



October 26, 2025

“Emotionally
Honest Faith”

Welcome!

We encourage wearing name tags.

Restrooms: main level (exit front left), lower level (at foot of entry stair/elevator)

Large-print bulletins: there are plenty!

Gathering Music

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting “Amber Leaves”

Stevens

...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.

Singing “Happy Birthday”

Drew Dittmann (10/28)

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 (age 3 - grade 4) | Children can go downstairs with Claire

Youth Group (grades 5-12) | Youth can go with Telae

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

Contemporary Reading | by Nicholas Jenner

“Emotional Honesty: What it is and Why it is Important”

Reading from the Gospels | NRSV, New Testament p. 81

Luke 18:9-17

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

Morning Message

“Emotionally Honest Faith”

Prayer Song (SPP #128) “Change My Heart, O God”

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 printed in our Prayer Corner*

...God, in your love **Hear our prayer**

As reparations for use of Black spirituals, we support Walker 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.

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** found in pew pockets.*



Shared Ministry Inventory (*an annual spiritual practice*)

*We invite all members and friends to complete a Shared Ministry Inventory.
Please place your completed inventory in a marked basket at either exit as you depart.*

Thank you!

Nominating Committee (Sue Favilla, Jill Greenhalgh, Paul Spilseth)

Offertory

“Here Am I”

Wren/Damon

*Song of Thanks

**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*)

Holy One, your heart abounds with gifts. Receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live as channels of your mercy – inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. Amen.

***Closing Song (SPP #84)**

“All My Days”

***Benediction**

***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 | Adult Forum: Embracing Our Questions

PRAYER CORNER

- *With Sarah Thorson, we pray for all who are grieving the passing of **Aunt Connie**.
- *Gratitude for the millions of people who stood up at the **No Kings rallies** last weekend, offering voice and presence out of love for democracy.
- *For Bob Heurung's good friend, **Mark**, and family as he faces an important surgery this week.
- *Gratitude for **the leaders of this church** - for the time, energy, and faithfulness that went into preparing for the Special Congregational Meeting last Sunday.
- *With **Sharri Kinhead**, gratitude for time spent with friends.
- *For Sharon Neuenfeldt's nephew, **Mike**, as he heals from surgery associated with cancer.
- *For **Amy** (grandma to Zoey, Finley, and Eddy Hintze-Graf) as she continues to struggle with complex health issues.
- *With **Randy Gutzmann**, thankful for mind, body, and spirit connection within this community.
- *With **Janet Minea**, for people and activities that serve her growth to become apparent along the journey.

Adult Forum: "Embracing Our Questions"

TODAY | 11 am - noon

guided discussions on matters of faith

Have you heard the maxim, 'The important thing is to never stop questioning' (Einstein)?

Bring your faith related questions as we share the DVD series *Living the Questions* to stimulate our discussion.

Adult Forum

guided discussions on matters of faith
Fall focus: embracing our questions



Sundays, 11am - noon
hybrid format

Energy Healing Sessions | **Tuesdays & Wednesdays**

Mary Ann Litfin is opening up new times for Energy Healing.

Tuesdays | 10 am and 11 am

Wednesdays | 9 am (*before Tai Chi*)

To reserve a time, please contact Mary Ann:

Mary Ann Litfin | malitfin@gmail.com | 612-382-9920



Healing Sessions

Connecting with the Word a weekly study of biblical and contemporary texts



Wednesdays, 11:15 am - noon
hybrid format

Connecting with the Word | **Wednesdays, 11:15 am**

Oct. 29th theme - Connect: Many ways of Connection

Come explore the biblical and contemporary readings for the coming Sunday. We examine each passage, wonder about its meaning, and discover connections to our own faith journeys.

Neighbors in Need: Third Quarter Special Offering

This offering supports ministries of justice & compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries.

Special envelopes are available. Please mark all checks

"Neighbors in Need." Collected through Oct. 31st.



Inquirers Gathering | **Wednesday, Oct. 29th | 6:00pm**



Newer and long-time friends will learn about:

- The life and work of St. Croix United Church
- Our denominational affiliations
- How to deepen your participation with us
- What membership means to us

Please let Pastor Clare know if you plan to attend
(pastor@stcroixunitedchurch.org, 651-600-6409)

All Saints Day

Sunday, Nov. 2nd

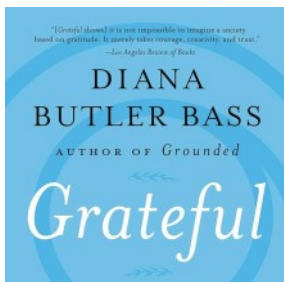


We're collecting names to honor on All Saints Day.

During worship, we will say and light a candle for each name:

- Members & other loved ones who died in the past year
- If you are very new to us, perhaps a loved one who died in the past few years (for whom we haven't yet lit a candle)
- Those recognizing a milestone year (5 or 10 years since the death)

Please email Megan at office@stcroixunitedchurch.org with names you'd like to remember during this special service.



Faith & Spirit Book Club

Wednesday, Nov. 5th | 6:30 pm

Grateful, The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks
by Diana Butler Bass.

Nov. 5th - We'll focus on part III, part IV & epilogue

The discussion could be relevant to all of us.
Plan to participate? Let Pastor Clare know.


Week at a Glance:

Gentle Tai Chi | **Oct. 27, 7 pm** | @ Church
Healing Sessions w/Mary Ann | **Oct. 28, 10 am** | @ Church
Soup & Shop Team | **Oct. 28, 1:30 pm** | @ Church
Healing Sessions w/Mary Ann | **Oct. 29, 9 am** | @ Church
Gentle Tai Chi | **Oct. 29, 10 am** | @ Church
Worship & Sanctuary Team | **Oct. 29, 10 am** | @ Church
Connecting with the Word | **Oct. 29, 11:15 am** | @ Church & Zoom
Stewardship Team | **Oct. 29, 1 pm** | @ Church
Youth Choir | **Oct. 29, 3:30 pm** | @ Church
Wednesday Supper Club | **Oct. 29, 5:30 pm** | @ Church
Inquirers Gathering | **Oct. 29, 6:00 pm** | Church
Choir Rehearsal | **Nov. 2, 8:30 am** | @ Church
Worship | **Nov. 2, 9:30 am** | @ Church & Livestream
Children & Youth Activity | **Nov. 2, 9:45 am** | @ Church
Fellowship | **Nov. 2, 10:30 am** | @ Church
Adult Forum | **Nov. 2, 11 am** | @ Church & Zoom

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Carol Dusbabek (usher), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir, Lori Mildon & Cheri Schwartz (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Claire Spilseth & Kathy Iverson (children's activity)



St. Croix United Church

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From All That Dwell below the Skies

27

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 117

Unison

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let the Cre - a - tor's praise a -
2 E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, God; your truth stands ev - er high and

(Harmony) *(Unison)*

rise; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Let the Re - deem - er's name be
broad: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Your praise shall sound from shore to

(Harmony)

sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
shore till suns shall rise and set no more. 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!

Isaac Watts, author of more than 600 hymns, paraphrased the two verses of Psalm 117 into this two-stanza hymn, which was included in his Psalms of David, 1719. The tune originated in a German Catholic hymnal.

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN
8.8.4.4.8.8. with alleluias
Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623
Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

RESPOND

128 Change My Heart, O God

♩=100
C

G/B F/A Dm Gsus C F/G

C B/G F/A Dm G7 Am Em7/G

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Change my heart, O God,___ | make it ev - er true. ___ |
| *2. Cleanse my soul, O God,___ | wash it with your grace. ___ |
| *3. Stir my mind, O God,___ | move it to be - lieve. ___ |
| *1. Change our hearts, O God,___ | make them ev - er true. ___ |
| *2. Cleanse our souls, O God,___ | wash them with your grace. ___ |
| *3. Stir our minds, O God,___ | move them to be - lieve. ___ |

Fmaj7 Cmaj7/E Dm G7 C G7/B

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Change my heart, O God,___ | may I be like you. ___ |
| Cleanse my soul, O God,___ | ten - der your em - brace. ___ |
| Stir my mind, O God,___ | help me to per - ceive. ___ |
| Cleanse our hearts, O God,___ | may we be like you. ___ |
| Cleanse our souls, O God,___ | ten - der your em - brace. ___ |
| Stir our minds, O God,___ | help us to per - ceive. ___ |

Chorus

Esus E Am Dm G Am Gadd9

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| You are the Pot - ter, | I am the clay. ___ |
| You are the Pot - ter, | we are the clay. ___ |

F E Am Dm G/D D G Gsus G

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mold me and make___ me, | this is what I pray. |
| Mold us and make___ us, | this is what we pray. |

C G/B F/A Dm Am

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Change my heart, O God,___ | make it ev - er true. ___ |
| Change our hearts, O God,___ | make them ev - er true. ___ |



Change my heart, O God,___ may I be like you.____
Change our hearts, O God.____ *may we be like you.____*



You are the Pot - ter, I am the clay.____
You are the Pot - ter, *we are the clay.____*



Mold me and make___ me, this is what I pray.
Mold us and make___ us, *this is what we pray.*



Change my heart, O God,___ make it ev-er true.____
Change our hearts, O God,___ *make them ev-er true.____*



Change my heart, O God,___ may I be like you.____
Change our hearts, O God,___ *may we be like you.____*

*Words in italics are new lyrics and have been added with permission of the publisher.

Words (verse 1) and Music: Eddie Espinosa

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All My Days

84

$\text{♩} = 78$ N.C. A⁷sus

1. You

D D/F# G A⁷sus G/B D D/F# D G