



October 22, 2023

21st Sunday in
Ordinary Time

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*

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude and Candle Lighting

"Petition for Peace"

Stevens

Acknowledging the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome

Pastor Daniel Harrell

* = Sitting or standing

***Invocation** | from Psalm 99 (*responsive*)

Awaken, O you people! Entrust your hearts to Love.

For the Beloved reigns supreme; let all the Earth give thanks!

Your unseen Presence is great in the land; you sit with the leaders of nations.

Let them be silent and guided by your Voice!

Holy are You! You are mighty and love justice, you establish equity.

Out of the Silence, your Word can be heard in the land – inviting the nations to live in peace.

Listen O you people! Open your hearts to the Beloved, that Truth may be born anew!

Many who have gone before you followed the Beloved's Voice.

The unknown saints of all generations – they surrendered themselves into the Beloved's hands and walked with confidence.

They were guided through difficult times, keeping to Love's way, and trusting in Love's promises.

O Heart of all hearts, you answered their prayers.

With mercy, you forgave them their wrongdoings, always inviting them to new life.

Sing praises to the Beloved, and aspire to ascend the holy mountain.

Holy are You, O Giver of Life!

***Opening Hymn (NCH #8)**

“Praise to the Living God”
verses 1, 3-4

Acknowledging Our Need for God's Grace

Prayer of Confession and Longing (*unison*)

Gracious God, we come before you to confess our sins.

When we have acted out of fear, out of anger, out of selfishness – we have sinned.

When our thoughts have been small-minded, unruly, bitter – we have sinned.

When our words have been unfeeling, thoughtless, admirable but empty – we have sinned.

When we have wasted your gifts and possibilities, not lived out your love – we have sinned.

But you are the source of love and life, and we ask your forgiveness and your re-forming of our very selves – in the way of Jesus, our friend and savior. 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 offer smiles with hands at heart center or held as peace signs
We might also move around to offer handshakes
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”

**Lori Mildon (15th), Sharri Kinkead (15th), Heather Kennedy–Bordeaux (15th), Hailey Johnson (17th – 10yrs), BJ Stokes (18th),
Finley Hintze–Graf (21st, 4yrs), Walt Richey (21st), Chris Bordeaux (21st),
Drew Dittmann (28th)**

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 Hebrew Scriptures | NRSV (pew Bible) – part 1, pg. 674

Isaiah 45:1-7

A Reading from the Gospels | NRSV – part 2, pg. 24

Matthew 22:15-22

Morning Message

Pastor Daniel Harrell

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Hymn (NCH #582)

“O God of Earth and Altar”

all verses

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

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.

Blue Giving Cards and Welcome Forms also go in the plate



Offertory

“Here Are Our Hearts”

Drake/Jennings

*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 all, receive these gifts – and give us open hands.

Fill our lives – and give us open hearts.

Touch us with your word – and give us open minds.

Bless this church – and give us open doors. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God's Love

***Closing Song (SPP #201)**

"Deep Peace "
all verses

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

We form a circle around the perimeter of the Sanctuary, standing side by side, optionally offering an elbow to link or a hand to hold.

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**

"God is Our Shelter and Strength"

Golligan

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.'

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

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

For persons known to us...

- *For **Barb Hilliard**, we pray for answers and healing for a troubling health concern.
- *For Mary Maren Bjork's cousin Jan's husband, **Larry**, whose cancer has metastasized to his liver.
- *For Rolf Dittmann's young friend, **Scott** - healing amidst ongoing medical issues.
- *We give thanks with **Linda Tossey** for good-news results of a recent PET scan.
- *For **Sam Gromoll**, as he copes with leg pain and faces femur, hip and knee surgeries in the spring to correct hip dysplasia and a knock knee (parts of his journey with Lowe's Syndrome).
- *For **Bob Dickie and Cindy Parson's niece** and all others who need God's healing touch in the midst of the difficulties and burdens of managing mental health challenges.

For the wider community...

- *For the **people of Ukraine**, continuing to defend their country, fighting and dying for all they hold dear.
- *For **people living in the Gaza Strip** - physical and emotional safety as they are bombarded by violence that is harming and ending lives. May the Love of God surround those who are grieving. May those with power work toward a just peace.

Preliminary Brainstorming: Our Continued Use of People's Park



Paul Spilseth and Pastor Clare invite you to join them at People's Park on Tuesday, Oct. 24th at 3pm to walk around the park and engage in preliminary brainstorming regarding what needs we would incorporate into a potential purchase agreement.

Please contact Paul (spils@mac.com, 651-271-6742) with any questions or to let him know you'll join him and Pastor Clare.

Pastor Clare is out of the office Oct. 17-22nd for continuing education.

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

Pastor Daniel Harrell, Interim Minister (pastor@stpetersstillwater.org)

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



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), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (liturgist), Lori Mildon (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider), Carol Dusbabek, Claire Spilseth, Pat Mazzitello (PreK-Gr1), Chris Bordeaux (Gr2-4), Naomi Kirstein (Sunday School Float), David Kirstein (Youth), Jackie Savage (sanctary organizer, outdoor sign), Andi Favilla (decorations)




A United Church

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



A United Church

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GOD

8

Praise to the Living God

Ps. 84:1-2

Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.

1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -

word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.

Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
God toils wher-e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
In these tu - mul-tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May

vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
hu - man-kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Curtis Beach, born into a family of several generations of ministers, was educated at Harvard University, the Boston University School of Theology, and the University of Southern California. A minister in the United Church of Christ, Beach authored The Gospel of Mark: Its Making and Meaning.

Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.
George J. Elvey, 1868

O God of Earth and Altar

St. 1-2, Gilbert K. Chesterton, 1906; alt.

St. 2, alt. Jane Parker Huber, 1985

St. 3, Jane Parker Huber, 1985

1 O God of earth and al - tar, bow down and hear our cry;
 2 From all that ter - ror teach - es, from lies of pen and voice,
 3 A - wak - en us to ac - tion and forge us in - to one,

Our earth-ly rul - ers fal - ter, our peo - ple drift and die;
 From all the eas - y speech - es that make our hearts re - joice,
 de - fy - ing sect and fac - tion; O God, your will be done!

The walls of gold en - tomb us, the swords of scorn di - vide;
 From val - ue's pro - fan - a - tion, from hon - or sac - ri - ficed,
 Op - pres - sive sys - tems snare us; our ap - a - thies in - crease.

Take not your thun - der from us, but take a - way our pride.
 From sleep and from dam - na - tion, de - liv - er us, O Christ!
 Great God, in mer - cy spare us for jus - tice and for peace!

G. K. Chesterton of England was a prolific journalist, lecturer, and author of some one hundred literary works. This hymn has been updated by Jane Parker Huber to "incorporate contemporary concerns for the church's mission."

Tune: LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6.D.

Traditional Welsh melody

Harm. David Evans, 1927

Deep Peace

$\text{♩} = 44$

G D Em Bm C G/B Cmaj7 D



1. Peace, peace, deep peace, my peace I give to you.____
 2. Love, love, strong love, my love I give to you.____
 3. Joy, joy, great joy, my joy I give to you.____

E Bm7 Cmaj7 Gmaj7 Cmaj7 D G



Peace, peace, deep peace, my peace I give to you.____
 Love, love, strong love, my love I give to you.____
 Joy, joy, great joy, my joy I give to you.____

Em Bm7 Cmaj7 G Am7



Not as the world gives, I give to you, not as the
 Not as the world gives, I give to you, not as the
 Not as the world gives, I give to you, not as the

B¹¹ B B7 Em D G D Em



world gives, I give to you. Peace, peace, deep
 world gives, I give to you. Love, love, strong
 world gives, I give to you. Joy, joy, great

Bm C Am7 Bm/D D7 G Am/G G



peace, my peace I give to you.____
 love, my love I give to you.____
 joy, my joy I give to you.____