



October 6, 2024

"How Will We Pursue
Companionship?"

World Communion
Sunday

Welcome!

We encourage wearing name tags.

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 "Jesus Loves Me"

Manuel

We acknowledge the light of Christ among us

Words of Welcome & Announcements

SPP = *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

* = Sitting or standing

NCH = *New Century Hymnal*

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

God of all, as we gather at your table across the world today, may all who profess the way of Christ be one in your Spirit. Knead us together as one loaf. Free us from division. Unite us as partners in mission and service everywhere. As we work with our neighbors, may we sow love and justice, harvesting peace through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Opening Hymn (NCH #21)** "God Reigns o'er All the Earth"
verses 1-2 & 4

Acknowledging Our Need for God's Grace

Centering Ourselves

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

Prayer of Confession and Longing (*unison*)

God of all people and places, we confess our lack of oneness with our human siblings. We close our ears to voices of pain and wisdom. Our sensibilities are jarred by ways our neighbors express their faith in you – as if we have a special claim on truth and leadership. Gracious God, forgive us and renew a right spirit within us – a spirit of compassion, understanding, and humility. Fill us with a vision of unity in Christ, so that we incarnate your love. We give you thanks for the mighty sweep of your love, embracing all people and all nations. Thank you for sending Jesus to break down walls that divide Earth's people, revealing how your love makes us one body. Through the power of your Spirit, may this unity become reality. Amen.

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

Assurance of Grace (*responsive*)

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

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.

***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”

Jere Fetter (10/8), Emily Mayaka (10/11), Roger Klisch (10/12)

Wondering Together

*...about Food Access on
“Bridge the Gap” Community Hunger Walk Sunday*

Covenanting with a New Partner in Ministry

Cassandra Telae, Youth and Outreach Director, Interim Choir Director

***Laying On of Hands**

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

***Prayer of Covenanting Together (unison)**

Enfolded in the Love of God, we gladly embrace Telae as our newest partner in ministry. Today, we recommit ourselves to mutual care and partnership within this Christian community. May we trust the Holy Spirit to empower and encourage us to embody Love in the world. Amen.

Blessing One Another

...with arms wide open

Young Ones: 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's Activity | Children (age 3 - gr. 4) go downstairs with Claire and Kim
Youth Group | Youth (gr. 5-12) go with Telae to their main-level meeting space
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 (part 1, p. 2)

Genesis 2:18-24

A Reading from the Psalms | NRSV (part 1, p. 492)

Psalm 8

A Reading from the Gospels | NRSV (part 2, p. 46)

Mark 10:13-16

Here ends the readings.

May God speak to us through these sacred words.

Morning Message **"How Will We Pursue Companionship?"**

Responding To God's Love

Prayer Hymn (NCH #391) **"In the Midst of New Dimensions"**
verses 1-3

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)

**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

“Blessed Are You”

Crebbin

***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.**

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*

***Words of The Invitation**

***Communion Prayer** (*unison*)

God of all creation, we know that many of your children lack an adequate share of food and clothing, clean water, safe housing. As we enjoy what we have, help us to remember that Jesus came and lived among us as one of the poor. Help us to focus our lives on you, sharing the good things of this Earth. As your love reaches out through all of creation, enlarge our hearts that we may share freely and joyously. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, who taught us to eat, pray, and live together. Amen.

Presentation of Breads of the World

...as each bread is lifted and named

One: The people of ____ are our neighbors

All: Members with us in the body of God

Words of Remembrance and Blessing

*Sharing the Bread and the Cup

*Please approach the serving table by the center aisle
Take a piece of (gluten-free) bread and a cup of juice, receiving words of blessing
Place your empty cup in a basket on a front pew, returning by a side aisle*

*Communion Song (SPP #112) “Come to the Table of Grace” **all verses**

**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, at this table we have been shaped and formed by you – the mystery that makes us one. Your bread nourishes our souls, reminding us that your love brings healing and wholeness to our broken and divided spaces. Your cup quenches our thirst for new life with One whose quest to honor the last and the least ultimately led to his death. Here we become the community you create us to be – called to service in the world. May this simple meal nurture our union with your whole Earth community. Amen.

Going Forth to Share God’s Love

*Closing Hymn (NCH #391) “In the Midst of New Dimensions” **verses 1, 4-5**

*Benediction

*Sending Song *...optionally 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**

“Send Us Out”

M. Parks

All are welcome downstairs for refreshments & good company!

PRAYER CORNER

- *For **Aidan Gromoll**, who traveled to Ukraine on Thursday to provide medical care in an orphanage. While not on the front lines, we pray for safety for Aidan, her coworkers, and the children.
- *For Cindy Siegel's mom, **Marie**, healing in transitional care after a stroke and fall.
- *For Aidan Gromoll's humanitarian colleague, **Feraz**, suffering intense pain from stress fractures that refuse to heal.
- *We rejoice with Claire, Michael, Kaari, and Wilkie Bjork and their extended family at the birth of **Arne!**
- *For **Frank Cole**, we pray for healing energy after a recent fall.
- *For **all in the path of Hurricane Helene**, who have lost loved ones and homes, now beginning the long journey towards rebuilding.
- *Joy that **Erica Binger**, Mary's daughter in Ashville, NC is safe!
- *For Therese Thorson's friend's son, **John**, recently diagnosed with colon cancer.
- *For the **City of Beirut** - a place of beauty that continues to be a killing ground amongst ongoing conflict. Prayers for the people of Lebanon and their neighbors.

Refreshments & Labyrinth Time @ People's Park

Tuesday, Oct. 8 | 6 pm

We'll gather at 6pm for refreshments. At 6:15, Pastor Clare will lead a simple experience of gratitude in and near the labyrinth. We will conclude by around the time of the 6:38pm sunset.

**Arrive at 5:30 pm if you'd like to take prairie plants home!*



"Bridge the Gap" Community Hunger Walk

TODAY | 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.

Thank you for your support!

The Local Outreach Team: Kaira Bettin, Cindy Siegel, Sharon Binger, Jackie Savage, Bob Dickie, and Telae



Thank you to today's partners: Telae (Youth & Outreach Director), Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Carol Dusbabek (greeter & communion server), Kathy Iverson (liturgist), Mary Ann Litfin (cantor), Lori Mildon (fellowship), Jane Hanson & Sue Favilla (communion preparers), Bob Dickie & Cindy Parsons (communion server), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Claire Spilseth & Kim Klisch (age 3 - gr 4), Sue Favilla (youth group), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Sharri Kinkead & Kathy Iverson (altar decor)




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God Reigns o'er All the Earth

21

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

Isa. 52:7-10

1 God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and val-leys low, the
 2 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Through youth and ag-ing years, in
 3 God reigns o'er time and space! In his-tory's by-gone days, Christ's
 4 God reigns! Em-man-u-el! God with us ev-ery day, in

farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beau-ty show.
 death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.
 faith-ful folk in rev-erence spoke to bring God earn-est praise.
 all our past and to the last, our com-fort and our stay.

God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spread-ing plains, in
 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Our in-spi-ra-tion still. Through
 God reigns o'er time and space! O'er gal-ax-y and sun, through
 God reigns! Em-man-u-el! Let praise to Christ be sung! God's

rain-bow hues— reds, yel-lows, blues— of streams and coun-try lanes.
 all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reign-ing will.
 time-less years the cos-mos hears the heaven-ly mu-sic run.
 pres-ence here makes all things dear. Let joy-ful bells be rung!

The author's notes on this text describe it as a progression of awareness of God's reign among us—in physical surroundings, in the various stages of life, in time and space, and supremely in Christ, God with us.

Tune: TERRA BEATA S.M.D.
 Traditional English melody
 Adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915

In the Midst of New Dimensions

391

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo-ple, war-ring fac-tions and de-spair,
 3 As we stand a world di-vid-ed by our own self-seek-ing schemes,
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil-grim peo-ples wan-dering in their sep-arate ways?
 Who will lift the ol-ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
 Grant that we, your glob-al vil-lage, might en-vi-sion wid-er dreams.
 Each a gift in your cre-a-tion, each a love song to be sung.
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir-it res-ur-rect the church a-gain.

Refrain
 Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier-y pil-lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev-er, now and ev-er, now and ev-er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of "diversity" for a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference (United Methodist).

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain
 Julian Rush, 1985
 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

112 Come to the Table of Grace

$\text{♩} = 90$

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. _____

- 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. _____

- 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.

- 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. _____