



September 29, 2024

"How Will We
Find One Another?"

Welcome!

We encourage wearing name tags. Coffee and tea are welcome in worship.
Restrooms: main level (exit front left), lower level (at foot of entry stair/elevator)

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

We gently settle into sacred time and space

Ring the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting "Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone" *arr M. Hayes*
In Memory of Sharon Neuenfeldt's brother, Greg

We acknowledge the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome & Announcements

***Prayer of Gathering** (*unison*)

God of our ancestors and of this community, your Spirit gives life from generation to generation. We thank you for your mysterious presence among us today. Transform our fear with courage enough to share in one another's struggles. Strengthen our voices with passion enough to witness to your goodness and grace. At every age, teach us to trust you enough to sense your Spirit alive within us. Amidst the uncertainties, convictions, and questions of our faith, we lean into your love. Amen.

***Opening Hymn (NCH #67) "Let Me Enter God's Own Dwelling"**
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*)

God of all – your world weeps, yearning for a sign of mercy.
Your love works through our hands.

A friend is in anguish, besieged by unexpected pain.
Your love works through our ears.

A multitude are harmed and weary from prejudicial ways.
Your love works through our eyes.

A stranger faces death alone, wondering if anyone will remember.
Your love works through our tears.

A neighbor is lonely, longing for someone to come alongside.
Your love works through our bodies.

Forgive our resistance and open us further to your Spirit's movement –
Through all that we are and all that we do. 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”

Eleanora Favilla (10/1 – 11 yrs)

Wondering Together

Blessing One Another

...with arms wide open

Young Ones: 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 (age 3 - gr. 4) go downstairs with Carol & Kathy
Youth (gr. 5–12) | no gathering today (youth can join the children or stay in worship)
Nursery | Families with infants & toddlers are welcome to utilize the downstairs nursery
(the worship service can be heard in the nursery)

We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship

Proclaiming God's Love

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures | NRSV

Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

A Reading from the Epistles | NRSV

James 5:13-20

Here ends the readings.

May God speak to us through these sacred words.

Morning Message "How Will We Find One Another?"

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Hymn (NCH #539) "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?"
verses 1-4

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*)

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and Earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

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



Offertory

"Take My Gifts"

Murray

PRAYER CORNER

*With Jenni Shaller, we offer **hope and joy** as our grand opening marked the **beginning of the next chapter** in St. Croix United Church's story.

*With David Kirstein, we give thanks for a **supportive and loving community** as Naomi recovers after surgery and the family continues to mourn the death of David's brother, Ron.



Memorial Service for Deb Francis

October 5th @ Church

10 am Visitation | **11 am** Memorial Service | **12 pm** Luncheon

We Need Your Pictures for our New Photo Directory!

We're now accepting 1 photo per household for the photo directory. Please submit a digital or printed clear photo that showcases the faces of all in your household (animals welcome alongside humans).

We will use the photo for our new photo directory AND for a "photo wall" (faces and names) in our Fellowship Hall - something like this example from another church:

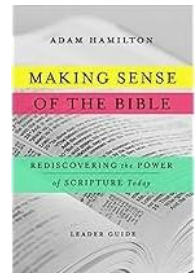


We've only received 10 pictures.... Please submit by **Monday, Sept. 30th!**

(If you need a picture taken, stop by the office during office hours and Megan will take your picture!)

Adult Faith Conversations Begin **Oct. 13 | 11 am**

We will soon begin a weekly Fall DVD discussion series with Adam Hamilton's *Making Sense of the Bible*. Hamilton addresses often misunderstood themes in the Bible and leads us to a deeper appreciation of it so we might hear God speaking through it and experience its relevance to our life today.



Potluck & Labyrinth Experience at People's Park | Oct. 8, 5:30 pm



Bring your favorite potluck item. At 6:15pm, Pastor Clare will lead a reflective experience in and near the labyrinth. We will conclude by the time of the 6:38pm sunset that evening. The forecasted weather looks lovely (with daytime highs in the mid-70s).

Inquirers Gathering

Oct. 10 | 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.



Gentle Tai Chi

Mondays | 7 pm @ Church

Wednesdays | 10 am @ Lakeside Park

Rain location: St. Croix United Church

**GENTLE
TAI CHI**



Connection... Balance... Renewal

Help us stock the **Little Free Pantry** and our **BRAND NEW Food Sharing Pantry!** by placing items in the grocery cart in the Narthex.

Useful items for the pantry include:

Canned or Pouched Meats: Tuna, chicken, salmon, sardines, jerky, summer sausage

Grains: Pasta, whole grain pasta, rice, quinoa

Shelf Stable Items: Hot and cold kid-friendly cereal, ready to eat soup, beans, peanut butter, granola bars, crackers

Spices, cooking oils, and condiments



**Please note that protein and high-quality items are preferred*

"Bridge the Gap" Community Hunger Walk

Sunday, Oct. 6 | 11 am

Our 1st Annual Hunger Walk was envisioned from memories of walking for CROP Hunger Walk (Church World Services) and wanting to raise attention for our Food Sharing Pantry - along with awareness about the need for food accessibility in Bayport.

11 am Registration at Church

11:25 am Blessing the Pantry

11:30 am Walk Begins

We will be walking in a square mile around Bayport with fellow participants from the community, Bethlehem Lutheran, and St. Charles Catholic Church.



We are asking for a \$10 donation, or non-perishable food items, to go toward stocking the Pantry.

We are looking for volunteers to bring bars or cookies that morning, and provide the walkers with lemonade and ice water. Would you be willing to help us?

Please let Kaira know - kbuberl.bettin@gmail.com

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), (greeter), Kathleen Dennison (liturgist), Rolf Dittmann (cantor), Kathy & Bob Iverson (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Carol Dusbabek & Kathy Iverson (age 3 - gr 4), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Sharri Kinkead & Kathy Iverson (altar decor)




St. Croix United Church

Rev. Clare Gromoll, Pastor

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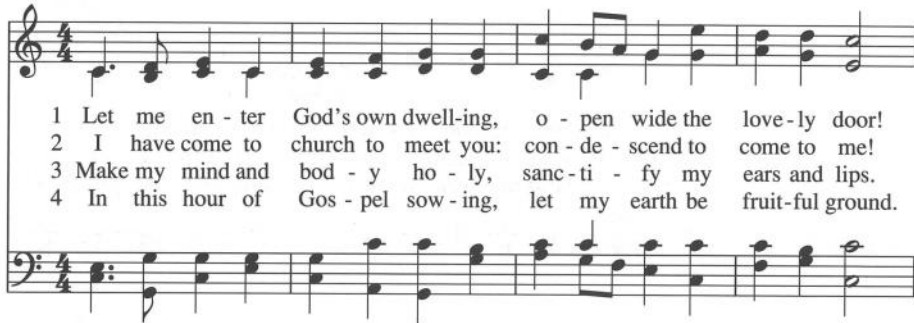
www.stcroixunitedchurch.org  @SCUCBayport

Let Me Enter God's Own Dwelling

67

Benjamin Schmolck, 1732

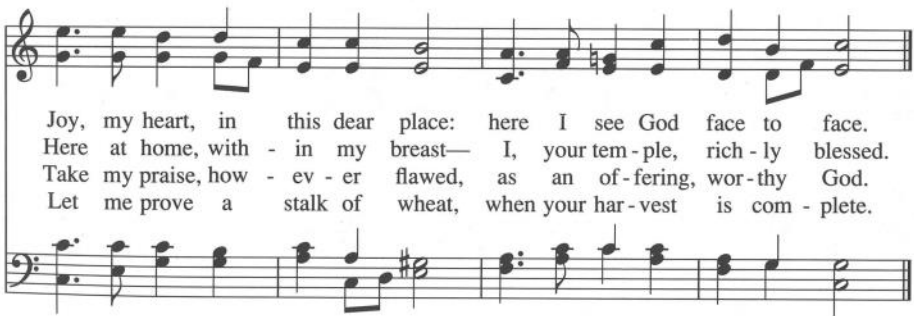
Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993



1 Let me en - ter God's own dwell - ing, o - pen wide the love - ly door!
 2 I have come to church to meet you: con - de - scend to come to me!
 3 Make my mind and bod - y ho - ly, sanc - ti - fy my ears and lips.
 4 In this hour of Gos - pel sow - ing, let my earth be fruit - ful ground.



Here, all earth - ly powers ex - cel - ling, God re - ceives the sick and poor.
 Anx - ious, need - y, I en - treat you, come in - side, and wel - come be—
 Lift my spir - it, poor and low - ly, all bright van - i - ties e - clipse.
 In - tel - lec - tual light be - stow - ing, raise my green faith, sweet and sound.



Joy, my heart, in this dear place: here I see God face to face.
 Here at home, with - in my breast— I, your tem - ple, rich - ly blessed.
 Take my praise, how - ev - er flawed, as an of - fering, wor - thy God.
 Let me prove a stalk of wheat, when your har - vest is com - plete.

5 Re-in-force me, weak and fail-ing,
 mak-ing sure your pre-cious word—
 (Thieves and e-vil un-a-vail-ing)—
 lives with-in my heart se-cured.
 Shin-ing word, my star-ry guide,
 plant-ed for me, deep in-side.

6 Let me hear when you com-mand me,
 let me leap to do your will.
 When I wan-der, rep-ri-mand me,
 com-fort me when I lie ill.
 In the hour of si-lent dread,
 feed me with your heaven-ly bread.

A native of Silesia, Benjamin Schmolck was ordained a Lutheran pastor. Although he was one of only three clergy serving thirty-six villages, he wrote more than 1,000 hymns. Joachim Neander, an important Reformed musician, wrote the music.

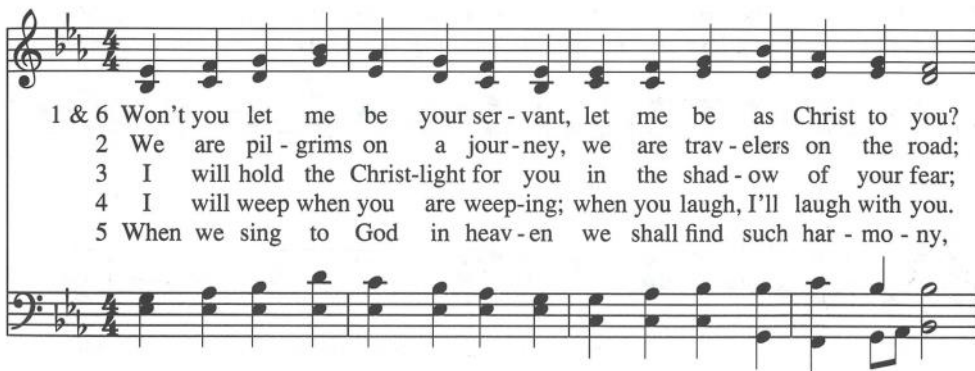
Tune: UNSER HERRSCHER 8.7.8.7.7.
 Joachim Neander, 1680

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

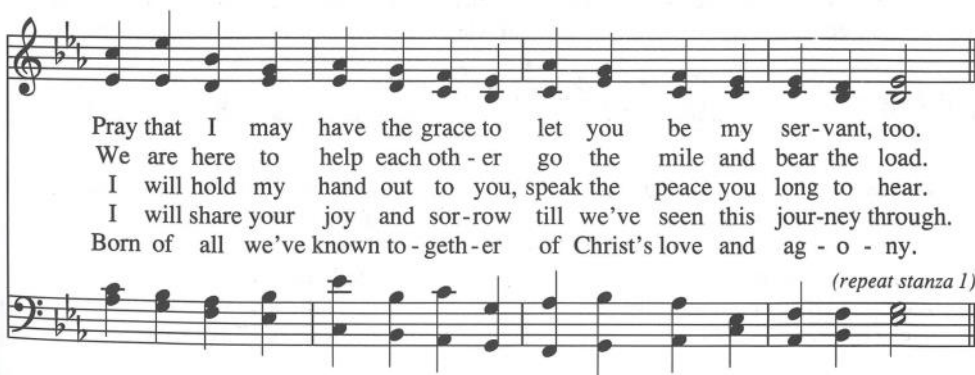
539

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29



1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.
Richard Gillard, 1977
Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

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.____