



September 15, 2024

"What Good
Comes Through
Self-Determination?"

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 "Pues Si Vivimos"

Trad Spanish Melody

We acknowledge the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome & Announcements

***Prayer of Gathering** (*responsive*)

Holy One - Breathing in your spacious peace, we welcome this day.
Resting in your expansive love, we welcome this day.

Trusting in your perpetual hope, we welcome this day.
Living in your created image, we welcome this day. Amen.

***Opening Song (SPP #26) "You Are Welcome Here"**
verses 1 & 3

Acknowledging Our Need for God's Grace

Centering Ourselves *... as the singing bowl invites us into stillness*

Prayer of Confession and Longing *(responsive)*

Gracious Spirit, when winds of confusion and distrust swirl among us,
when fear echoes every step, when envy and remorse grip our hearts –
We confess that we stray from our connection to your way of love. Restore our hearts into hope, that we might trust your presence.

When every door seems locked up tight, each thought weighted down –
Restore our hearts into hope, that we might trust your presence.

When the ground feels unstable, when nourishing streams run dry —
Restore our hearts into hope, that we might trust your presence. 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.**

Tibetan singing bowls took form in the 6th and 5th centuries BCE. In some Buddhist traditions, singing bowls accompany meditation and chanting. Since the 1970s, singing bowls have also contributed to spiritual practices in the United States.

No birthdays in the coming week

Recognition of Michael Bjork, Departing Choir Director

*Laying On of Hands

*All are invited forward to lay hands on Michael.
Place a hand on a shoulder as we connect in a web of faith community.*

*Prayer of Blessing

Blessing One Another

...with arms wide open

Children: God be with you

All: And also with you

Sung Affirmation

...as young people depart or return to families

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

*Children's Activity | Children (gr. K-4) follow leaders to the picnic shelter
(4-year-olds are welcome in Children's Activity, at parent's discretion)
Youth Group | Youth (gr. 5-12) go with Telae
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship*

Proclaiming God's Love

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures | TIB

Isaiah 50:4-9a

A Reading from the Epistles | TIB

James 3:1-12

A Reading from the Gospels | TIB

Mark 8:27-37

Here ends the readings.

May God speak to us through these sacred words.

Morning Message

"What Good Comes through Self-Determination?"

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Song (next page...)

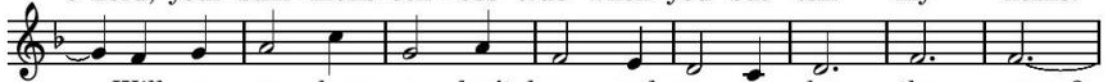
**"The Summons"
all verses**

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot - steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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

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.

Prayer of Jesus (*unison*)

**Our Father and Mother who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kin-dom come. Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, 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

“Be Now My Vision”

Irish Melody

*Offertory Response (*seated*)

**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*)

Gracious God, we ask your blessing upon these tangible expressions of our joy and care. Renew in us a sense of your abundance and your unfailing compassion for all who need hope. We pray in the Spirit of Jesus the Christ – source of our hope and joy, our gifts and open hands. Amen.

*Closing Song (SPP #84)

“All My Days”
all verses

Going Forth to Share God’s Love

*Benediction

*Sending Song (next page...)

***Sending Song**

Optionally linking elbows or 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**

“Shalom to You Now”

Spanish Melody

After-Worship Fellowship

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

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



Stillwater Chamber
 of Commerce
 Ribbon Cutting
 Ceremony



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.

Derby Days "Party in the Park" Refreshment Stand Sept. 20 | 5 - 10 pm

We hand out water, treats, and backpack tags during Party in the Park. Our friendly spirit has a positive impact! Please let Megan know if you can:

- Join Pastor Clare for part of the evening (name your hours!)
- Drop off easy-to-grab cookies/bars in the church kitchen this Thurs. or Fri. (store-bought and home-baked both welcome!)

PRAYER CORNER

- *For our member **Deb Francis (né Laiti)**, who passed away Wednesday evening. May God's love and peace surround her family in this time of grief.
- *For Lisa Culbertson's partner **Ted**, who suffers with Graves' disease and Barrett's syndrome. We hope for excellent results from an ablation on Sept. 20th.
- *For **Walt & Paula Richey**, a smooth move to Minneapolis.
- *With Cindy Baker, we rejoice at the August 22nd birth of her 2nd grandchild, **Leo**. He was born to Brittany and Dan Gillard and big brother Orion!
- *For Cindy and John Siegel's niece, **Anne Marie**, facing surgery to address a brain fluid leak.
- *For **Naomi Kirstein**, as she begins a lengthy recovery after complex surgery.
- *With Sharon Neuenfeldt, we pray for **Jenny**, who recently underwent a successful kidney transplant, and now needs a pancreas transplant as well.
- *With Bob Schwartz, we give thanks for this community's prayers for young **Astrid** and grandchild **Bee** during difficult times. Both are making strides in well-being!
- *For Bob and Kathy Iverson's daughter **Sarah**, recently diagnosed with breast cancer and facing upcoming surgery.
- *With Bob Dickie and Cindy Parsons, we offer prayers of guidance and well-being for **their niece** as she moves to Hawaii.
- *For **those in the grip of addiction**, may we find paths towards well-being and wholeness.
- *With the Buberl family, we pray for **Mel and others** in the wake of Mel's brother's death by suicide.
- *With Lori Mildon, we pray for **Ellen** as she faces into a battle with lung cancer.
- *For **our nation**, that we might find clarity and enlightenment during this election season.



Harvest Fest - Planning Team Meeting Sept. 18 | 10:30 am
Would you like to be part of the conversation as we start planning for Harvest Fest 2024? Fresh ideas are welcome! When this annual friend-raising, fundraising event rolls around (**Nov. 23**), it will be all hands on deck!

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

St. Croix United Church

Grand Opening Celebration

Sunday, Sept. 22 | 11-1pm

Fun * Food * Music

Join us for our Grand Opening event following our first fall indoor worship service. There will be a light lunch, face painting & button-making for kids on the lawn... live music floating out through open windows... culminating in a brief service of blessing for our new church (led by clergy from local churches).

Bring a friend!

Thank you to today's partners: Telae (Youth & Outreach Director), Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Carol Dusbabek, Sam & Jonah Gromoll (greeters), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux & Jonah Gromoll (liturgist), Rolf Dittmann & Cheri Schwartz (cantor), Kathy Iverson, Claire Spilseth, & Carol Dusbabek (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Claire Spilseth & Roger Klisch (children's activity), Jane Hanson (youth group assistant)




St. Croix United Church

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You Are Welcome Here

26

$\text{♩} = 100$

G D G A D G/D D G A

You are wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are,

G A D G D C G A

no mat-ter where you are... on life's jour - ney... You are

D G/D D G A G A

wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are, come and

D G D G A D

join with us, we're u - ni-ted in the church of Christ. 1.2.3.

A G D A D G D

1. Come now all peo - ple, join in the song, come be a part of the fam-
 2. We pray for jus - tice; we pray for peace; we hear the word of the Sav-
 3. Lift - ing each oth - er; do - ing what's right; stand - ing to - geth - er, what - ev -

G A A G D A D

- 'ly of God. We are God's peo - ple... and you be - long,
 - ior of all... We find God's mer - cy; we find re - lease,
 - er may come; prais - ing our Sav - ior, shin - ing our light,

G A G/D D

4.

share in the joy of Christ. You are
 shar - ing the joy of Christ. You are
 shar - ing the joy of Christ. You are

All My Days

84

♩=78 N.C. A⁷sus

1. You

D D/F# G A⁷sus G/B D D/F# D G

know my_ words, be - fore they're said. You know my need and
 I should fly_ be - yond the_ dawn, the shad - ows will_ not
 ev - ery_ thought, each word we say, the whole of_ time, the
 mend my_ heart and free my_ voice. From sin re - leased, I

E/G# Esus A F#7/A# Bm F#m7 G Am D7 Gadd9

I am_ fed. You give me_ life. You know my_ ways, my
 o - ver - come. If I lie_ down in deep - est_ night, still
 pre - sent day, are held with - in_ your might - y_ hand too
 will re - joice. O search me_ now, my spir - it_ cries, and

D/A G/B Em/C#F#aug Bm D7/A D/G D/F# Em7

strength, my path_ for all my_ days, my strength, my_ path, for
 you are_ there, my truth, my_ light, still you are_ there, my
 won - der - ful_ to com - pre - hend, too won - der - ful_ to
 let my_ song of praise a - rise, and let my_ song of

Asus N.C. A⁷sus Asus N.C. Dadd9

1. 2. 3. 4.

all my days.____ 2. If praise a - rise.____
 truth, my light.____ 3. Our
 com - pre - hend.____ 4. O

Words: Laurie Zelman

Music: Mark A. Miller

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