



October 5, 2025

“Christian Community
Jesus Would Recognize”

World Communion Sunday

“Bridge the Gap”
Hunger Walk

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

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting “10,000 Reasons”

Myrin/Redman

...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.

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

God of all, across the world today, we gather at your table. May all who long to follow the way of Jesus 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 – until we harvest deep and lasting peace through the grace of Jesus your Christ. Amen.

***Opening Song (SPP #123)** “Draw the Circle Wide”

Centering Ourselves *...in stillness and breath*

Prayer of Confession and Longing (*unison*)

God of all people and places, we confess our lack of oneness as your creation. We close our ears to voices of pain and wisdom. Our sensibilities are jarred by ways our neighbors practice their faith in you – as if we have a claim on genuine expression and true leadership.

Gracious God, forgive us and renew a right spirit within us – a spirit of compassion, understanding, and humility. We thank you 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. Through the power of your Spirit, may we become one community. Amen.

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

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

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

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

Singing “Happy Birthday”

Jere Fetter (10/8)

Wondering Together *(through song)*

“Circle of Life”

Tim Rice and Elton John

**Chorus: In the circle of life
It's the wheel of fortune
It's the leap of faith
It's the band of hope
'Til we find our place
On the path unwinding
In the circle
The circle of life**

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...

***Children's Activity (age 3 - grade 4) | Children can go downstairs with Claire
Youth Group (grades 5-12) | Youth can go with Telae
Infants & Toddlers | Families are welcome to use the downstairs nursery
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship!***

Reading from New Testament | *The Inclusive Bible*

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Contemporary Reading | *by Jan Richardson*

"And the Table Will Be Wide: A Blessing for World Communion Sunday"

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

Morning Message

“Christian Community Jesus Would Recognize”

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.*

Prayer 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.

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

Prayer of Jesus (*unison*)

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and Earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)
Blue electronic giving cards found in pew pockets.



Offertory

“Banner of Hope”

M.S. Gast

*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 Invitation

Communion Prayer (*unison*)

God of all creation, we know that many of our neighbors lack an adequate share of food, clothing, clean water, safe housing. As we enjoy what we have, may we 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, embolden us to share freely and joyously. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, who taught us to share abundant life with one another. Amen.

that you bring healing and wholeness to our broken and divided spaces. Your cup quenches our thirst – sustaining us as we join in Jesus’ quest to honor all members of your body. May we become the Earth community you created us to be. Amen.

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

...forming a circle (not 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.

***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 | “Bridge the Gap” Hunger Walk

PRAYER CORNER

*With Kathy Whiterabbit, we celebrate as cousin Ron marries his longtime companion, Anna, on October 10th in Minneapolis. Ron and his sister Jae lost their mother Joanne 2 years ago.

*For Sharri Kinhead's step-daughter, **Rachel**, as she faces a new cancer diagnosis.

*For **Randy Gutzmann** as he remembers his wife, Barbie, on their 29th wedding anniversary; and for all who are journeying through waves of grief.

*We give thanks for **public servants** who safeguard the wellbeing of our community.

*For all in **the Annunciation community**, still wading through trauma, shock, and grief. And for young Sophia, still receiving medical interventions as she heads toward healing and recovery.

Week at a Glance:

Gentle Tai Chi | **Oct. 6, 6:30 pm** | @ Lakeside Park

Soup & Shop Team | **Oct. 7, 1:30 pm** | @ Church

Gentle Tai Chi | **Oct. 8, 10 am** | @ Lakeside Park

Connecting with the Word | **Oct. 8, 11:15 am** | @ Church & Zoom

Youth Choir | **Oct. 8, 3:30 pm** | @ Church

Finance Committee | **Oct. 8, 4 pm** | @ Church & Zoom

Wednesday Supper Club | **Oct. 8, 5:30 pm** | @ Church

Leadership Council | **Oct. 8, 6:30 pm** | @ Church & Zoom

Nominating Committee | **Oct. 9, 9:30 am** | @ Church

Social Justice in the Valley | **Oct. 9, 7 pm** | @ Church

Pastor Clare away for Continuing Education | **Oct. 9—12**

Choir Rehearsal | **Oct. 12, 8:30 am** | @ Church


Worship | **Oct. 12, 9:30 am** | @ Church & Livestream

Adult Forum | **Oct. 12, 11 am** | @ Church

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Lori Mildon (flute), Sue Favilla & Jane Hanson (communion preparers), Gary Piasecki (usher), Mary Maren Bjork (liturgist), Mary Horak Binger, Mary Maren Bjork, Dan Warnes (communion servers), St. Croix United Choir, Chris Bordeaux & Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer)



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RESPOND

123 Draw the Circle Wide

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