



February 15, 2026

“Coming into Our Own”

Transfiguration Sunday

Welcome!

We encourage wearing name tags.

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

Gathering Music

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting “Be Thou My Vision”

...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** *(responsive)*

God of all, we claim the promise of Christ (love in human form) —
That where two or three are gathered in that holy name, Christ is present.

With Christ among us, we know the power of your love for us.
With Christ among us, we see your glory in each other.

With Christ among us, we believe we can do all things —
Through love's strength at work in us.

Free us now to be a people renewed by transforming love —
Through the one who came that we might live more abundantly. Amen!

***Opening Song (insert)** “Gather Us In”

Centering Ourselves *...in stillness and breath*

Prayer of Confession and Longing *(unison)*

Creator God, we cast our cares toward you and share our burdens with each other. Help us to dismantle our disguises, laying our hearts and souls bare before you. Manifest your presence among us. Speak to us within the silence of our spirits and the roaring in our ears. Let your acceptance and forgiveness waft over us like a warm breeze as you embrace us. Let your love fill us with joy. May others sense your presence in our hearts and see you in our actions. 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...

Singing “Happy Birthday”

Any birthdays this week?

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...

*Children’s Activity (age 3 - grade 4) | Children can go downstairs with Carol
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship!*

Reading from the Gospels | *NRSV, p. 18*

Matthew 17:1-9

Contemporary Reading | *by May Sarton*

“Now I Become Myself”

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

Morning Message

“Coming Into Our Own”

Prayer Song (SPP #84)

“All My Days”

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

**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 Offering

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



Offertory

“Trust His Heart”

*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*)

God of all, we dedicate these gifts and our very selves to your way of love. Stay with us as we share in the risks and challenges of living our faith. By your powerful Spirit, turn our fear to courage and our ambivalence to clarity. As your glory shone through the face of Jesus, so shine in our hearts and through our lives. Amen.

***Closing Hymn (NCH #181) “You Are Salt for the Earth, O People”
verses 1—3**

*Benediction

***Sending Song**

...forming a circle (not holding hands)

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

**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**

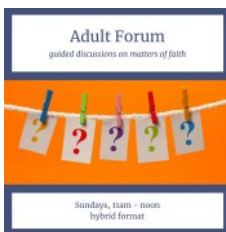
“Lord of Light”

...as we greet one another

Today Following Worship:

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

11 am | Adult Forum



Adult Forum | Sundays, 11 am

Embracing Our Questions: Black History Month

For Black History Month, we are offering a conversational discussion on selected sections of the PBS Video:

The Black Church: This is Our Story. This is Our Song.

Hosted by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

This video chronicles the rich history of the Black Church at the heart of the African American experience. The series will provide an opportunity to hear a chorus of leading scholars, ministers, and cultural influencers who grew up in the Black Church. They weigh in and give meaning to its music, historical events (past and present), and the role of the Black Church in the continual march for Freedom for all.

PRAYER CORNER

*For **Luann**, a community member who benefits from our food share pantries, prayers for healing and health.

*With **Sharon Neuenfeldt**, we give thanks for successful hand surgery and pray for smooth healing.

*With Bob Heurung, prayers for the family and friends of **Bobby Bergstedt**, who passed at 29 years old.

*With Pastor Clare, prayers for all who have loved **Hunter Haugen** (Sam's first friend to also have Lowe Syndrome), as they grieve his passing at 30 years old.

*With Betsy Runke, we give thanks for the **artists who have never received credit** for the gifts they have given (like music simply labeled "African American Spiritual").

*With Bob Schwartz, we give thanks for **new life in the form of a baby** in worship!

FREE Community Suppers | Every Wednesday, 5:30 pm



Beginning February 18th, we will move to weekly free meals throughout Lent.

Son's Deli will be catering each week.

Several helpers are needed each week at 4pm:

A sign-up can be found in the Fellowship Hall.

Questions?

Contact Sue F. at 612-381-4996 or Betsy R. 303-229-5763



Ash Wednesday Evensong Service:

Feb. 18th, 6:30 pm

Together, let's enter into the Lenten season.

We welcome God's love as our greatest companion along the human journey - with us through every struggle, pain, grief, joy, and growth.

Gentle rhythms of music, spoken word, and ritual

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



Wednesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 pm
hybrid format

Connecting with the Word | Wednesdays, 4:30 pm

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.

Neighborhood Vigil



Saturdays at 7 pm

Weekly Neighborhood Vigil | Saturdays @ 7 pm

We are encouraged to "Shine a Light for Minnesota!"

Come join in solidarity with neighbors who are speaking out against the reckless terror DHS and ICE are inflicting on the people of Minnesota. Let us find encouragement together.

Let Pastor Clare know if you can help with hospitality!



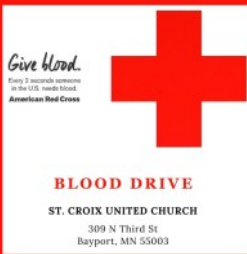
Wednesday Lenten Vespers: Stories of Struggle & Growth

Feb. 25 - Mar. 25 | 6:30pm

During Lent, we make time to reflect on our journey in faith. We recognize that, through every painful or difficult struggle, we can grow and rise.

We seek five people (Sharri K. plus 4 more) to each share a story of struggle and growth from their own life.

Could you be one of our 5 story sharers? Please reach out to Sue Favilla, Naomi Kirstein, Pastor Clare (Worship & Sanctuary Team)



Blood Drive | Wednesday, Feb. 25th | 9 am - 3 pm

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter "Bayport" to schedule an appointment.

SEVERE BLOOD SHORTAGE: There is a severe blood shortage as requests from hospitals exceed the available supply of blood.

We have 12 openings!



Week at a Glance:

Gentle Tai Chi | Feb. 16, 7 pm | @ Church

Gentle Tai Chi | Feb. 18, 10 am | @ Church

Connecting with the Word | Feb. 18, 4:30 pm | @ Church

Free Community Meal | Feb. 18, 5:30 pm | @ Church

Ash Wednesday Evensong Service | Feb. 18, 6:30 pm | @ Church & Livestream

Fireside Friends | Feb. 19, 9:30 am | @ Church


Neighborhood Vigil Musicians Gather | Feb. 21, 6 pm | @ Church

Neighborhood Vigil | Feb. 21, 7 pm | @ Church

Thank you to today's partners: Debi Orff (guest worship accompanist), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (choir director), Lori Mildon (flute), Gary Piasecki (usher), Jill Greenhalgh & Debbie Knox (greeters), Maya Klisch-Solano (acolyte), Sharri Kinkead (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir (cantors), Chris Bordeaux & Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Carol Dusbabek & Wendy Staberg (children's activity)



St. Croix United Church

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Pastor Clare Gromoll

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Megan Adams | Office Coordinator

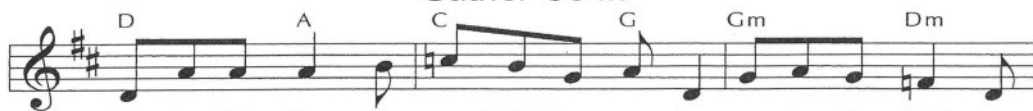
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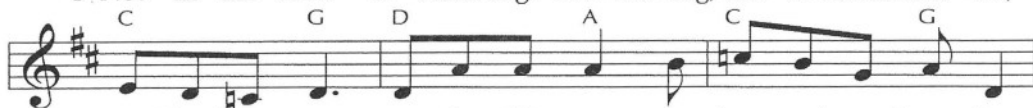
Here in This Place

401

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

All My Days

84



1. You



know my_ words, be - fore they're said. You know my need and
 I should fly_ be - yond the_ dawn, the shad - ows will_ not
 ev - ery_ thought, each word we say, - the whole of_ time, the
 mend my_ heart and free my_ voice. From sin re - leased, I



I am_ fed. You give me_ life... You know my_ ways, my
 o - ver - come. If I lie_ down in deep - est_ night, still
 pre - sent day, - are held with - in_ your might - y_ hand too
 will re - joice. O search me_ now, my spir - it_ cries, and



strength, my path_ for all my_ days, my strength, my_ path, for
 you are_ there, my truth, my_ light, still you are_ there, my
 won - der - ful_ to com - pre - hend, too won - der - ful_ to
 let my_ song of praise a - rise, - and let my_ song of



all my days.____ 2. If praise a - rise.____
 truth, my light.____ 3. Our
 com - pre - hend.____ 4. O

Words: Laurie Zelman

Music: Mark A. Miller

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You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

181

Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt.

Matt. 5:13-15

Unison
D (allow to ring off)

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
 4 We are a blessed and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

Share the fla- vor of life, O peo- ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
 Shine so ho- ly and bright, O peo- ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
 Seeds of mer- cy and seeds of jus- tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
 Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the Cit-y of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the reign of mer- cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of jus- tice, bring forth the Cit-y of God!

During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain
Marty Haugen, 1986