

October 15, 2023

"As Opportunities Emerge, What Fruit Will We Bear?

#### Let's welcome one another!

Name tags are in the Narthex Welcome forms in the pews: 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 Candle Lighting** "Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners" *Prichard Acknowledging the light of Christ among us* 

**Words of Welcome** 

Pastor Clare Gromoll

\* = Sitting or standing

# \*Gathering Prayer (responsive)

Loving God, we come to you for truth, that we might see clearly and understand.

We come to you for comfort,

that we might be sustained and understood.

We come to you for challenge,

that we might be reminded that our ways are not your ways and that we can change.

We come to you, Holy One.

We come to you. Amen.

\*Opening Song (SPP #16)

"Come to the Water"
verses 1-4

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

**Prayer of Confession and Longing** |from Psalm 106 (responsive)

Pastor Daniel Harrell

You remember us, O Beloved, as we journey through life. Help us to live the Mystery —

That we may fulfill our divine destiny, that we may co-create with You, that we may live into our divine birthright.

Stand by us that we may become poor in spirit, acknowledging our own weaknesses that lead us astray.

Teach us to be patient with ourselves, that we might offer the gift of patience to others.

O, that we might learn to be calm, to persevere with utter trust as we face the fears that bind us.

We yearn for all that will bring us new life, we long for your very Presence among us.

Quiet us, O Silent Speaker, that out of still spaces we may hear your Voice;

And, as we ponder the immensity of your gift of life; awe and wonder fill our hearts.

May we embrace Creation as a whole, and become attuned to all the world;

May we be blessing to the universe, and see divinity within and among all things.

As our hearts are awakened to your Presence within us, we are led back to the Source of all life.

Call us, O Beloved, to spaces of solitude, and times to befriend the Silence.

May we ever know, O Divine One, that You are with us always, **We cannot hide from your Love. 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"

Jere Fetter (8th), Emily Mayaka (11th—16yrs), Roger Klisch (12th), Lori Mildon (15th), Sharri Kinkead (15th), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (15th), BJ Stokes (18th), Finley Hintze-Graf (21st, 4yrs), Walt Richey (21st), Chris Bordeaux (21st)

#### **Wondering Together**

#### **Blessing One Another**

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 for Sunday School & Youth Group 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.

Youngest children (infant - age 3) | Nursery care available (9:25-10:30) downstairs Older children (PreK-Gr. 1, Gr. 2-4) gather now for Sunday School downstairs Youth Group (gr. 5-12) gathers now in the upstairs Corner Meeting Room We welcome sounds and movements of children who stay in worship.

# **Proclaiming God's Love**

**A Reading from the Psalms** (responsive)
The Inclusive Bible

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-22, 47-48

Alleluia! Give thanks for God's goodness; God's love endures forever! Who can proclaim the mighty deeds of God, or show forth enough praise?

Happy are those who act justly, who do what is right always!

Remember me, God, when you show favor to your people. Help me when you deliver them —

That I may enjoy the prosperity of your chosen ones, share the joy of your nation, and join with your people in giving praise.

We have sinned the way our forebears did, gone astray and given into corruption.

At Horeb they made a calf and worshipped a molten image. They exchanged your glory for the image of an ox that eats grass.

They forgot you, their Liberator, who had done such great things in Egypt.

Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awe-inspiring deeds at the Sea of Reeds.

Save us, God, our God, and gather us from among the nations; that we may give thanks to your holy Name and glory in your praise!

Blessed be God, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen, alleluia!"

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

Philippians 4:1-20

Morning Message "As Opportunities Emerge, What Fruit Will We Bear?"

# **Responding To God's Love**

Prayer Hymn (NCH #492)

"I Would Be True"

# **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

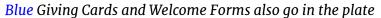
# Prayer of Jesus (unison)

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)

Pledged gifts marked for one of our predecessor churches are tracked accordingly. Loose offerings go to our newly merged church.





#### Offertory

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

McNeill

# \*Offertory Response



# \*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Gracious God, Source of all – you plant within us seeds of hope, nurture within us saplings of faith, and harvest fruits of your creation. May we embody our thanks with radical generosity, offering our lives to you in acts of compassion for one another. May we walk gently upon the Earth — ever mindful of your gifts of breath, of love, of life itself. Amen.

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

\*Closing Hymn (NCH #391)

"In the Midst of New Dimensions "
verses 1, 3-4

<sup>\*</sup>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

"The One Who Began a Good Work in You"

Mohr

# **Today** Following Worship:

**10:30 am** | All are welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall for treats, beverages, and good company!

11 am | Faith Conversations (an adult forum, childcare provided)
This October, as we grow into our new merged community, we will delve deeper into how we interpret our faith and act through our own distinct spiritual 'types.'

Pastor Clare will be away Oct. 17-22 for continuing education.

In the event of a question or urgent need, please contact one of the following: Megan Adams, Church Office Coordinator (651-439-5667, office@peoplecongregational.org)

Paul Spliseth, Leadership Council Co-Moderator (651-271-6742, spils@mac.com)

Kaira Bettin, Leadership Council Co-Moderator (651-329-3781, kbuberl.bettin@gmail.com)

Megan will be out of the office Oct. 19th.

# Trunk or Treat

### Trunk or Treat October 29, 10:30 am

- People of all ages are welcome to wear Halloween costumes to worship that day!
- Adults are invited to decorate the trunk of your car and hand out candy to kids of our church and wider community immediately following worship (10:30-11am).
- Chris Bordeaux will help park up to 27 participating cars in our parking lot (please arrive between 8:45-9:15am).
- We need someone to coordinate a table of warm beverages (coffee, hot cider) out on the patio during Trunk or Treat - please let Pastor Clare know if you could do that!
- At 11:00am, we will shift indoors to bid Pastor Daniel a grateful farewell during Fellowship Time.

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist),
Michael Bjork (Choir Director), PCC Choir, Cheri Schwartz (greeter),
Mindy Peters (liturgist and fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan
(tech team), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider), Carol Dusbabek, Claire Spilseth,
Roger Klisch (PreK-Gr1), Wendy Staberg (Gr2-4), Alisea Rangel (Sunday School
Float), Sue Favilla (Youth), Jackie Savage (Sanctuary organizer, outdoor sign),
Andi Favilla (decorations)



# **A United Church**



with roots in People's Congregational & St. Peter's UCC

#### **A United Church**

Rev. Clare Gromoll, Pastor ~ pastor@peoplescongregational.org Rev. Daniel Harrell, Interim Minister (through Oct. 29) ~ pastor@stpetersstillwater.org 309 Third St. N, Bayport MN 55003-1028

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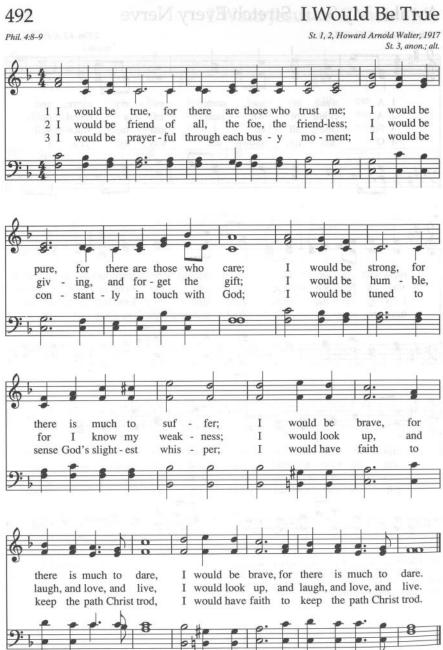
#### **GATHER**

# 16

#### Come to the Water



492



The first two stanzas of this hymn are from "My Creed," a poem that Howard Walter sent to his mother from Japan, where he taught English before becoming a Congregational minister. Walter died at the age of thirty-five while working for the Y.M.C.A. in India.

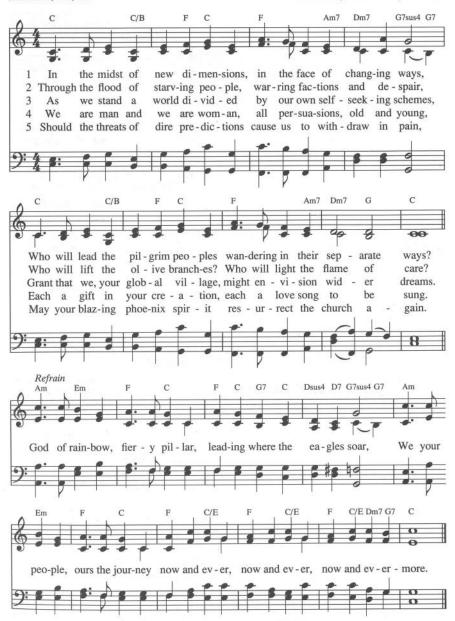
Tune: PEEK 11.10.11.10.10. Joseph Y. Peek, 1911

#### In the Midst of New Dimensions

391

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14



Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of "diversity" for a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference (United Methodist).

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain Julian Rush, 1985 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994