



**The Love of God Gathers Us**

**Gathering Music**

Sharon Neuenfeldt

*We greet those around us or sit quietly  
as we settle into sacred time and space*

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Prelude & Candle Lighting** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” *Mason*  
Sam Gromoll, *acolyte*

*A flame represents the light of Christ among us*

**Words of Welcome**

Pastor Clare Gromoll

**Let's welcome one another!**

Name tags (permanent & one-time-use) are in the Narthex/entry area  
Welcome forms in pews: request a prayer or name tag, update contact info, etc.

**\*\*\*Call to Worship** (*responsive*)

Cheri Schwartz, *liturgist*

Sometimes we experience life as disconnected bones, rattling around without hope.

**But God promises open graves and vibrant spirits.**

Sometimes we are cut off from one another and our joy feels dried up.

**But God promises we can be community, filled with understanding and care.**

We gather in this place to hear God's Word and feel God's Spirit.

**God knits together our brittle ways and limbers up our souls – so that we not only live, but dance!**

**\*\*\*Opening Song** (see insert)

“All My Days”

**All Verses**

### **Acknowledging Our Humanness and God's Grace**

**Scripture Calls Us To Prayer**

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

*p. 806*

**Prayer of Longing** (*unison*)

**Spirit and Breath of life, we trust you to sustain each of our spirits. Yet, at times we succumb in our own ways to despair and apathy. Like dry bones, our spirits can become brittle and break under pressure. Breathe your power into us, that our faith may be active in word and deed, sharing with others in your power through our living. Amen.**

*...the singing bowl welcomes us into silence as our own longings quietly emerge*

**Assurance of Grace**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you! **All: And also with you!**

**\*\*\*Passing the Peace**

*We share a sign of peace with one another (in-person, virtually)*

*We extend the peace later by phone or email*

**Tibetan singing bowls** took form in the 16<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> centuries BCE. In some Buddhist traditions, they accompany meditation and chanting. In the US since the 1970s, they have contributed to new-age music, yoga & music therapy. 2

*“This Little Light...” welcomes our young people forward*

We make an annual gift to Walker West in St. Paul, MN as a reparations payment for use of “This Little Light of Mine.” Walker West creates a music learning community rooted in the African-American cultural experience, where people of all ages and backgrounds can gather, explore, and grow through music.

### **A Time With Children and Youth**

**Sung Invitation** ...as our young people 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 Calvin Vandre (8 yrs. the 21st), Keely Vandre (23rd)*

**Wondering Together**

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

Children : God be with you      **All: And also with you**

**Sung Affirmation** *...as young people 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.**

Youngest children (infant - age 3) | downstairs Nursery  
Young children (age 4 - gr. 2) | downstairs Sunday School Room  
Older children & youth (gr. 3-6) | upstairs Corner Meeting Room  
We welcome sounds and movements of children who stay in worship.  
Need space to move around? Feel free to use the Narthex (entry area)  
or Meditation Room (exit at front of Sanctuary)

\*\*\* = Sitting or standing

## **Proclaiming God's Love**

**A Reading from the Gospels**      John 11: 1-45      *pg. 104*

**Sermon**      “Do We Welcome What Invigorates Us?”

**10:00 bells** | *When the St. Charles Church bells ring, we pause for silence*

*You may wish to consider the Sermon Response Page (see insert)*

*Or pray for cooperative ecumenical and interfaith relationships*

*The singing bowl will welcome us back 2 minutes later*

## **Responding To God's Love**

**Prayer Hymn (NCH #292)**      “Breathe on me Breath of God”

**Vs. 1-3**

### **Prayers of the People**

*We share aloud prayers for ourselves, others, and parts of the world*

*We add them to our emailed & printed Prayer Corner*

**One:** God, in your love      **All:** Hear our prayer

### **Prayer of Jesus (unison)**

**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**

**Offertory**      “God Will Guide Me”      *American Tune*

NCH = *The New Century Hymnal*, found in pews

Greeters pass offering plates at this time  
We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)  
If giving electronically, we can place a blue Giving Card in the plate  
Completed Welcome Forms (edges of pews) and Sermon Response Pages also go in the plate



**\*\*\*Offertory Response (unison)**

**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 (unison)**

**God of all, 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. 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 Song (NCH #581) "Lead Us from Death to Life"**  
**Vs. 2-3**

**\*\*\*Benediction**



**All are welcome to gather downstairs after worship!**  
**10:30 am** | Fellowship  
**11 am - 12 pm** | Park Improvement Student Presentations



**2nd Annual!**



**Accepting  
Exhibitors  
through April 15th!**

May 20, 2023  
11:00 am – 6:00 pm  
People's Park  
(adjacent to Barker's Alps Park)  
Bayport, MN

*Support local artisans  
Add plants and flowers to your home or garden  
Enjoy the day in a beautiful natural setting*

**Artisan Sale** | artist, crafter, vendor & nonprofit exhibitors  
**Gertens Plant Sale** | flowers & gift cards | **order by April 6**  
**Plant Sale** | perennials, succulents & seedlings

**Family Activities for All Ages** | engage in fun & wonder

**Food Trucks & Lion's Club Food Booth** | come hungry!  
(New this year! Take-out or Eat-in dinner from **4-6 pm**)

**Music** | Four fantastic bands!

*Wait, there's more... 50/50 Raffle ~ Bake Sale*

Learn more on the web: [peoplescongregational.org](http://peoplescongregational.org)  
Visit and share our May Festival Facebook event: [direct link to Facebook event](#)

Questions? Contact: [office@peoplescongregational.org](mailto:office@peoplescongregational.org)  
(651) 439-5667

**People's Congregational Church**  
*An inclusive community, celebrating God's unconditional love...*

**GERTEN'S PLANT  
SALE!**

**This is the  
simplest way to  
help right now!**

Our  
church receives  
**30% of all plant  
sales and 15% of  
all gift card sales!**  
AND you'll have  
beautiful plants  
for your summer  
garden!

**Plants/Flowers  
will be delivered  
on  
May 17**

**THE LAST DAY  
to order is  
April 6.**

Instructions for  
ordering are in  
the Mid-Week  
News

## PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

### *For persons known to us...*

\*For Mary Maren Bjork's friend **Barb Huwe**, who passed away on Saturday. May Barb rest in deep peace.

\*For **Barb Hilliard**, having ablation procedures on nerves along her spine to relieve osteoarthritis on March 31.

\*Celebrating anniversaries: **Stan & Barb Hilliard** (19th), **Tom & Carol Dusbabek** (26th)

### *And in the wider community...*

\*To our Muslim neighbors, a blessed Ramadan. May peace and justice be with us all. [Mar 22 - Apr 20, Ramadan is a time of fasting, prayer, reflection and community.]

\*For a world that extends love and justice to all of God's beloved children.

"The rights and safety of our trans siblings are being undermined like never before. As state legislators consider hundreds of anti-LGBTQ bills, the United Church of Christ is committed to raising our voices and working in solidarity for a world that extends love and justice to all of God's beloved children." (see *Mid-Week News*)

\*We pray for the destigmatizing of chemical dependency in our land and that support would surround people who struggle with addiction and toward recovery.

\*We continue to pray for earthquake survivors in eastern Turkey and Syria. May the love of God be embodied through healing action surrounding all affected persons.

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Michael Bjork (choir director), PCC Choir (cantors), Sam Gromoll (acolyte), Carol Dusbabek & Kathy Iverson (greeters), Cheri Schwartz (liturgist), Jill Greenhalgh & Rolf Dittmann (fellowship), Tech Team, Children & Youth Ministry Team, Jackie Savage (Sanctuary organizer, outdoor sign) Andi Favilla & Jenni Shaller (decorations), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider)



### People's Congregational Church

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

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**Music/Hymns used:** New Century Hymnal, Sing! Prayer & Praise.

# Breathe on Me, Breath of God

292

*Edwin Hatch, 1886; alt.*

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new  
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,  
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one de - sire:  
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.  
Un - til with you I will one will, to do and to en - dure.  
That ev - ery earth - ly part of me may glow with ho - ly fire.  
But live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system has a treble and bass staff with lyrics 1-4. The second system also has a treble and bass staff with the concluding lyrics. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4.

*Between parish assignments in London, Edwin Hatch taught classics at Trinity College, Quebec, and lectured at Oxford. This hymn appeared in a leaflet, "Between Doubt and Prayer" (1878). Other hymns were published posthumously in Towards Fields of Light, London (1890).*

Tune: TRENTHAM S.M.  
Robert Jackson, 1894

581

# Lead Us from Death to Life

2 John 1:3; Isa. 2:2-4

Refrain, Satish Kumar  
Stanzas, Marty Haugen, 1985

Refrain C C7 F G C G/B Am

Lead us from death to life, from false-hood to truth, from de -

spair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to

love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let

peace fill our world, let peace fill our u - ni - verse.  
to Stanzas

Dm7 G C Dm7 C7/E C7 Dm7

G C/E E7 Am Dm7 G

Em Am Dm7 C/E Dm/F C/G G7 C

1 Still all the an-gry cries, still all the an-gry guns, still now your  
 2 So man - y lone-ly hearts, so man - y bro-ken lives, long-ing for  
 3 Let jus-tice ev - er roll, let mer-cy fill the earth, let us be -

peo-ple die, earth's sons and daugh-ters. Let jus-tice roll, let  
 love to break in - to their an - guish. Come, teach us love,  
 gin to grow in - to your peo - ple. We can be love,

mer - cy pour down, come and teach us your way of com - pas-sion.  
 come, teach us peace, come and teach us your way of com - pas-sion.  
 we can bring peace, we can still be your way of com - pas-sion.

The text for the refrain of this hymn is known as the "World Peace Prayer." It is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism. Since its introduction at a service in Westminster Abbey on Hiroshima Day, 1981, the prayer has been translated into numerous languages and circulated around the world. The musical setting and additional stanzas were composed by Marty Haugen, composer-in-residence at Mayflower United Church of Christ, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Tune: WORLD PEACE PRAYER  
 12.11.9.10. with refrain  
 Marty Haugen, 1985