



July 23, 2023

“How Do We Place
Hope In the Future?”

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

“Lead Me, Guide Me ”

Akers

Acknowledging the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

* = Sitting or standing

***Prayer of Gathering** (*responsive*)

Holy One - Breathing in your spacious peace, we welcome this day.
Resting in your expansive love, we welcome this day.

Trusting in your perpetual hope, we welcome this day.
Living in your created image, we welcome this day. Amen.

***Opening Song (SPP #16)**

“Come to the Water”
verses 1—4

Acknowledging Our Need for God’s Grace

Prayer of Confession and Longing (*unison*)

Based on Psalm 139

God of all, we cannot escape your love. We find no place to hide. You search us out wherever we may be. Your love is like a parent’s blanket—protecting us wherever we go and shielding us from evil. We may travel to the moon or to the depths of the ocean: your love is there. We may think ourselves to greater levels of sophistication: your love is there. We may fall into the pits of sin: your love is there. Loving God, we confess our need for your steadfast mercy. Thank you for being there, wherever we may be. 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”

Ruby Staberg (22nd - 4yr), Maya Klisch (23rd - 5yr), Tony Graf (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.**

*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*

Genesis 28: 10-19a

A Reading from the New Testament | *The Inclusive Bible*

Romans 8: 14-25

Morning Message

“How Do We Place Hope In the Future?”

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Song (SPP #81)

“More Than We Can Ask”

Cantor sings refrain, then all sing from the beginning

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*)

**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

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)

Blue electronic Giving Card and Welcome Forms go in the offering basket



Offertory

“We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder”

American Negro Spiritual

***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*)

God of generous love, we give thanks for opportunities to share in your creative and restorative work among people. Because you empower us, we have much to give. These offerings express our gratitude and our aspiration to be ever more fully your embodied community. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God's Love

***Closing Song** (NCH #8) “Called as Partners in Christ's Service ”
verses 1 & 4

***Benediction**

***Sending Song** *...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** “Send Forth by God's Blessing ” *Welsh Folk Tune*

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

Pastor Daniel is away July 22—August 2, on vacation

In the event of a question or urgent need, please contact one of the following:

Pastor Clare Gromoll, People's Church (651-600-6409,
pastor@peoplescongregational.org)

Megan Adams, Office Coordinator of People's Church (651-439-5667,
office@peoplescongregational.org)

Kaira Bettin, St Peter's Church Council President (651-329-3781,
kbuberl.bettin@gmail.com)

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

For persons known to us...

*With grateful hearts, we keep **Sharon Binger** and **Mindy Peters** in our prayers as they participate in the quadrennial International Family Conference in Fiji (a gathering of the worldwide Congregational Church). Prayers for safe travels and a fruitful experience. They return on August 1st.

*Celebrating Anniversaries: **Jessica and Matthew Buck** (17th), **Matt & Emily Wulff** (30th), **Eric & Keely Vandre** (Aug. 1st)

And in the wider community...

*With Pastor Daniel, we pray for **those who face economic hardship** as our economy fluctuates.

*With Rev. Fritz, we pray for those who are suffering from **heat**.



Early Birds | Every Sunday, 9am

Come! Gather with other Early Birds at 9am any Sunday, checking in and becoming better acquainted with one another. Bring your travel mug full of coffee or tea if you'd like!

A Celebration to Remember Cynthia Evans West
Saturday, July 29

2 pm | A Service with Song at St. Peter's UCC with
The Wisconsin Godspellers

3:30 pm | A Gathering of Joy with food, drinks,
and croquet on the lawn at Evancroft (Fritz West's farm)
200 Oak Knoll Drive, Marine on St. Croix



Backyard Potlucks

The next one is:

**July 26th, 5:30pm at Lori Milton's home in
Stillwater (full address in Mid-Week News)**

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



Our Welcome Team Invites You to Our Next Inquirers Gathering!

Sometime on August 2 or 3 (time 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 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).



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).

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

Thank you to today’s partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Carol Dusbabek (greeter), Sharri Kinkead (liturgist), Keely Vandre (cantor), Jill Greenhalgh and Rolf Dittmann (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



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

St Peter’s United Church of Christ

Rev. Daniel Harrell, Interim Minister ~ pastor@stpetersstillwater.org
111 Orleans St. E, Stillwater MN 55082
651-439-2160 / office@stpetersstillwater.org
www.stpetersstillwater.org  @StPetersUnitedChurchofChrist

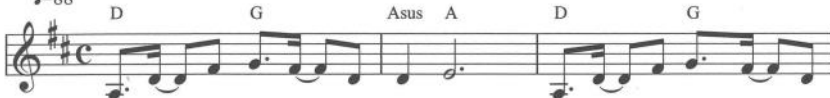
CREDITS & PERMISSIONS | **Prayer of Gathering** adapted from *Circles of Grace: Worship and Prayer in the Everyday* by Keri K. Wehlander © 1998 The United Church Publishing House. Reprinted by permission of The United Church Publishing House. **Prayer of Confession and Longing and Prayer of Dedication** 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. **Prayer of Jesus:** *New Zealand Book of Prayer*. **Scripture readings** from *The Inclusive Bible*. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-703858. All rights reserved.

GATHER

16

Come to the Water

♩=88



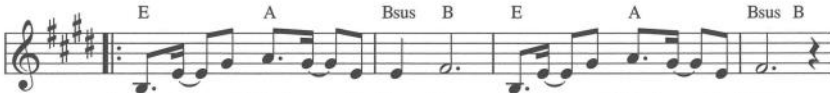
1. All who are thirst-y__ for jus - tice, all who are thirst-y__ for
 2. All who are thirst-y__ for mer - cy, all who are thirst-y__ for
 3. All who are thirst-y__ for heal - ing, all who are thirst-y__ for
 4. All who are thirst-y__ for beau - ty, all who are thirst-y__ for



peace. All who are thirst - y__ for peace, for jus - tice,
 love. All who are thirst - y__ for love, for mer - cy,
 touch. All who are thirst - y__ for touch, for heal - ing,
 truth. All who are thirst - y__ for truth, for beau - ty



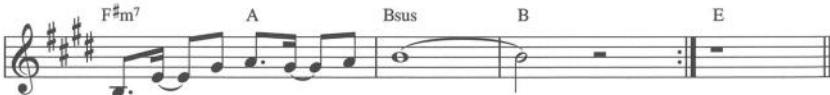
come, come to__ the wa - ter__ of life._____
 come, come to__ the wa - ter__ of life._____
 come, come to__ the wa - ter__ of life._____
 come, come to__ the wa - ter__ of life._____



5. All who are thirst-y__ for free - dom, all who are thirst-y__ for hope.
 6. All who are thirst-y__ for laugh - ter, all who are thirst-y__ for joy.



All who are thirst - y__ for hope, for free - dom, come,
 All who are thirst - y__ for joy, for laugh - ter, come,



come to__ the wa - ter__ of life._____
 come to__ the wa - ter__ of life._____

ENCOUNTER

81 More Than We Can Ask

♩=88

C Am⁷

More than we can ask, more than we can ask,

Dm⁷ G

more than we can ask or i - mag - ine.

Vamp during prayer: Following last prayer to Coda

Am F Am G Am F Am

Following each prayer:

One: Am G Many: Am G D.C.

Hear, oh hear_ our pray'r. Hear, oh hear_ our pray'r.

Coda

C Am⁷

More than we can ask, more than we can ask,

Dm⁷ G

more than we can ask or i - mag - ine.

One: Am G Many: Am G C

A - - men. A - - men.

Words and Music: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, Copyright ©2004 This Here Music (ASCAP), www.worldmaking.net. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 This arrangement: The Praise Song Advisory Team, Copyright ©2009, Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life

We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, re-con-cil-ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

E-qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 Blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

Editor note: Some historical notes are shown in this *Sampler*.
 When complete, *The New Century Hymnal* will have a note for
 almost all hymns.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
 John Zundel, 1855