

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*

Ringling 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 16th -11th 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

*****Sending Song** *...forming a circle around the perimeter of the Sanctuary*

“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.**

We carry the light of Christ with us in all times and spaces

*****Postlude** “Go My Children with My Blessing”

Vajda

Join us for...the last **Wednesday Evenings in Lent (Mar. 29)**
5:30 worship | 6:00 supper | 6:30-7:15 discussion

Inquirers Gathering

For brand-new friends, for newish friends, for long-time friends...
Thursday, March 30 | 6:30-8:00 pm (in person at church, also Zoom if requested)

Attending does not obligate you to covenant in membership, but it is a required step in the process. The second and final step prior to joining as a member is a one-to-one conversation with Pastor Clare, sharing more about your faith journey and what you hope to experience as a member of People’s Church.

Our next New Member Sunday is tentatively scheduled for **April 16**
We look forward to covenanting with new members of our congregation!

On **April 2nd**, join us for Palm Sunday | **10 am**
Ecumenical Worship @ Trinity Lutheran (Stillwater)
Beginning outdoors, processing inside
(worshipers can also be indoors only)

2nd Annual!



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

**Accepting
Exhibitors
through April 15th!**

*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
Visit and share our May Festival Facebook event: [direct link to Facebook event](#)

Questions? Contact: 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

Rev. Clare Gromoll, Pastor ~ pastor@peoplescongregational.org

309 Third St. N, Bayport MN 55003-1028

(651) 439-5667 / office@peoplescongregational.org

www.peoplescongregational.org  @PCCBayport

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

Credits & Permissions | **Call to Worship** Adapted from *An Improbable Gift of Blessing: Prayers to Nurture the Spirit* by Maren C. Tirabassi and Joan Jordan Grant. Copyright © 1998 United Church Press. **Prayer of Longing**, Reprinted from *Flames of the Spirit: Resources for Worship* by Ruth C. Duck. Copyright © 1985 Pilgrim Press. **Prayer of Dedication**, Reprinted or adapted by permission of the publishers from *Touch Holiness*, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright © 1990 by The Pilgrim Press. Permission to **podcast/stream** the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-703858. All rights reserved.
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 image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Breathe on Me, Breath of God'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The first system includes four numbered verses of lyrics. The second system includes the concluding lines of the hymn. The music is written in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

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

Dm7 G Em7 Am
 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 -
 Dm7 G7 C Am Dm7
 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,
 E7 Am F D7/F# C/G G7 C to Refrain
 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