



July 16, 2023
"Seeds of Change"

Let's welcome one another!

Name tags are at the entrance sign

Welcome forms in songbooks: request prayer, update contact info, join email list

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

Prelude and Lantern Lighting

Acknowledging the light of Christ among us

"Song of Love"

James/Bronleewe/Ash

Sam Gromoll, acolyte

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

* = Sitting or standing

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

Mary Maren Bjork, *liturgist*

When we let seeds fall into the good soil of our spirits:
God's greenwood of wisdom rises once again.

When we receive God's affirming welcome into our tender emotions:
God's greenwood of wisdom rises once again.

When we gleam like a hillside city into the sham of hidden tyrannies:
God's greenwood of wisdom rises once again.

When we bind the wounds of intolerance into a balm of kind relations:
God's greenwood of wisdom rises once again.

***Opening Hymn (NCH #16)** "All Earth is Waiting / Toda la Tierra"
verses 1 & 3

Acknowledging Our Need for God's Grace

Prayer of Confession and Longing (*unison*)

Pastor Daniel Harrell

All-loving Creator, Revealer and Sustainer – tilling difficult soil and planting new seeds often makes us feel uncomfortable, vulnerable, or afraid. When we labor, it can feel hard to break new ground and easy to lose sight of the harvest. With this metaphor of planting and harvesting, we confess our need for your grace. We acknowledge that we can be difficult, hardened soil — resisting your life-giving seeds. Stretch our hearts and imaginations to receive the seeds of your mercy and possibilities for new life. Hear now our private thoughts as we continue in silent prayer. Amen.

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

Tom Dusbabek (11th), Cheri Schwartz (11th)

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.**

*Children age 4+ are welcome on the playground, staffed by Lisa
Younger children on the playground must be supervised by their own adult
A blanketed outdoor nursery space is available for infants and toddlers
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship*

Proclaiming God's Love

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures | The Inclusive Bible Isaiah 55: 10-13

A Reading from the Gospels | The Inclusive Bible Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Morning Message “Seeds of Change” Pastor Daniel

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Song (SPP #128)

“Change My Heart, O God ”
verses 1 & 3

Prayers of the People

*We share aloud prayers for ourselves, others, and parts of the world
We'll add them to our printed and electronic Prayer Corner
Please let Pastor Clare know if you don't want yours added to the Prayer Corner*

One: God, in your love

All: Hear our prayer

Prayer of Jesus (unison)

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and Earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

*Loose offerings go to People's Church
Please clearly designate gifts for St. Peter's UCC*

*We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)
Envelopes and **blue electronic giving cards** are tucked within SPP songbooks*



***Offertory Response**

**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!**

***Litany of Fullness** (*responsive*)

God says, I do not speak in vain. My words do not fall on unyielding ground and shall not return to me empty. I speak with confidence.

My Word will return to me full of fruit.

My voice waters the Earth, and my breath gives it life. You who despair, look up in hope. I speak with power.

My Word will return to me full of fruit.

My will is abundance; my intention for you is courage and healing and grace. I speak with compassion.

My Word will return to me full of fruit.

You shall go out with joy and be led back in peace. All of creation will join in the dance of your celebration!

God of all, we are the fruit of your Word and we return to you full. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God’s Love

***Closing Song (SPP #139)** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”
verses 1 - 3

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

...forming a circle around the perimeter of the worship space

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

**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**

“Let Us Depart in Peace ”

Mexican Folk Song

After-Worship Fellowship

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

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

For persons known to us...

*With Bob, we pray for **an individual who is in between housing** and working hard to find their way in the world.

*For our **Transition Task Force**, as they lead us through the creative and legal work of merger. May we know wisdom, grace, and good humor throughout this process.

*For **Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux** and family as they lay her mother, Molly, to rest in Turtle Lake, WI on Thursday.

*Celebrating Anniversaries: **Jessica and Matthew Buck (17th)**

Toda la Tierra

(All Earth Is Waiting)

Isa. 40:3-5

Alberto Taulè, 1972; alt.
 Transl. Gertrude C. Suppe, 1987; alt.

Unisono (Unison)

1 To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
 2 Di - ce el pro - fe - ta al pue - blo de Is - ra - el:
 1 All earth is wait - ing to see the Prom - ised One,
 2 Thus says the proph - et to those of Is - ra - el,

y el sur - co a - bier - to, la o - bra del Crea - dor; es el
 “De ma - dre vir - gen ya vie - ne Em - ma - nuel,” se - rá
 and o - pen fur - rows, the sow - ing of our God. All the
 “A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el:” One whose

mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 “Dios con no - so - tros,” her - ma - no se - rá, con
 world, bound and strug - gling, seeks true lib - er - ty; it
 name is “God with us,” our Sav - ior shall be, through

cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. (4 dar - nos li - ber - tad.)
 él la es - pe - ran - za al mun - do vol - ve - rá. (4 brings us lib - er - ty.)
 cries out for jus - tice and search - es for the truth.
 whom hope will blos - som once more with - in our hearts.

- 3 Mon-tes y va-lles ha-brá que pre-pa-rar;
nue-vos ca-mi-nos te-ne-mos
que tra-zar.
Dios es-tá ya muy cer-ca, ve-nid-lo
a en-con-trar,
y to-das las puer-tas a-brid de par
en par.
- 4 En un pe-se-bre Je-sús a-pa-re-ció,
pe-ro en el mun-do es-tá
pre-sen-te hoy.
Vi-ve en nues-tros ve-ci-nos,
con e-llos es-tá;
y vuel-ve de nue-vo a dar-nos
li-ber-tad.
- 3 Moun-tains and val-leys will
have to be made plain;
o-pen new high-ways,
new high-ways for our God,
Who is now com-ing closer,
so come all and see,
and o-pen the door-ways
as wide as wide can be.
- 4 In low-ly sta-ble
the Prom-ised One ap-peared,
yet feel that pres-ence
through-out the earth to-day,
For Christ lives in all Chris-tians
and is with us now;
a-gain, on ar-riv-ing
Christ brings us lib-er-ty.

Tune: TAULE 11.11.12.12.
Alberto Taulé, 1972
Harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1988

When Jesus Wept

17

William Billings, 1770

John 11:35

When Je - sus wept, the fall - ing tear in mer - cy
flowed be - yond all bound; When Je - sus groaned, a
trem - bling fear seized all the guilt - y world a - round.

William Billings served as choir leader at Old South Church in Boston. A self-taught singing school teacher and composer, he also worked as a tanner. "When Jesus Wept" is especially beautiful when sung as a canon, with groups entering as indicated by the numbers above.

Tune: WHEN JESUS WEPT L.M.
William Billings, 1770
New England Psalm Singer

RESPOND

128 Change My Heart, O God

♩ = 100

1. Change my heart, O God,___	make it ev - er true.---
*2. <i>Cleanse my soul, O God,___</i>	<i>wash it with your grace.---</i>
*3. <i>Stir my mind, O God,___</i>	<i>move it to be - lieve.---</i>
*1. <i>Change our hearts, O God,___</i>	<i>make them ev - er true.---</i>
*2. <i>Cleanse our souls, O God,___</i>	<i>wash them with your grace.---</i>
*3. <i>Stir our minds, O God,___</i>	<i>move them to be - lieve.---</i>

Change my heart, O God,___	may I be like you.---
<i>Cleanse my soul, O God,___</i>	<i>ten - der your em - brace.---</i>
<i>Stir my mind, O God,___</i>	<i>help me to per - ceive.---</i>
<i>Cleanse our hearts, O God,___</i>	<i>may we be like you.---</i>
<i>Cleanse our souls, O God,___</i>	<i>ten - der your em - brace.---</i>
<i>Stir our minds, O God,___</i>	<i>help us to per - ceive.---</i>

Chorus

You are the Pot - ter,	I am the clay.---
<i>You are the Pot - ter,</i>	<i>we are the clay.---</i>

Mold me and make___ me,	this is what I pray.
<i>Mold us and make___ us,</i>	<i>this is what we pray.</i>

Change my heart, O God,___	make it ev - er true.---
<i>Change our hearts, O God,___</i>	<i>make them ev - er true.---</i>

RESPOND

F Dm⁷ Gsus C G

Change my heart, O God, — may I be like you. —
Change our hearts, O God. — may we be like you. —

Esus E 3 Am Dm A

You are the Pot - ter, I am the clay. —
You are the Pot - ter, we are the clay. —

Esus E 3 Am Gsus/D D G

Mold me and make — me, this is what I pray.
Mold us and make — us, this is what we pray.

C G/B F/A Dm G⁷ Am Em/G

Change my heart, O God, — make it ev-er true. —
Change our hearts, O God, — make them ev-er true. —

F Cmaj⁷/E Dm G C

Change my heart, O God, — may I be like you. —
Change our hearts, O God, — may we be like you. —

*Words in italics are new lyrics and have been added with permission of the publisher.

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I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me 139

$\text{♩} = 68$

1. I'm gon-na live so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -
 2. I'm gon-na work so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -
 3. I'm gon-na pray so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -
 4. I'm gon-na sing so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -

- time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
 - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
 - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
 - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____

— I'm gon-na live so _____ God can use me _____
 — I'm gon-na work so _____ God can use me _____
 — I'm gon-na pray so _____ God can use me _____
 — I'm gon-na sing so _____ God can use me _____

— an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
 — an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
 — an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
 — an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____

Our Welcome Team Invites You to Our Next Inquirers Gathering!
Sometime on August 2 or 3 (to be determined by those who wish to attend)



For newer and long-time friends alike...
Learn about the life and work of People's Congregational Church, our denominational affiliations, and about our merger with St. Peter's United Church of Christ. Explore deepening your participation in our congregation and learn about membership.

We look forward to our next New Member Sunday - **August 27!**

Please let Pastor Clare know if you would like to attend an Aug. 2nd or 3rd Inquirers Gathering (pastor@peoplescongregational.org, 651-600-6409).

Backyard Potlucks

The next one is:

July 26th , 5:30pm at Lori Mildon's home in Stillwater.



Mark your calendars for August 22nd at St. Peter's UCC and September 12th at Sharri Kinkead's in Hudson.

Let's support Community Thread's **Stuff the Bus** initiative!



Drop off school supplies at People's Church or St. Peter's UCC anytime before **August 6th** or take them directly to Community Thread (2300 Orleans St W in Stillwater).

Interested in a volunteer opportunity to shop for and sort supplies? Please let Megan

(office@peoplescongregational.org, 651-439-5667)
or Kathleen (kadennison@msn.com, 651-303-4794)
know by July 10th.

For more information or to view the supplies-needed list, please check the Community Thread website: <https://communitythreadmn.org/stuff-the-bus/>

“Day Camp” at People’s Park
Saturday, August 5th | 10 am—3 pm

An opportunity for people of all ages to:
Pause * Connect * Grow * Engage * Strengthen Faith
through a variety of Spiritual Practices



We make an annual gift to Walker West (St. Paul, MN) as a reparation 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.

Thank you to today’s partners:

Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Sam Gromoll (acolyte), Sue Favilla and Jane Hanson (greeters), Jonah Gromoll (youth greeter), Mary Maren Bjork (liturgist), Sue Favilla (cantor), Chris and Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (outdoor sign), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider)




A Merging Congregation...


with roots in People’s Congregational Church & St. Peter’s United Church of Christ



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