



May 4, 2025

Guest Preacher:  
Rev. Daniel  
Harrell

### **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**

### **Ring the Bell**

### **Prelude & Candle Lighting      “Thy Word”**

Smith

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

*please observe silence as we settle into sacred time and space*

### **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.

**\*Invocation** (*responsive*)

Rising One, come to me this day. Transform shadow into light.

**Returning One, come to me this day. Hear and soften the sounds of my cries.**

Rising One, come to me this day. Wake me and move me to dance.

**Returning One, come to me this day. Sing in me songs of peace.**

Rising One, come to me this day. Appear over and over again.

**Returning One, turn toward us as we turn toward you in this season of Easter.**

**\*Opening Hymn (NCH #17)**      “To You, O God, All Creatures Sing”

**verses 1, 4-5**

**Acknowledging Our Need for God’s Grace**

**Centering Ourselves**

*...in stillness and breath*

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

Dancing Light, shed light on the corners of our souls –

**Where aches linger and anger builds like mold, where memories ferment  
and self-pity licks its wounds.**

Dancing Light, brighten the shadows deep within –

**Where lies are hidden and criticism awaits its prey, where contempt lurks  
and distrust rustles underfoot.**

Dancing Light, shine upon the windows of our hearts –

**Where love should live and forgiveness be always ready, where hope is  
bright and praise ever lifts our tongues. Amen.**

**Solo**

**“The Goodness of God”**

*by CeCe Winans*

*Telae, vocals and piano*

**Assurance of Grace** (*responsive*)

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

**Passing the Peace** (*seated*)

*...smiles and gestures of peace — to those online and seated near us*

## 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"

**Jane Hanson (5/7), John Norheim (5/10)**

### 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 Newer Testament** | NRSV, p. 127

Acts 9: 1-6

**Reading from the Gospels** | NRSV, p. 115

John 21: 1-19

**One: Here ends the readings. All: Thanks be to God!**

## Morning Message

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.

## **Responding To God's Love**

**Prayer Hymn (NCH #172) “Jesus Calls Us, o’er the Tumult”**  
**all verses**

### **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**

**“I Will Enter In”**

*Batstone*

### **\*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.  
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.

**Communion Song**

**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. 1., 2. love. 3.

## 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*

**Musical Interlude**      ... as we participate in the sacred meal

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The bread of life and cup of blessing for everyone!      **Thanks be to God!**  
O Holy One – in this place and at this table, we have touched and tasted and heard signs of your love for us. May we depart from this service of worship filled with love for you and overflowing with love for those around us. As the body of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

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

### **\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song (NCH #249)**      ...forming a circle (not holding hands)

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.

**\*Parting Music**      ... as we greet one another

## **Today Following Worship:**

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

**11:00 am** | **Faith Conversations.** Join us for a discussion of Jennifer Harvey's book, *Anti-Racism as a Daily Practice*. It is full of real-life stories that guide us in making antiracism an ongoing commitment for the well-being of our democracy.



**Pastor Clare will be away for continuing education, April 28 - May 5**

In the event of a question or need, please contact one of the following:

**Urgent Pastoral Concerns:** Rev. Dan Warnes (402-200-9680)

- or - Rev. Naomi Kirstein (515-249-1336)

**Other questions:** Megan Adams, Office Coordinator (651-439-5667,  
office@stcroixunitedchurch.org)

- or - Nat Graf, Leadership Council Moderator (651-470-0408, ngraf11@gmail.com)

## **PRAYER CORNER**

\*For **Pat Mazzitello**, swift and total healing for her broken arm.

\*For Bob Dickie and Cindy Parsons' daughter, **Erin**, as she struggles with mental health challenges.

\*For **Aiden Gromoll's** return from recent work with refugees and joining us for worship once again.

\*For **our judiciary members** - continued safety and capacity for practicing wisdom and leadership in challenging times.

\*Gratitude for our **new members!**

## **Mark your calendars...**

**May 17, 5:30 pm**—St. Croix Youth Night (gr 6– 12)

**May 18th, 10:45 am**—Inquirers Gathering (*after worship at Lakeside Park*)

**May 31, 6:30 pm**— “An Evening of Story-Telling and Stand-Up” with Bill Chadwick



### Week at a Glance:

Gentle Tai Chi | **May 5, 7 pm** | @ Church

Healing Sessions w/ Mary Ann | **May 6, 10 am** | @ Church

Local Outreach Team | **May 6, 12:30 pm** | @ Church

Gentle Tai Chi | **May 7, 10 am** | @ Church


Choir Rehearsal | **May 7, 6:30 pm** | @ Church

"Anxious Generation" Book Study | **May 8, 6 pm** | @ Stillwater Library

Thank you to today's partners: Rev. Daniel Harrell (Guest Preacher), Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Jane Hanson & Sue Favilla (communion preparers), Kathy & Bob Iverson (ushers), Cheri Schwartz (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir, Mary Maren Bjork, Bob Dickie, Cindy Parsons (communion servers), Diane & Joe Legatto (fellowship), Claire Spilseth & Roger Klisch (age 3 - gr 4), Jane Hanson (youth group), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Sue Favilla (altar decor)



### St. Croix United Church

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## To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

Ps. 148

St. Francis of Assisi, 1225  
Adapt. Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

*Descant*

4 To you, God, day af-ter day, earth in

*Unison*

1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre-a-tion, ev-ery-  
 2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a-cross the  
 3 Your flow-ing wa-ters, crys-tal clear, make mel-o-dies for you to  
 4 To you, O God, day af-ter day, your plan-et earth in ev-ery

ev-ery way sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! As fruit, fra-grant

*(Harmony)* *(Unison)*

thing sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! Your burn-ing sun with gold-en  
 sky sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! Your morn-ing ris-es with a  
 hear, sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! Your fire, . . . boun-ti-ful and  
 way, sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia, As sa-vory fruit and fra-grant

Miriam Therese Winter described her thoughts about adapting this text: "As I entered into communion with the word and spirit of the hymn, I felt called to enable that unknown-to-me poet's wisdom to live on into the future, a moving commission, and also felt a bond with the one who had gone before."

Harmonization Copyright ©, Oxford University Press. From *The English Hymnal* 1906.

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 8.8.4.4.8.8. with alleluias  
 Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623  
 Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906  
 Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993

flower show forth glo - ry and power, sing - ing prais - es, al-le -

(Harmony)

beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais-es,  
 song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais-es, al-le -  
 bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais-es,  
 flower show forth your glo - ry and your power, sing - ing prais-es,

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

(Unison)

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

5 Now we who are of ten-der heart,  
 for-giv-ing oth-ers, take our part,  
 sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!  
 To you we lift our pain and care,  
 re-ceive the bur-dens that we bear,  
 sing-ing prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,  
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

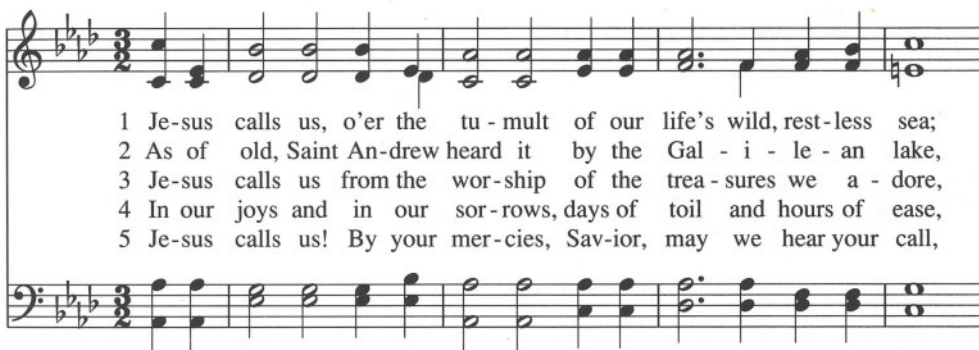
6 In you, a kind and gen-tle death  
 pre-pares to hush our fi-nal breath,  
 sing-ing prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!  
 Christ goes be-fore us to re-new  
 the way that leads us home to you.  
 Hear our prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,  
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

# Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

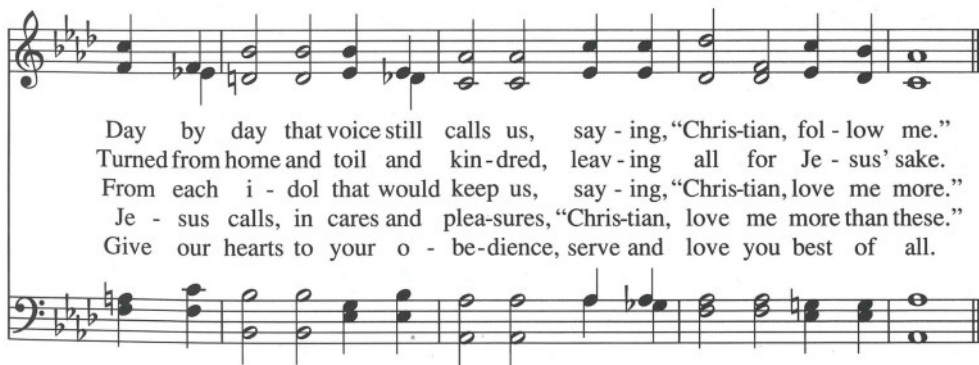
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*Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.*

*Matt. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 21:15*



1 Je-sus calls us, o'er the tu - mult of our life's wild, rest-less sea;  
 2 As of old, Saint An-drew heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,  
 3 Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship of the trea - sures we a - dore,  
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of toil and hours of ease,  
 5 Je-sus calls us! By your mer-cies, Sav-ior, may we hear your call,



Day by day that voice still calls us, say - ing, "Chris-tian, fol - low me."  
 Turned from home and toil and kin-dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
 From each i - dol that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris-tian, love me more."  
 Je - sus calls, in cares and plea-sures, "Chris-tian, love me more than these."  
 Give our hearts to your o - be-dience, serve and love you best of all.

*Cecil Alexander, who in Ireland wrote sacred verse to teach children the meaning of the catechism and liturgy, designated this poem for St. Andrew's Day. Many years later Galilee was composed for this text by an English organist, William Jude.*

Tune: GALILEE 8.7.8.7.  
 William H. Jude, 1887  
 Alternate setting: ST. ANDREW