



May 21, 2023

“For What has
the Time Come?”

Let's welcome one another!

Name tags (permanent & one-time use) are at the entrance sign
Welcome forms in songbooks: request prayer, update contact info, join email list

NCH = *The New Century Hymnal: A Sampler*

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

*We greet those around us or sit quietly,
settling into sacred time and space*

Ringling of the Bell

Jonah Gromoll, youth greeter

Prelude & Lantern Lighting

Acknowledging the light of Christ among us

“We Are Not Alone”

Sallade

Sam Gromoll, acolyte

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

*** = Sitting or standing

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

Mindy Peters, *liturgist*

Come, all those weary from the crowd and bustle of the day:
God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those with delight for the abundance of everyday treasure:
God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those made restless by acquiescence to injustice:
God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those who search for glimpses of quiet transcendence:
God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those with spirits frayed from the pull of unforeseen
difficulties:
God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those with open hearts, ready to listen for the mystery:
God's steadfast love awaits you.

*****Opening Hymn (NCH #46)** "We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky"
Verses 1-2

Acknowledging Our Humanness and God's Grace

Prayer of Longing (*responsive*)

There is a world that weeps, yearning for a sign of mercy.
The heart of God within us has no hands but our own.

There is a friend in anguish, besieged by unexpected pain.
The heart of God within us has no ears but our own.

There is a multitude harmed and weary from prejudicial ways.
The heart of God within us has no eyes but our own.

A stranger faces death alone, wondering if anyone will remember.
The heart of God within us has no tears but our own.

There is a life, hollow and lonely, longing for someone to walk
alongside.
The heart of God within us has no feet but our own.

God of all, forgive our resistance and open us further to your work through all that we are and all that we do. Amen.

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

Assurance of Grace *(responsive)*

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

*****Passing the Peace**

*We share signs of peace (smiles, handshakes, hands at heart center)
We extend the peace later by phone or email*

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”

Walter Vandre (20th), Jill Greenhalgh (27th), Edith Lisbeth Stokes (28th)

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.**

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

Ruth Duck, 1984; rev. 1989

1 We can - not own the sun - lit sky, the
 2 When bod - ies shiv - er in the night and,
 3 God calls hu - man - i - ty to join as

moon, the flow - ers grow - ing, for we are part of
 wea - ry, wait for morn - ing, when chil - dren have no
 part - ners in cre - a - ting a fu - ture free from

all that is with - in life's riv - er flow - ing,
 bread but tears, and war - horns sound their warn - ing,
 want or fear, life's good - ness cel - e - brat - ing.

Tune: REJOICE, REJOICE 9.8.9.8.8.8.7.8.9.
Marty Haugen, 1983

With o - pen hands re - ceive and share the gifts of God's cre -
 God calls hu - man - i - ty to wake, to join in com - mon
 That new world beck - ons from a - far, in - vites our shared en -

a - tion, that all may have a - bun - dant life in
 la - bor, that all may have a - bun - dant life in
 deav - or, that all may have a - bun - dant life and

ev - ery earth - ly na - tion.
 one - ness with their neigh - bor.
 peace en - dure for - ev - er.

*Interested children (age 4 - gr. 6) follow leaders to Children's Activity (picnic shelter)
Lisa cares for infants and toddlers at our blanketed outdoor nursery
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship*

Proclaiming God's Love

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 1: 6-14

Morning Message “For What has the Time Come?”

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Song (Sing! Prayer and Praise #66) “Every Step of the Way”
sung twice

Prayers of the People

*We share aloud prayers for ourselves, others, and parts of the world
We'll add your prayer to our Prayer Corner*

One: God, in your love

All: Hear our prayer

Prayer of Jesus (unison)

(from New Zealand Book of Prayer)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come
on Earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

Greeters pass offering baskets 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 basket
Welcome Forms also go in the baskets



Offertory

“Deep Within Our Hearts”

Liberatore

*****Offertory Response**

**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**

*****Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)**

Gracious One, we offer common blessings in our daily living: a gesture of strength, a word of daring, a prayer of kindness. We shape the tone and texture of how your vision is realized: weaving threads of justice, composing psalms of healing, sculpting contours of wisdom. We continue the holy story with chapters of our own: one life offering witness, another speaking as prophet, another walking as disciple; each one part of the whole. We dedicate our lives to your way of love. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God’s Love

*****Closing Hymn (NCH #46) “We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”
verses 1 & 3**

Every Step of the Way

66

$\text{♩} = 128$
F C/E Dm C B \flat Dm/A C/G Gsus G

Help me do the jus - tice to be

done to - day. Help me love kind -

- ness in all I do and say.

Help me walk hum-bly with you, O God I pray

ev - 'ry step of the way,

ev - 'ry step of the way.

Based on *Micah 6:8*.

Words and Music: Christopher Grundy

Music arrangement: Christopher Grundy and Gregory Milton

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*****Benediction**

*****Sung Response** *...forming a circle around the perimeter of the worship space*

“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**

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

*****Postlude**

“On Our Way”

Melton

After-Worship Fellowship

*All are welcome to linger on the lawn
for treats and beverages enjoyed in good company!*



**Land Recognition and Stewardship Mission:
“Indian Lands and Acknowledgements”
Cris Stainbrook, President,
Indian Land Tenure Foundation|**

TODAY 10:45 am

Peoples’ Park

10:45 am -12:00 pm childcare provided!

This is the second of three Land Recognition and Stewardship learning sessions in our mission to meaningfully recognize and honor the Native people whose homeland we worship upon through land-based education, financial support, and action/advocacy.

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

For persons known to us...

*With **Sharon Neuenfeldt**, our Worship Accompanist, we give thanks for successful surgery on her hand, swift healing, relief from pain, and her sooner-than-expected return to us today!

*Gratitude for our hard-working **May Fest Planning Team** and for all who participated in any way in our vibrant 2nd annual event yesterday!

*With Pat Mazzitello and Nat Graf, we pray for neighbor Lynn's mother **Ida**, who has been suffering with as yet unexplained mini strokes.

*With Andi Favilla, we pray for her brother **Tom Ford and family** as they grieve the recent death of Tom's beloved mother-in-law Flora.

*With Keely Vandre, we pray comfort for all who miss **Layla** (a former classmate of 2nd grader Calvin). Layla would have been 8 years old this spring but died one year ago. For all who are grieving losses near Mother's Day.

*With Mary Binger, we give that her daughter **Erika** is enjoying a time of health and energy in her journey with mysterious chronic pain.

*With **Jennifer Halvorsen-Albright** and extended family, we hold space to remember her brother-in-law James and all who are missing James.

*With Jenni Shaller, we give thanks for the supportive roles that **siblings** play in many of our lives.

And in the wider community...

*For those are not able to parent children, particularly those who have experienced termination of parental rights. May we work as a society toward reduction in silence and stigma around such experiences.

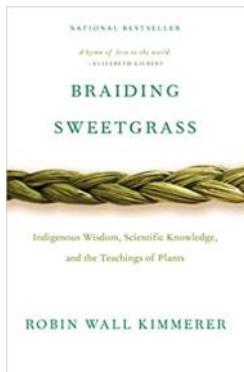
*For all who are missing and mourning the death of St Croix County Deputy **Katie Leising**, who was killed in the line of duty.

Memorial Day Parade Hospitality | Monday, May 29, 8:30 am

We will once again provide treats & coffee on our church lawn during the parade. Contact Cindy Siegel (cindysiegel98@gmail.com, 651-343-3270) or Megan (office@peoplescongregational.org, 651-439-5667) if you can help!

People's Book Club

Wed. June 7th & Thurs. June 15th | 6:30-8 pm



Meeting in person at People's Park
(contact Pastor Clare about participating virtually)

Valley Bookseller has copies in stock at a 15% discount
(mention our book club!)

The book is also available through libraries and online booksellers.

Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux will facilitate our discussions.
On June 15th, we're honored to welcome Heather's sister-in-law,
a native healer, to share with us:
Renee Butters 'Awanishbaasin ~ The Breath of the Spirits'
Ojibwe Snake Clan, White Earth Nation



Blood Drive | Thursday, June 8 | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

See Mid-Week News for link to schedule your donation.

Or contact the church office at 651-439-5667

Thank you to today's partners: Sam Gromoll (acolyte), Sharon Neuenfeldt (worship accompanist), Bob Dickie and Jonah Gromoll (greeters), Michael Bjork (Choir Director), PCC Choir (cantors), Mindy Peters (liturgist), Cindy Parsons (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (Tech Team), Carol Dusbabek & Claire Spilseth (Sunday School), Jackie Savage (Outdoor sign), 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"*

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