



August 11, 2024

“How Can
We Choose To
Imitate God?”

Welcome!

We encourage wearing name tags.

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

We gently settle into sacred time and space

Ring the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting

“Rain Down”

Cortez

We acknowledge the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome & Announcements

***Passing the Peace**

To those with us online and onsite: smiles, peace signs, handshakes

A Time With Children and Youth

Sung Invitation

...as young people come forward

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...

...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Singing “Happy Birthday”

Jessy Hintze (14th)

Wondering Together

Blessing One Another

...with arms wide open

Children: God be with you

All: And also with you

Sung Affirmation

...as young people return to families

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

*Children are welcome to go to the playground (supervised by Lisa)
Families with children age 3 and below need to supervise their child on the playground
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship*

Proclaiming God's Love

A Reading from the Psalms | TIB

Psalm 130

A Reading from the Epistles | TIB

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Here ends the readings.

May God speak to us through these sacred words.

We support Walker West (St. Paul) as reparations for use of “This Little Light of Mine” and other Black spirituals. 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.

Morning Message “How Can We Choose to Imitate God?”

Responding To God’s Love

Prayer Song (SPP #128) "Change My Heart, O God"
verses 1 (*my heart*) & *3 (*our minds*)

Prayers of the People

*We share aloud prayers for ourselves, others, and parts of the world
Please tell Pastor Clare if you prefer yours not be added to our printed Prayer Corner*

...God, in your love: **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

*We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)
Blue giving cards represent gifts made electronically.*



Offertory

“Singing Love”

Gibson

***Offertory Response**

**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.**

***Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

God of all, as we invest our money and energy in your work of love, we participate in bringing forth new life. We trust you to multiply and share our gifts wherever there is hunger for your fierce grace. Amen.

***Closing Hymn (NCH #35)** “In Christ There is No East or West”
verses 1-2 & 4

Going Forth to Share God's Love

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

Optionally linking elbows or holding hands

**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 Be With You Till We Meet Again”

Tomer

After-Worship Fellowship

All are welcome to linger on the lawn for refreshments & good company!

PRAYER CORNER

(This was as-of August 1, 2024)

- *For **Aidan Gromoll**, who recently traveled to Dunkirk, France, to provide medical care among refugees for 5-6 weeks.
- *For Sharon Neuenfeldt's brother, **Greg**, who will now receive home hospice care as he nears the end of his battle with multiple myeloma.
- *For **Linda Tossey**, who continues to receive chemotherapy and recover at home after a recent hospitalization.
- *For Cindy Baker's mother-in-law, **Linda**, as she awaits results from a biopsy.
- *With Jackie Savage, we pray for **David** (a dear friend of her beloved husband, Don) as he needs a heart valve replacement.
- *For **David Kirstein** and his brother, **Ron**, as Ron enters his last chapter of life.
- *For Bob Dickie's friend, **Robert**, who enters his last chapter of life.
- *Gratitude for **Rev. Rebecca LeMenager's** message and presence with us recently.
- *For the work of two new advocates at The Connect Center, **Clara and Maddie**.
- *For Jennifer Halvorsen-Albright's friend **Emily and husband Lucas**, whose baby Samuel was born recently and died soon after birth.

GENTLE TAI CHI



Connection... Balance... Renewal

Gentle Tai Chi

Sunday Mornings | 8:30 - 9:15am @ People's Park
Tai Chi'ers welcome to stay for 9:30am worship at the park.
Casual dress at worship is welcome.

Upcoming dates: August 18 and 25

2nd & 4th Mondays | 7pm @ Lakeside Park
Just south of the playground. Park in the south parking lot,
not the one by the beach and bathrooms.

Monday evening dates: August 12 and 26



All-Church Potluck

Tue. August 20, 5:30—7pm

Fritz West's home (Marine on St. Croix)
200 Oak Knoll Dr, Marine on St. Croix MN 55047

*Bring a chair if you have one handy
(Fritz can provide some seating)*

All are welcome! Please bring a friend!

Women's Gathering

August 22 in the evening @ Church

Watch the Midweek News for more details...

Women's
Gathering



Inquirers Gathering

August 28, 6:30 pm | @ Church

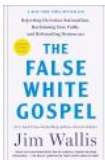


For new and long-time friends alike... we'll share personal introductions, learn about the life and work of our church, and explain a bit about our affiliations. Co-hosted by Pastor Clare and members of our Community Life Team.

If you'd like to attend, please let Pastor Clare know (pastor@stcroixunitedchurch.org).

A Zoom link is available if you can't be with us onsite.

Book Club | **Aug. 29, Sept. 12 & 26 | 6:30—8 pm**



In this polarized and often contentious political season, you are invited to join our book club reading of Jim Wallis' *The False White Gospel* to help deepen our understanding of Christian Nationalism and learn ways of combating its message.

Whether you've read the book or not, you're welcome to come and listen or join in the discussions. Copies are available at Valley Bookseller in Stillwater with a 15% discount, and there are e-book copies available at the Washington County Library.



Pastor Clare will be on vacation in Wisconsin, August 12—19th

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

Urgent pastoral concerns: Rev. Dan Warnes (402-200-9680)

Megan Adams, Office Coordinator

(651-439-5667, office@stcroixunitedchurch.org)

Nat Graf, Leadership Council Moderator (651-470-0408, ngraf11@gmail.com)

Mark Your Calendars...

Sept. 8—Connection Sunday (Sunday School begins)

Sept. 17—Blood Drive, 9–3 pm

Sept. 17—St. Croix United Church Ribbon Cutting with Stillwater Area Chamber of Commerce, 11 am

Sept. 22—Our Grand Opening, 11—1 pm (after our first fall indoor service)

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute & fellowship), Carol Dusbabek (greeter), Kathy Iverson (liturgist), (cantors), Telae (Youth and Outreach Director), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Lisa Culbertson (childcare)




St. Croix United Church

Rev. Clare Gromoll, Pastor

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Waiting for You

20

♩=110

We are wait - ing for you, know-ing that you_

al-ways a-bide, — we are wak - ing_ to your pres-ence

and our hearts are — o - pen wide,

o - pen_ wide._ o - pen_ wide.

Words and Music: Christopher Grundy

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RESPOND

128

Change My Heart, O God

$\text{♩} = 100$
C G/B F/A Dm Gsus C F/G

C B/G F/A Dm G⁷ Am Em⁷/G

1. Change my heart, O God, — make it ev - er true. —
 *2. Cleanse my soul, O God, — wash it with your grace. —
 *3. Stir my mind, O God, — move it to be - lieve. —
 *1. Change our hearts, O God, — make them ev - er true. —
 *2. Cleanse our souls, O God, — wash them with your grace. —
 *3. Stir our minds, O God, — move them to be - lieve. —

Fmaj⁷ Cmaj⁷/E Dm G⁷ C G⁷/B

- Change my heart, O God, — may I be like you. —
 Cleanse my soul, O God, — ten - der your em - brace. —
 Stir my mind, O God, — help me to per - ceive. —
 Cleanse our hearts, O God, — may we be like you. —
 Cleanse our souls, O God, — ten - der your em - brace. —
 Stir our minds, O God, — help us to per - ceive. —

Chorus

Esus E Am Dm G Am Gadd⁹

- You are the Pot - ter, I am the clay. —
 You are the Pot - ter, we are the clay. —

F E Am Dm G/D D G Gsus G

- Mold me and make — me, this is what I pray.
 Mold us and make — us, this is what we pray.

C G/B F/A Dm Am

- Change my heart, O God, — make it ev - er true. —
 Change our hearts, O God, — make them ev - er true. —

F Dm7 Gsus C G

Change my heart, O God, ___ may I be like you. ___
 Change our hearts, O God, ___ may we be like you. ___

Esus E 3 Am Dm A

You are the Pot - ter, I am the clay. ___
 You are the Pot - ter, we are the clay. ___

Esus E 3 Am Gsus/D D G

Mold me and make ___ me, this is what I pray.
 Mold us and make ___ us, this is what we pray.

C G/B F/A Dm G7 Am Em/G

Change my heart, O God, ___ make it ev-er true. ___
 Change our hearts, O God, ___ make them ev-er true. ___

F Cmaj7/E Dm G C

Change my heart, O God, ___ may I be like you. ___
 Change our hearts, O God, ___ may we be like you. ___

*Words in italics are new lyrics and have been added with permission of the publisher.

Words (verse 1) and Music: Eddie Espinosa

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In Christ There Is No East or West

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*John Oxenham, 1908; alt.**Vs. 3 by Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987**1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22*

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and
4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

Christ no South or North; But one com - mu - ni -
high com - mu - nion find; God's ser - vice is the
nei - ther slave nor free; For men and wom - en
Christ meet South and North; One joy - ous, true com -

ty of love through - out the whole wide earth.
gol - den cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
live in God, and all are kin to me.
mu - ni - ty through - out the whole wide earth.

At the turn of the century, many hymns were written to promote the oneness of humanity. John Oxenham's text is a lasting example. His great concern for those in military service led to the publication of a World War I hymnbook which exceeded 8 million in circulation.

Tune: McKEE C.M.
African-American melody
Arr. Harry T. Burleigh, 1939
(This text will also be included
with the tune ST. PETER.)