

January 19, 2025

“Do We Believe in  
One Another?”

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther  
King, Jr. 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 “Do Not Be Afraid for I Am with You”**

*Stevens*

*We acknowledge the light of Christ among us*

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

### **Opening Words from a Neighbor**

SPP = *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

\* = Sitting or standing

NCH = *New Century Hymnal*

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

**Creator God, each of us comes individually to this time of worship. We are here to unite our spirits as one in Jesus Christ – to be merged in hope as your children. Bless our differences, that the unique gifts and perceptions of each may strengthen our unity. Draw us into your Spirit. We offer you our thanks and praise. In the name of the living Christ, we pray. 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 invites us into stillness*

**Prayer of Confession and Longing** (*responsive*)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the realm of heaven.

**Forgive us our spiritual arrogance.**

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

**Forgive us our false independence.**

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

**Forgive us our misplaced aggression.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, for they shall be satisfied.

**Forgive us our gluttony.**

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

**Forgive us our half-hearted commitment.**

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

**Forgive us for waging war.**

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the realm of heaven.

**Forgive us for not taking a stand. Gracious God, forgive us. Amen.**

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.

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

**Assurance of Grace**

**A Time With Children and Youth**

**Sung Invitation** ...as young people come forward

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

**Singing "Happy Birthday"**

**Carol Dusbabek (1/22), Arly Fuhr (1/22), Bronson Bettin (1/24, 10 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...**

***Children's Activity*** | Children (age 3 - gr. 4) go downstairs with Cindy & Wendy

***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 the Psalms** | NRSV (Old Testament, p. 510)

Psalm 36:5-10

**A Reading from the Epistles** | NRSV (New Testament, p. 174)

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

**A Reading from the Gospels** | NRSV (New Testament, p. 93)

John 2:1-11

Here ends the readings.

**May God speak to us through these sacred words.**

Responding To God's Love

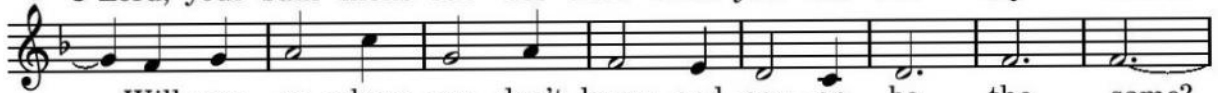
Prayer Hymn (insert)

"The Summons"

all verses



- 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**

## Prayer of Jesus (*unison*)

**Our Father and Mother who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name.**

**Thy kindom 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 kindom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Invitation to the Offering

*We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)*

***Blue electronic giving cards** represent gifts made electronically.*



## Offertory

“What Gift Can We Bring”

*Marshall*

## \*Offertory Response

**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*)

**We dedicate our lives and all that we have to the work of life, of love, of peace.  
Receive our gifts, and lead us in wisdom and courage. Amen.**

## Going Forth to Share God’s Love

**\*Closing Hymn (NCH #177)      “God of Change and Glory”  
all verses**

## \*Benediction

## \*Passing the Peace

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

*...to those online and onsite: smiles, peace signs, handshakes*

## \*Postlude

*...as we pass the peace*

### **Today Following Worship:**

**10:30am** | All are welcome downstairs for refreshments and good company!

**11:00am** | **Adult Faith Conversations** An invitation to grow spiritually and to embrace the light and the darkness. Something to remember as our country moves forward to Inauguration Day.



# Annual Meeting

**Sunday, Feb. 2nd**  
**11 am (after brunch)**

- \*Elections (Leadership Council) \*2025 budget
- \*Several other items (stay tuned)

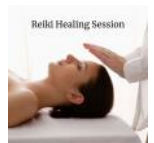
### ***Annual reports due TODAY.***

Per our bylaws: Electronic and hard copies of our Annual report and 2025 budget will be available beginning Jan. 26th.

## **Reiki Healing Session with Lori Mildon**

**Tuesday, Jan. 21 | 3 - 6 pm | @ Church**

To make an appointment, call Lori at 612-770-0327.



## PRAYER CORNER

\*For **all in the path of the LA fires**—may God calm the winds and fire, be with those who have lost much, and continue to strengthen the firefighters in body and spirit.

\*With Lori Mildon, prayers for her friend's sister, **Laura**, who lost her home in the LA fires.

\*For the **healthcare workers and hospitals** who are overwhelmed with this season's many ailments.

\*For Pastor Clare's dad, **Carl**, swift healing after an upper arm break last week.

\*For all those **struggling with mental health issues** - may they find companions to walk with them through their struggles.

\*For **Sarah Thorson**, swift recovery after a heart valve replacement on Jan. 14.

## Fourth Friday Meal co-hosted with The Connect Center

**Friday, Jan. 24 | 5:30 - 7:30 pm** @ St. Croix United Church

An opportunity for community members to enjoy a delicious meal and participate in fun activities together. Having healthy social connections is crucial to the well-being of people of all ages.

Volunteers are needed to make this event a success! **Sign-up in the Fellowship Room** or connect with Cindy Parsons for more info ([cindyparsons@theconnectcenter.org](mailto:cindyparsons@theconnectcenter.org)).



## Crutches4Africa (We're hosting a barrel for a few weeks)



Donate your used crutches, walkers, canes, walking boots, prosthetic legs, wheelchairs, knee scooters, leg/knee braces, arm slings, baby joggers (not strollers), or bicycle trailers.

Place them in or near the barrel in the Narthex. Stillwater Noon Rotary Club will collect and ship items to where they are needed in Africa.



### Week at a Glance:

Reiki with Lori | **Jan. 21, 3pm** | @ Church

**NO Choir Rehearsal** | **Jan. 22**


Garden Gathering | **Jan. 23, 9:30 am** | @ Church

As reparations for use of “This Little Light of Mine” and other Black spirituals, we support Walk West (St. Paul): *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.*

Thank you to today’s partners: Telae (Youth and Outreach Director), Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Sam Gromoll (acolyte), Cheri & Bob Schwartz (ushers), Kathy Iverson (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir, Cindy Baker & Wendy Staberg (age 3 - gr 4), Cindy Siegel (youth group), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie, Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Andi Favilla, Mary Binger, Naomi Kirstein (altar decor)



### St. Croix United Church

[www.stcroixunitedchurch.org](http://www.stcroixunitedchurch.org)  @SCUCBayport

**Rev. Pastor Clare Gromoll | Pastor**

[pastor@stcroixunitedchurch.org](mailto:pastor@stcroixunitedchurch.org), (651) 600-6409

**Megan Adams | Office Coordinator**

[office@stcroixunitedchurch.org](mailto:office@stcroixunitedchurch.org), (651) 439-5667

**Telae | Youth & Outreach Director, Interim Choir Director**  
[youthandoutreach@stcroixunitedchurch.org](mailto:youthandoutreach@stcroixunitedchurch.org), (612) 203-0859



# 16

## Come to the Water

♩=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.\_\_\_\_\_

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## God of Change and Glory

1 Cor. 12:4-27

Al Carmines, 1973

1 God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space,  
 2 God of man - y col - ors, God of man - y signs,  
 3 Fresh-ness of the morn - ing, new - ness of each night,

when we fear the fu - ture, give to us your grace.  
 you have made us dif - ferent, bless - ing man - y kinds.  
 you are still cre - at - ing end - less love and light.

In the midst of chang-ing ways give us still the grace to praise.  
 As the old ways dis - ap - pear, let your love cast out our fear.  
 This we see, as shad - ows part, man - y gifts from one great heart.

*Refrain*

Man - y gifts, one Spir - it, one love known in man - y ways.

*Al Carmines, composer, playwright, performer, and teacher, has served as minister for two United Church of Christ congregations in New York City. This hymn, commissioned in 1973, was one of the first modern texts to claim diversity as a gift from God.*

Tune: KATHERINE 6.5.6.5.7.7.  
 Al Carmines, 1973

EPIPHANY SEASON

C F C F G

In our dif - fer - ence is bless-ing, from di - ver - si - ty we praise

C F G

one Giv-er, one Word, one Spir-it, one God known in man-y ways,

F C G7 C

hal-low-ing our days. For the Giv-er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!