



September 1, 2024

"How Can  
True-Hearted Living  
Purify Us?"

## **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 "We Will Worship"**

*Jernigan*

*We acknowledge the light of Christ among us*

### **Words of Welcome & Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** (*responsive*)

May God's peace rest on our busy lives – **so that we are quieted into prayer.**

May God's love flow through our worship – **so that we awaken to opportunities for service.**

May God's grace embrace our every need – **and may the restless gospel set our hearts afire. Amen and Amen.**

**\*Opening Song (SPP #16)** "Come to the Water"  
**verses 1-4**

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

**Centering Ourselves**

*... as the singing bowl's vibrations invite us into depths of grace*

**Litany of Labor, Confession and Longing** (*responsive*)

God of all, we give thanks for the gift of work, which can add meaning and purpose to our lives. **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 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 struggles to do what is right in frustrating circumstances. **Guide for our path, hear our prayer.**

For all who are 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 struggling with loss of purpose. **Teacher of quietness, hear our prayer.**

Our lives depend on the labor of others, often underpaid and overworked. **We confess that we sometimes act without noting effects on the labor of others.**

Guide us to be intentional and effective in our contributions to community life. **Surround us, Holy Spirit, and breathe into us your gracious power. Amen.**

**Musical Interlude** ...to accompany our quiet prayers

**Assurance of Grace** (*responsive*)

The peace of Christ be with you!     **And also with you!**

**\*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”**

**Jenni Shaller (9/2), Paula Richey (9/2), Brayden Johnson (9/6 – 14 yrs)**

**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*

*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.*

## Proclaiming God's Love

A Reading from the Psalms | TIB

Psalm 15

A Reading from the Gospels | TIB

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

A Reading from the Epistles | TIB

James 1:17-27

Here ends the readings.

May God speak to us through these sacred words.

**Morning Message**    **"How Can True-Hearted Living Purify Us?"**

## Responding To God's Love

**Prayer Song (SPP #61)**

**"Call to Prayer"**

**all verses**

## **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**

“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”

Adams

**\*Offertory Response**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below – Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**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.  
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 expansive love. Amen.**

**Words of Remembrance and Blessing**

**\*Sharing the Bread and the Cup**        *Forming a circle*

***Serving one another as we sing***

*Pass the basket of (GF) bread (saying “the bread of life”)*

*Hold on to your piece of bread*

*Dip your bread into the cup as you are offered the “the cup of blessing”*

**\*Communion Song (SPP #112) “Come to the Table of Grace”**  
**all verses (sung through again as time permits)**

**Come to the table of grace (peace, love, joy)**  
**Come to the table of (grace)**  
**This is Christ’s table, not just yours or mine**  
**Come to the table of (grace)**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)**

The bread of life and cup of blessing for everyone! **Thanks be to God!**  
**God of all, for the bread we have eaten, for the cup of blessing we have**  
**tasted, for the life you give us – Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, we will**  
**praise you as long as we have breath. Amen.**

**Going Forth to Share God’s Love**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song**

*Optionally linking elbows or holding hands*

**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**

**“Forth in Your Name”**

*Williams*

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

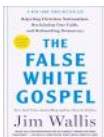
**Connection Sunday Sept. 8th | 9:30 am @ People’s Park**  
**Sunday School and Youth Group kick-off | Blessing of the Backpacks**



## PRAYER CORNER

- \*For all who grieve the recent passing of Bob Dickie's friend, **Donald Hilligoss**, age 94, in Hibbing, MN. He loved his family, nature, and God.
- \*For **John Legato**, son of Joe and Diane, who is receiving stem-cell treatments at Mayo as he battles multiple myeloma.
- \*With Bob Dickie and Cindy Parsons, we pray for the safe return of a **missing youth** whom they know through their work at The Connect Center.
- \*For **Delores Davis**, healing energy as she begins rehab after a recent fall that resulted in shoulder and pelvis fractures.
- \*With Mary Binger's friend **Meg**, healing after successful brain surgery.
- \*For **Will**, grandson of Frank Cole, on assignment in Beirut as a journalist for *The Guardian*. We pray for continued safety as he does excellent work.
- \*For **Carol Dusbabek**, healing of her bruised rib after a recent fall.
- \*For **Dave Kirstein and family** as they grieve the passing of his brother, Ron, last Sunday.
- \*For **Sharon Neuenfeldt and family** as they grieve the mid-August passing of her brother, Greg.
- \*Celebrating anniversaries: **Claire and Michael Bjork** (9th)

## Book Club | **Sept. 12 & 26** | 6:30—8 pm



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.

**Blood Drive Sept. 17th | 9 am—3 pm** | St. Croix United Church  
Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter  
“Bayport” to schedule an appointment.



## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Sponsored by the Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce

**Sept. 17th | 11 am** @ St. Croix United Church

Come celebrate the merging of our two congregations into one!  
Refreshments will follow on the church lawn.



St. Croix United Church

# GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 22 | 11 AM-1 PM  
SERVICE OF BLESSING AT 12:30 PM

**FOOD \* MUSIC \* FUN**  
*All ages welcome!*

309 N. Third St Bayport, MN  
www.stcroixunitedchurch.org

## Prairie Seed Collection Saturday, Sept 7 10-12



This Free Event is Supported by:

**St. Croix United Church**

**Bayport Elementary School**

**Stillwater Lion's Club**

**Wash. Co. Master Gardeners**

All ages welcome

Wear closed toe shoes, long pants,  
long sleeves, a hat, and bring a  
paper bag with handles

### People's Park

1005 5th Ave Bayport

Adjacent to Barker's Alps Park

The site of the new Bayport  
Elementary School


Rain Date: Sat, Sept 14

*Bouteloua curtipendula*

*Sideoats gramma*

Thank you to today's partners: Telae (Youth & Outreach Director), Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Jackie Savage, Sam & Jonah Gromoll (greeters), Mary Maren Bjork & Sam Gromoll (liturgists), (cantor), Jane Hanson & Sue Favilla (communion preparers), Dan & Marianne Warnes (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Lisa Culbertson (childcare)



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## Come to the Water

$\text{♩} = 88$

1. All who are thirst-y\_\_ for jus - tice,      all who are thirst-y\_\_ for  
 2. All who are thirst-y\_\_ for mer - cy,      all who are thirst-y\_\_ for  
 3. All who are thirst-y\_\_ for heal - ing,      all who are thirst-y\_\_ for  
 4. All who are thirst-y\_\_ for beau - ty,      all who are thirst-y\_\_ for

peace.      All who are thirst - y\_\_ for peace,      for jus - tice,  
 love.      All who are thirst - y\_\_ for love,      for mer - cy,  
 touch.      All who are thirst - y\_\_ for touch,      for heal - ing,  
 truth.      All who are thirst - y\_\_ for truth,      for beau - ty

come,      come to\_\_ the wa - ter\_\_ of life. \_\_\_\_\_  
 come,      come to\_\_ the wa - ter\_\_ of life. \_\_\_\_\_  
 come,      come to\_\_ the wa - ter\_\_ of life. \_\_\_\_\_  
 come,      come to\_\_ the wa - ter\_\_ of life. \_\_\_\_\_

5. All who are thirst-y\_\_ for free - dom,      all who are thirst-y\_\_ for hope.  
 6. All who are thirst-y\_\_ for laugh - ter,      all who are thirst-y\_\_ for joy.

All who are thirst - y\_\_ for hope,      for free - dom, come,  
 All who are thirst - y\_\_ for joy,      for laugh - ter, come,

come to\_\_ the wa - ter\_\_ of life. \_\_\_\_\_  
 come to\_\_ the wa - ter\_\_ of life. \_\_\_\_\_

## Call to Prayer

♩=100

D G/D A/D G/D

D D/F# G D

1. Float - ing and flam - ing and fill - ing new life.  
 2. Search - ing and sav - ing and sooth - ing in - deed.  
 3. Call - ing and car - ing and chang - ing each heart.

F#m Bm E A

Hov - 'ring and heal - ing and help - ing with sighs.  
 Teach - ing and turn - ing and tak - ing the lead;  
 Lov - ing and lift - ing us to a new start;

Em A Bm/A A7 D/F# Em

Spir - it at work since the dawn - ing of time;  
 Fa - ther - ing, Moth - er - ing, birth - ing new ways;  
 Je - sus our Sav - ior, our teach - er, our Lord;

A Bm C#dim Bm G Em/G A D

meet us right here, touch us right now.  
 meet us right here, touch us right now.  
 meet us right here, touch us right now.

A Bm C#dim Bm G Em A D

Meet us right here, touch us right now.  
 Meet us right here, touch us right now.  
 Meet us right here, touch us right now.

# 112 Come to the Table of Grace

♩=90

F C/E Dm F7/C

1. Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Come to the ta - ble of peace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Come to the ta - ble of love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. Come to the ta - ble of joy. \_\_\_\_\_

B<sup>b</sup> C<sup>7</sup> F C

Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of peace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of joy. \_\_\_\_\_

F Gm<sup>7</sup> F/A B<sup>b</sup>sus<sup>2</sup>

This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.  
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.  
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.  
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.

F/C B<sup>b</sup>/C C<sup>7</sup> F B<sup>b</sup>/F F

Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of peace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Come to the ta - ble of joy. \_\_\_\_\_