



August 13, 2023

“What Encourages  
Your Living?”

**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**      “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”      Dorsey  
*Acknowledging the light of Christ among us*

**Words of Welcome**

Pastor Clare Gromoll

\* = Sitting or standing

**\*Prayer of Gathering** (*unison*)

**Creator God of beauty, power and love across all time and space; we praise you. Jesus, Incarnation of love – calming seas, winds, and human spirits; we honor you. Holy Spirit, Sustainer of faith and renewal in our souls; we open ourselves to you. Move us during this time of worship – toward more fully embodying you. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn (NCH #10)**

**“Bring Many Names ”**

**verses 1, 4-6**

**Acknowledging Our Need for God’s Grace**

**Prayer of Confession and Longing** | inspired by Psalm 85 | (*responsive*)

O Beloved, how gracious You are; You restore our souls time and time again.

**You forgive our distractions when we wander far from You; You give us new life.**

Restore us again, O Spirit of Truth; burn us with the refining Fire of Love!

**Have compassion on your people, O Holy One, and grant us your forgiveness.**

Listen, O people, in the silent chapel of your heart; and the Beloved will speak of peace to you.

**Surely new life is at hand for those who reverence Love;**

O, that harmony might dwell among the nations.

**Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will embrace.**

Mercy and compassion are Love’s way;

**You will guide our footsteps upon the path of peace as we recognize with open hearts that You are our peace. 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”**

**Elaine Santore (9th), Christopher Staberg (10th), Jessy Hintze (14th)**

### **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*

1 Kings 19: 1-13

**A Reading from the Gospels** | *The Inclusive Bible*

Matthew 14: 22-33

**Morning Message**            “What Encourages Your Living?”

## Responding To God's Love

**Prayer Song (Chalice Hymnal #575)**            “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

**Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,  
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:  
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,  
Making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,  
Raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.**

**In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,  
Let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:  
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,  
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!**

## **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*)

**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

*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

“Dear God, Embracing HumanKind”

*Whittier*

## \*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!**

## \*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

**God of all, through our offerings we pursue the cause of Christ – proclaiming our interdependence with all your created beings. We offer our material resources, time and effort to embody Christ in the moments and spaces in which we live. Encourage and empower us in this work of our lifetimes.  
Amen.**



## PRAYER CORNER

*Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:*

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

\*For **Bob Neuenfeldt**, spouse to People's Worship Accompanist Sharon, as he copes with the effects from a series of mini-strokes this past weekend. We pray for healing for Bob and for courage and clarity for both Bob and Sharon as they navigate his needs for care and accompaniment.

\*For **Megan Adams**, her daughter **Ruby**, and spouse **Mike**; who have all recently tested positive for COVID19. We pray for healing energy for their family as they struggle with fever and other symptoms.

\*For **Jere Fetter**, continued healing after a late July fistula repair surgery at Mayo to relieve chronic pain in his groin. We give thanks that Jere is now home after more recently being treated for a GI bleed at Lakeview Hospital. We pray for smooth rehabilitation for Jere and continued endurance for both Jere and Dawn!

\*For **Linda Tossey**, healing energy as she manages effects of a life-limiting cancer diagnosis and treatment. A former pastor of People's, she has moved to Boutwell's Landing and we welcome her back into our community.

\*With **David Silverman**, son-in-law of Milan Horak, we celebrate the 1-year mark since surgery to remove tongue cancer. We pray for continued healing energy in his body. David and spouse Connie were with us this past Sunday!

\*For Milan Horak's granddaughter, **Mia**, nearing the end of 40+ days traveling through the Arctic. We pray for a safe return home.

\*With **Debi Orff**, St. Peter's Worship Accompanist, we rejoice on the occasion of her son James closing on the purchase of his very first house!

\*Celebrating Anniversaries: **Claire and Michael Bjork** (9th)

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

\*As we marked (on August 6th) the 78th anniversary of our bombing of Hiroshima, our Roman Catholic neighbors also marked Transfiguration Sunday in their liturgical calendar. We pray for **a new kind of peace and a new kind of power in our world.**



## Backyard Potlucks

**August 22nd, 5:30pm at St. Peter's UCC.**

Mark your calendars for September 12th  
at Sharri Kinkead's in Hudson.

**Pastor Clare will be away Aug 14-21 | Pastor Daniel will be away Aug. 15-20,**  
each taking much-deserved vacation time to restore and refresh.

In the event of a question, concern, or urgent need; please contact:

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

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Thank you to today's partners:

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Jane Hanson (greeter), Sharri Kinkead (liturgist), Rolf Dittmann (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

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