, Chalice Hymnal