



April 6, 2025

“Spontaneous,  
Extravagant Love”

Fifth Sunday in Lent

### **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**

*...as we settle into sacred time and space*

### **Ring the Bell**

### **Prelude & Candle Lighting “In the Garden”**

*Miles*

*...acknowledging the light of Christ among us*

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

### **Singing Bowl & Opening Words from a Neighbor**

Tibetan singing bowls took form in the 6th and 5th centuries BCE.  
In some Buddhist traditions, they accompany meditation and chanting.  
They now contribute to spiritual practices and well-being in many spaces.

**\*Gathering Prayer** (*responsive*)

Author of life, you meet us in the shadows and dance with us in the sun.  
**You give us the breath of life and offer us eternal life.**

In this time of worship, open our hearts, our minds, and our hands –  
**so that we may love you and your creation in the way that Jesus did. Amen.**

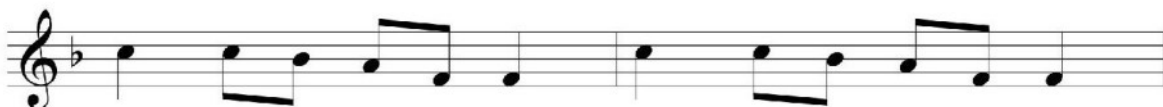
**\*Opening Song**

**“Come, Let Us Worship God”**

**Cantors lead, we echo**



*Leader: Come, let us wor-ship God. Come, let us wor-ship God.*



*Come, let us wor-ship God. Come, let us wor-ship God.*



*Wel - come ev - 'ry - one\_ Wel - come ev - 'ry - one*



*to the love of God. to the love of God.*

2. Rest for the weary...
3. Hope for the children...
4. Light for the journey...



## 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 Claire and Roger  
**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  
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship!

## Proclaiming God's Love

**Reading from the gospels** | NRSV (New Testament, p. 66)

Luke 7:36-50

**Reading from a contemporary voice** | from Rev. Dr. Marilyn Danielson

"Giving Til It Feels Good"

**Reading from a contemporary voice** | from Rev. Quinn G. Caldwell

"Make Haste to Anoint"

Here ends the readings.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Morning Message

**"Spontaneous, Extravagant Love"**

## Responding To God's Love

**Prayer Hymn** (see insert)

**"The Summons"**

**verses 1, 4 & 5**

As reparations for use of 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.

## 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

“Thy Holy Wings”

*Swedish Tune*

## \*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*

## \*The Invitation and Prayer

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

*(cont’d next page...)*

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**

*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 Hymn (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**

The bread of life and cup of blessing for everyone!

**Thanks be to God!**

**God of all, Source of life and love — we affirm the goodness of life and the openness of the future. Even as you have come to us in this act of communion with one another, let us go out to others in the way of Jesus.**

**May our every action bring healing, reconciliation and hope to a broken and hurting world. Amen.**

### **Going Forth to Share God’s Love**

### **\*Closing Hymn (NCH #52)**

**“There is a Name I Love to Hear (O How I Love Jesus)”**

**all verses**

### **\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song (NCH #249)**

*...forming a circle (not holding hands)*

**“Peace I Leave with You, My Friends”**

**Peace I leave with you, my friends,  
shalom, my peace, in all you do.**

**Peace I leave with you, my friends.**

**I give to you so you can give to others, too.**

**To share God’s love is why I came,  
To show God’s kindness without end.  
Go, now, my friends, and do the same,  
Until we come again.**

**Peace I leave with you, my friends,  
shalom, my peace, in all you do.**

**Peace I leave with you, my friends.**

**I give to you so you can give to others, too.**

**\*Postlude**

**Today Following Worship:**

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

**11:00am** | **Congregational Discussion/workshop (re: Strategic Planning)**

We hope you can be with us! Based on results of our recent survey, we are seeking additional input from all of you (our members and friends). Our time together will be highly interactive and fun! We will conclude by or before 1:00 pm.

**Week at a Glance:**

**Welcome and Care Team** | **April 8, 1 pm** | @ Church

**Gentle Tai Chi/Healing Session** | **April 9, 10 am** | @ Church

**Finance Committee** | **April 9, 4:30 pm** | @ Church & Zoom

**Lenten Worship** (Kathy Iverson, story sharer) | **April 9, 5:30 pm** | @ Church

**Lenten Soup Dinner** | **April 9, 6 pm** | @ Church

**Lenten Book Discussion** | **April 9, 6:30 pm** | @ Church

**Leadership Council** | **April 10, 6:30 pm** | @ Church & Zoom


## PRAYER CORNER

- \*For **Aidan Gromoll**, gratitude for and safe return home after several months of service as a pediatrician among refugees in Calais and Dunkirk, France.
- \*For Sharri Kinkead's son, **Pete**, swift healing after surgery on his broken hip.
- \*Following **Transgender Day of Visibility** (March 31st), we pray that all among us who are transgender and gender expansive be loved and supported; and for our MN leaders to continue to stand by them.
- \*With **Randy Gutzmann**, we give thanks for the courage to be vulnerable and seek community.
- \*With **Sam Gromoll**, we give thanks that he is feeling better!
- \*For **Kathy Whiterabbit**, swift healing after a successful total knee replacement.
- \*For Forrest Whiterabbit, Jr.'s friend **Matty** and his extended family as they grieve the loss of his father.
- \*For **the people of Myanmar and Thailand** in the wake of devastating earthquakes.

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Carol Dusbabek & Gary Piasecki (ushers), Mary Piasecki (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir, Claire Spilseth & Roger Klisch (age 3 - gr 4), Jane Hanson (youth group), Sue Favilla & Jane Hanson (communion preparers), Carol Dusbabek (communion server), Cheri Schwartz (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie, Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Sue Favilla (altar decor)



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# The Open Table

1. Come, oh come, come to the ta - ble.  
 2. Cir - cle round, let's join to - geth - er.  
 3. God is love; Love is cre - at - ing

— Gath - er 'round, come with - out fear.  
 — Share your joys, and bring your tears.  
 — some - thing new, right here, right now.

— Known by name, here at the  
 — Strength and hope found at the  
 — We're chil - dren of God, here at the

ta - ble, this ta - ble; wel - come  
 ta - ble, this ta - ble;  
 ta - ble, this ta - ble;

here, to the ta - ble of love. love.

From: *Roll Down, Justice!* (CGBK72).

Text: Mark A. Miller.

Music: *The Open Table*, by Mark A. Miller.

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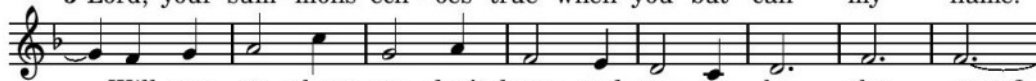
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# Will You Come and Follow Me

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.

# There Is a Name I Love to Hear

(O How I Love Jesus)

*Frederick Whitfield, 1855; alt.*

1 There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;  
 2 It tells my Sav - ior's love for all; Christ died to set us free;  
 3 It bids me serve a - mid the wrath God's peo - ple face each day,

It sounds like mu - sic to my ear, the sweet - est name on earth.  
 What - ev - er prob - lems may be - fall, we'll live in dig - ni - ty.  
 And sheds a - long life's trou - bled path bright sun - shine on my way.

*Refrain*

O how I love Je - sus, O how I love Je - sus,

O how I love Je - sus, whose love has first found me.

*Frederick Whitfield was ordained in the Church of England and served several English parishes. This hymn is a combination of Whitfield's stanzas and a refrain by an unknown author, both set to an existing nineteenth-century tune. The text was published in a leaflet in 1855.*

Tune: O HOW I LOVE JESUS C.M. with refrain  
 United States, 19th century

## Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

John 14:18-29

Ray Repp, 1967

*Refrain*

D Em G D F#m

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in

Em Gm D Em G D F#m

all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to

Bm Em G D 1-2 3

you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

D Em G D

1 To share God's love is why I came,  
2 Take my hand and be at peace;  
3 With this love now all will know

F#m Em/G Gm

to show God's kind - ness with - out end.  
the spir - it of our love I send.  
that lone - li - ness is at an end.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a guitar accompaniment with chords and a vocal line. The score is divided into several systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system is the refrain, which is repeated. The second system continues the refrain. The third system includes a bridge with a first ending (1-2) and a second ending (3). The fourth system contains three verses of the main text. The fifth system continues the main text. The sixth system concludes the piece with a final chord.

Songwriter Ray Repp has composed and recorded numerous albums of liturgical songs since 1965, when he introduced guitar into worship with his "Mass for Young Americans."

Tune: PEACE, MY FRIENDS Irr. with refrain  
Ray Repp, 1967  
Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

EASTER SEASON

D Em G D

Go now, my friends, and do the same,  
 And with this love you will be free,  
 Re-joice, my friends, al-though I go,

F#m G A7 *to Refrain*

un-til I come a - gain.  
 un-til I come a - gain.  
 for I will come a - gain.