

October 29, 2023

“Unifying Thoughts”

Pastor Daniel Harrell’s
Farewell

Welcome! Name tags are in the Narthex.

Welcome forms in the pews: request prayer, update contact info, join email list.

Coffee is available starting at 9 AM in the Resource Room
(this level, near restroom). Feel free to bring it into worship.

Optional nursery care for infant – age 3 (downstairs, starts at 9:25)

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

“Like a River Glorious”

Mountain

Acknowledging the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome

Pastor Clare Gromoll

* = Sitting or standing

***Opening Hymn (NCH #85)**

“I Woke Up This Morning”

all verses

Acknowledging Our Need for God’s Grace

***Prayer of Confession and Longing** (*unison*)

Holy Spirit of God, you have gathered us once again in your presence. Strengthen the ties that hold your creation together. When we are strained or in conflict, bless us with the grace to cooperate with one another. May we be signs of your uniting love within our fractured world. Teach us to show compassion for those in need, to face challenges with imagination, and to counter disappointments with prayerful trust. So may your church bring forth your vision of a beloved community. 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 first wave toward the Narthex, to those worshiping with us online.
Then we share with those around us: smiles, hands at heart center or in peace signs.
We might also offer a handshake.*

Choral Anthem

“Come and Be Joyful”

Vivaldi, arr. by H Hopson

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”

Drew Dittmann (28th), Jennifer Halvorsen-Albright (Nov. 2nd)

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 - part 1, pg. 106

Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18

A Reading from the Psalter | *The Inclusive Bible*

Psalm 1

Happiness comes to those who reject the path of violence,
who refuse to associate with criminals or even to sit with people who belittle others.

Happiness comes to those who delight in the Law of God –
and meditate on it day and night.

They're like trees planted by flowing water —
they bear fruit in every season, and their leaves never wither: everything they do will prosper.

But not wrongdoers!
They're like chaff that the wind blows away.

They won't have a taproot to anchor them when judgment comes,
nor will corrupt individuals be given a place at the Gathering of the Just.

God watches over the steps of those who do justice;
but those on a path of violence and injustice will find themselves irretrievably lost.

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

Matthew 22: 34-40

Morning Message

“Unifying Thoughts”

Pastor Daniel Harrell

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Song (SPP #66)

“Every Step of the Way”
sung twice

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

Witnessing Steward

Rolf Dittmann

“What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)



Witnessing stewards (Oct. 29 - Nov. 19) invite us to wonder: How has participation in one of our predecessor congregations changed your life? Will you offer your gifts of money, energy, skill, and presence toward our efforts to positively impact lives in 2024?

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

“Oh Lord, You're Beautiful”

Green

***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.**

Liturgy of Farewell to Pastor Daniel

Greeting

Rev. Cindy Mueller, Minister for Congregations in Transition
MN Conference United Church of Christ

Recognition of the End of an Interim Time, Vows of Release

(when prompted) **We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

(when prompted) **We do, with the help of God.**

Declaration & Prayer

Going Forth to Share God's Love

***Closing Hymn (NCH #249)**

“Peace I Leave with You, My Friends”
verses 1 & 3

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

*We form a circle around the perimeter of the Sanctuary.
Some may choose to offer an elbow to link or a hand to hold.*

“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**

“Unto Thee”

Morris

Today Following Worship:

10:30 am | Trunk or Treat!

Join us in the parking lot for treats and warm beverages.

11 am | Farewell Celebration for Pastor Daniel Harrell

Join us indoors for a cake reception in honor of Pastor Daniel.

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**, who transferred to Linden Nursing Home in Stillwater for rehabilitation after an obstruction was removed from her esophagus on Wednesday.

*With Rev. Fritz West, we pray for **those who grieve** the loss of people they love.

*Celebrating anniversaries: **John and Cindy Siegel** (10/23), **Pat Mazzitello and Nat Graf** (10/25), **Megan and Mike Adams** (11/1), **Sue and Mike Favilla** (11/2)

For the wider community...

*For the **people of Ukraine**, continuing to defend their country, fighting and dying for all they hold dear.

*For the **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.



Is there anyone you'd like us to remember?

On All Saints Sunday (Nov. 5th), we call to mind those who have died in the past year. We light a candle, toll the bell, and say each name during our 9:30am worship service.

If you'd like to add someone to the list, please call or email Megan by **Wednesday, November 1st**, giving the person's name and their relationship to you.

Harvest Fest is coming! November 18 | 9am—3pm

Best ways to help right now:

Visit our volunteer sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

Commit to making soup or baking goodies!

Invite your friends and neighbors to come!

Share our Harvest Fest webpage and Harvest Fest Facebook event!

Questions about Harvest Fest?

Please contact Mary Binger (mehbinger@gmail.com, 651-357-8601)



Farewell Reception for Pastor Daniel

11:00 am | Join us indoors for a cake reception in honor of Pastor Daniel.



He began working with St. Peter's UCC in September 2021 as Interim Legacy Minister and has provided skilled leadership in the midst of our merger process. Today is his final day of partnership in ministry with us. We wish him, his daughter Violet, and his partner Shelley all the best as they move forward.

If you'd like leave a thank you card for Pastor Daniel: There is a marked basket at the serving counter in the Fellowship Hall.

If you'd like to speak words of gratitude: There will be time during the reception to either greet Pastor Daniel privately or share aloud with the group.

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Michael Bjork (Choir Director), Choir, Carol Dusbabek and Jane Hanson (greeter), Sam Gromoll (youth greeter), Jonah Gromoll (acolyte), Sharri Kinkead (liturgist), Joe and Diane Legato (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Lisa Culbertson (Childcare Provider), Carol Dusbabek, Claire Spilseth, Kathy Iverson (PreK-Gr1), Cindy Baker (Gr2-4), Cheri Schwartz (Sunday School Float), Jane Hanson (Youth), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer, outdoor sign), Andi Favilla (decorations), Kathleen Dennison (Trunk or Treat refreshments), Gina Buberl (farewell celebration)




A United Church

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



A United Church

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I Woke Up This Morning

85

African-American traditional

Leader (Unison) *All (Harmony)*

1 I woke up this morn-ing with my mind stayed on
2 Sing-ing and pray-ing with my mind stayed on

Hal-le - lu - jah,

Je - sus, Woke up this morn-ing with my mind stayed on Je - sus,
Je - sus, Sing-ing and pray-ing with my mind stayed on Je - sus,

Woke up this morn-ing with my mind stayed on Je - sus,
Sing-ing and pray-ing with my mind stayed on Je - sus,

Hal-le-lu - jah,

Hal-le - lu, hal-le - lu, hal-le - lu - jah.
Hal-le, hal-le - lu - jah.

The spirituals that were passed down through the African-American oral tradition were not only enduring but also adaptable. During the civil rights movement of the 1960s this spiritual was sung as "Woke up this morning with my mind on freedom."

Tune: WOKE UP THIS MORNING Irr.
African-American spiritual
Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993

Every Step of the Way

66

$\text{♩} = 128$
F C/E Dm C B♭ Dm/A C/G Gsus G

Help me do the jus - tice to be
done to - day. Help me love kind -
ness in all I do and say.
Help me walk hum - bly with you, O God I pray
ev - 'ry step of the way,
ev - 'ry step of the way.

Based on Micah 6:8.

Words and Music: Christopher Grundy

Music arrangement: Christopher Grundy and Gregory Milton

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Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

John 14:18-29

Ray Repp, 1967

Refrain

D Em G D F#m

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in

Em Gm D Em G D F#m

all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to

Bm Em G D 1-2 3

you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

D Em G D

1 To share God's love is why I came,
2 Take my hand and be at peace;
3 With this love now all will know

F#m Em/G Gm

to show God's kind - ness with - out end.
the spir - it of our love I send.
that lone - li - ness is at an end.

Songwriter Ray Repp has composed and recorded numerous albums of liturgical songs since 1965, when he introduced guitar into worship with his "Mass for Young Americans."

Tune: PEACE, MY FRIENDS Irr. with refrain
Ray Repp, 1967
Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

EASTER SEASON

D Em G D

Go now, my friends, and do the same,
 And with this love you will be free,
 Re-joice, my friends, al-though I go,

F#m G A7 *to Refrain*

un-til I come a - gain.
 un-til I come a - gain.
 for I will come a - gain.