

September 3, 2023

"What Does
'Doing All You Can'
Look Like?"

#### 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

Ringing of the Bell

**Prelude and Lantern Lighting** 

"This is the Day"

Garret

Acknowledging the light of Christ among us

**Words of Welcome** 

**Pastor Clare Gromoll** 

\* = Sitting or standing

# \*Call to Worship (responsive)

Come, all who labor and are weighed down with responsibility, uncertainty, and worry.

# We come, because the load we carry is heavier than we can bear alone.

Come, all who seek to weave work, play, service and worship into a meaningful whole.

# We gather for renewal and support for living out our commitments.

Come! Bring your fears and loves, failures and successes, sorrows and joys.

Let's respond to the Spirit's leading, open to receiving God's gracious gifts.

\*Opening Song (SPP #151) "God's Love Endures Forever"

# **Acknowledging Our Need for God's Grace**

# A Litany of Labor & Prayer of Longing (responsive)

God of all, we give thanks for the gift of work, which can add meaning and purpose to our lives, and offer us ways to serve you.

# Companion in our labor, hear our prayer.

For all whose work is a true calling, that they continue to find joy in their labor.

# Joy in our lives, hear our prayer.

For all whose work is not joyful, who work because they must, who experience exhaustion in jobs that do not feed their spirits.

# Source of all meaning, hear our prayer.

For all whose work leads them into ethical conflicts, who struggle to do what is right in frustrating circumstances.

## Guide for our path, hear our prayer.

For all who are unemployed or underemployed, facing financial stress or questioning their own worth.

# Savior in the stress, hear our prayer.

For all who are retired, whether enjoying it or having lost a sense of purpose and struggling to make faithful use of days.

Teacher of quietness, hear our prayer.

We know that our lives depend on the faithful labor of other workers, often underpaid and overworked.

We confess that we do not always act according to an awareness of how our choices affect the labor of others.

Spirit of God, guide us to be intentional in our work and effective in contributing to community life.

Surround us, Holy Spirit, and breathe into us your gracious power. 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"

Erin Klisch (29th), Alex Favilla (30th), Jenni Shaller & Paula Richey (2nd)

**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 Epistles | The Inclusive Bible Romans 12: 9-21
A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures | The Inclusive Bible Exodus 3: 1-14

Morning Message What Does 'Doing All You Can' Look Like?

# **Responding To God's Love**

Prayer Song (SPP #61) "Call to Prayer" 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**

Greeters pass offering plates at this time We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code) If giving electronically, we can place to place a blue Giving Card in the plate



Offertory

"I Lift My Eyes to the Quiet Hills"

Baughken

\*Offertory Response

"Praise God" by John Mueller sung twice

Praise, God, for these gifts; we lift them up for heaven's blessing. Praise God, for these gifts; we lift them up to serve you, Lord.

# **Sharing in Holy Communion**

Holy Communion is open to members and friends of all ages as we seek to follow Jesus in the way of radically inclusive love

# \*The Invitation and Prayer

God be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the God of all.

Loving God – you are Creator of energy and matter, the heavens and the Earth. Therefore, we celebrate you – joining our voices with the wind and streams, animals and flowers, the living and the dead (pause), the stars, planets, and all members of creation forever proclaiming your glory. Amen.

**Words of Remembrance and Blessing** 

Sung Response (SPP #112) "Come to the Table of Grace" verses 1 & 3

Prepackaged gluten-free Communion elements are distributed at this time

## Sharing the Bread and the Cup

One: The bread of life, for all of us. All: Thanks be to God!

We partake of the bread

One: The cup of salvation and blessing, for all of us. All: Thanks be to God!

We drink from the cup

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

God of all – for the healing you give us through the broken bread and poured-out cup, we thank you. For the community you restore in us through the sharing of life, we thank you. For the courage and strength you promise to us, we thank you. Send us forth from this place in love, letting justice be worked out through your Spirit's gentle power. Amen.

# **Going Forth to Share God's Love**

\*Closing Song (SPP #202)

"Send Me"

Cantors sing verse 1 | Then all join in

\*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 "Pass the Love" Katner

#### RESPOND

# **151** God's Love Endures Forever



#### ENCOUNTER Call to Prayer 61 J=100 <sub>D</sub> G/D G/D A/D D/F# 1. Float - ing and flam - ing and fill - ing new life. in -2. Search - ing and sav ing and sooth - ing deed. 3. Call - ing and chang - ing each heart. car - ing and F#m Bm E A Hov - 'ring and heal ing and help - ing with sighs. tak - ing lead; Teach - ing and turn ing and the Lov - ing lift ing to new start; and us A A7 D/F# Em Em Bm/A Spir - it at work since dawn - ing of time: Fa - ther ing, Moth - er birth - ing ways; ing, new Sav - ior, Je - sus our teach - er, our Lord; C#dim Bm G Em/G A D Bm 0. touch right meet us right here. now. touch meet us right here, us right now. right here, touch right meet us now. C#dim G D Bm Bm Em A 0. right Meet us right here, touch us now. Meet right here, touch right us us now. Meet right here, right touch now.

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#### **ENCOUNTER**

# 112 Come to the Table of Grace

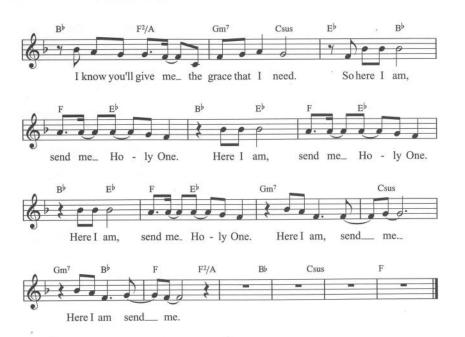


#### GO FORTH Send Me =100 Вþ F7/A Csus 1. The scrip-tures say\_ God knows us all\_\_\_\_ by name. 2. So ma - ny needs,\_\_\_ I see the peo - ple's pain. F7/A Csus Don't be a - fraid\_\_\_ when the Spir - it calls.\_ O God, send me .\_ I will share your love. Βþ There's a whis-per now,\_ lis - ten way deep down I will feed your sheep.\_\_\_ com - fort those who weep. F2/A Gm7 F2/A \_\_once we hear it then ev - 'ry bush is a - blaze!\_\_ God is lis - ten - ing\_ \_\_ I will work for your jus - tice and\_ for your peace. \_\_When I make mis - takes, Gm7 Csus hop-ing we'll re - spond\_\_\_ hop-ing we will say:\_ wash me with your grace,\_\_\_ then a - gain I'll say:\_\_\_ Chorus Bb F2/A В F2/A Yes God, I'll go where you lead me. I hear your Spir - it\_\_\_ Bb F2/A Csus

As long as

I know you're with me,\_

call-ing my name.



Words and Music: Bryan Sirchio

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## 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...

- \*For Sharri Kinkead's son, **Pete**, with whom siblings are intervening today due to excessive alcohol use for healing and recovery.
- \*For **Jere Fetter**, healing after receiving care at Regions Hospital this past week.
- \*For **Stan Hilliard**, who suffered a minor stroke on Tuesday. We pray for healing and a full recovery for Stan and for support to surround both Barb and Stan.
- \*With **Lori Mildon**, whose sister Janna passed away on Monday. Prayers for Janna's husband Leo and family as they remember the good times, love, and laughter.
- \*With the **Bjork family**, who gathered with family from all sides on the occasion of Kaari's 6th birthday, we give thanks for family in all its supportive forms.
- \*For those of us rooted in **St. Peter's UCC**, may love abound during these next 4 weeks of leave taking from the church building in Stillwater that has provided sacred space for worship, faith formation, justice and community.
- \*Celebrating Anniversaries: **Rolf** Dittmann and **Jill** Greenhalgh (27th), **Bob and Cheri** Schwartz (28th)

### And in the wider community...

- \*For the **schools of Lahaina, Maui** as they struggle with burned and damaged buildings. May the love of God be embodied as needed support reaches suffering communities on the devastated island.
- \*For all **students beginning a new school year** and particularly those heading off to college. Blessings on all teachers and students.

#### Save the Dates:

- \*Backyard Potluck at Sharri Kinkead's House | Sept. 12th | 5-7pm
- \*Bayport Derby Days | Sept. 15th | Come serve refreshments on the church lawn 4:30-6:30pm or 6:30-8:30pm (contact Pastor Clare or Megan to help)
  - \*Blood Drive | Sept. 21st | 9am—3pm | See Mid-Week News to register!

# **Naming Gathering**

Wednesday, September 6th @ Fellowship Hall (and Zoomed @ 6 pm)

All are invited to a 5:30 pm supper and 6:00 pm naming gathering. Members will vote on submitted name ideas. See Mid-Week News email for proxy-voting instructions.

# **Special Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, Sept. 10th, 11 am** @ Fellowship Hall (and Zoomed @ 11 am) after outdoor worship

Please join us as we vote on several items to affirm the merger! We will also have an update on our People's Park land.

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Mindy Peters (liturgist & communion preparer), Bob Dickie & Mary Maren Bjork (greeters), Rolf Dittmann (cantor), Lori Mildon (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (outdoor sign), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare)



# A Merging Congregation...



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

# **People's Congregational Church**

#### St Peter's United Church of Christ

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