



March 22, 2026

“The Work of Prophets”

5th Sunday in Lent

### **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** “The Old Rugged Cross”

*Brennan*

*...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*)

The prophets of old spoke of God's justice, even when it was unwelcome. Who will hear their message? **We will listen and we will hear!**

Responding to God's call, Jesus traveled — preaching and teaching all who would listen. Who will hear his message? **We will listen and we will hear!**

Jesus sent out disciples two by two — to spread the good news in any place that would welcome them. Who will hear their message?

**We will listen and we will hear!**

God's prophets are among us still – around the world and in these pews. Who will hear their message? **We will listen and we will hear!**

**\*Opening Song (SPP #118)** “Imago Dei”

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**Centering Ourselves** *...in stillness and breath*

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

**Holy God, we confess that we have sinned against you and against your whole creation. We have not loved you with our whole being. We ignore the cries of the oppressed, turn away from those in need, avoid those who are different from us. We have harmed each other and your Earth. You send prophets to convict us of our errant ways, yet we reject them.**

**Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to your presence all around us. Transform us so that we live with your power – accepting, loving, and serving in harmony with all that you have made. 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”**

**Megan Adams (3/23)**

**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. 40**

**Mark 6:1-32**

**Contemporary Reading | Jennifer Ruth Lynn Garrison, UCC Lent Devotional: Outgrow**

**“Hometown Prophet”**

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

**Morning Message**

**“The Work of Prophets”**

**Prayer Song (SPP #66)**

**“Every Step of the Way”**

**sung twice**

**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

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.

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## Invitation to Offering

*We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)*

***Blue electronic giving cards** found in pew pockets.*



## Offertory

“There is a Redeemer”

*Green*

## \*Song of Thanks

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-u-ja.  
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-u-ja.  
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-u-ja.  
Halleluja! Halleluja!

## \*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

God of outspoken prophets, hear the hope and love we are speaking through our gifts. Aid us in spreading love and justice among those whose voices have been silenced. May these gifts strengthen our resolve to listen to the truth-tellers among us. Amen!

**\*Closing Hymn (insert)** “Canticle of the Turning”

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song**

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

Keyboard, handbells,  
and/or Orff instruments

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of

God sur-round you ev-ery-where, ev-ery-where you may go.

Fine

**\*Parting Music**

*...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**

**March 22nd:** The spiritual stories of Women’s History Month

**March 29 and April 5:** No Adult Forum

**April 12:** Learning a theology of love, hope, and liberation from  
Palestinian Christians



# Holy Week



## March 29th, Palm Sunday

- 9:30 am **Worship** - *with Jesus, confronting empire*
  - 2 - 4 pm **Palm Sunday Faith In Action** | @ State Capitol  
- *join thousands of Christians to celebrate the call of our faith to love our neighbors: healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and welcoming the stranger*
- More info: [www.palmsunday2026.com](http://www.palmsunday2026.com)



## April 3rd, Good Friday: a service of lament & healing

- 6:30 pm **Worship** - *amid oppression and violence, we offer music, story, silence, and an impulse to heal*



## April 5th, Easter Sunday

- 8:00 am | **Early Easter Service at Lakeside Park**
- 9:00 am | **Easter Breakfast & Indoor Easter Egg Hunt**
- 10:00 am | **Worship** - *a joyful celebration of renewed life*

## PRAYER CORNER

\*For Cindy & Bob's daughter, **Erin**, smooth healing after ACL surgery. Safe travels for **Cindy** who is with her.

\*For our **federal elected officials**, wisdom to bring the war in Iran to an end. May we find ways to bring peace and wellness to everyone.

\*For **David Garloff**, a new church friend, recovering at home after time in the hospital due to a bowel obstruction and fluid on his lungs.

\*With **Sharri Kinkead**, gratitude for the encouragement to share her story at Lenten Vespers and for the kindness and love received after.

\*Gratitude for **Pat Mazzitello and Zoey Hintze-Graf's** Youth Retreat experience within our wider faith community.

\*For **Joel Olson and family**, our caterer for our Wednesday meals, as his youngest child struggles with Edwards syndrome in the hospital.

\*For **Pat Mazzitello**, as she seeks answers through medical tests for memory issues.

\*For Nat Graf's friend's brother, **Nathan**, who is in an induced coma after a severe brain injury on an ATV.

\*For **Megan Adams**, recovering from surgery to treat chronic pain.



## Lenten Vespers: Stories of Struggle & Growth

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

During Lent, we make time to reflect on our journey in faith – seeking to follow Jesus in the ways of love and justice amidst life's challenges. We recognize that through every struggle (be it painful, rigorous, or both), we can grow and rise.

Join us as we hear stories from friends:

**Mary Horak Binger (March 25)** – Communication in personal relationships



## Conversations from the Heart

**March 26th | 10:30 am & 6:30 pm**

Join us for a time of conversation and chance to foster deeper personal connections within our church community.

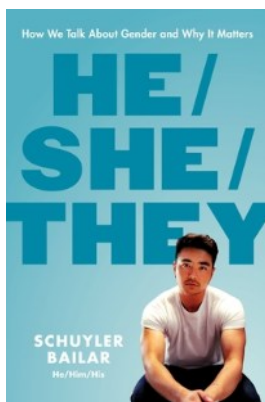
All are welcome!



## Inquirers Gathering

**March 29th | 10:45 am**

Newer friends are welcome to gather with a church member and Pastor Clare to learn about St. Croix United Church —past, present, and future.



## Faith & Spirit Book Club

**April 2nd and 16th | 5:30 pm**

Expanding our perspectives...

*He/She/They: How We Talk About Gender and Why It Matters*  
by Schuyler Bailar

In-person and on Zoom.

Please let Pastor Clare know if you plan to attend.

*Books are available at Valley Bookseller for 15% off  
—just mention St. Croix United Book Club!*



## Week at a Glance:

**Megan out of the office | March 24-26**

**Marianne Warnes in office | March 24—26, 9 am—12 pm**

**Connecting with the Word | new weekly date/time tbd | @ Church**

**Free Community Meal | March 25, 5:30 pm | @ Church**

**Confirmation | March 25, 6 pm | @ Church**

**Lenten Vespers | March 25, 6:30 pm | @ Church**

**Leadership Council | March 25, 7:15 pm | @ Church & Zoom**

**Conversations from the Heart | March 26, 10:30 am | @ Church**

**Conversations from the Heart | March 26, 6:30 am | @ Church**


**Inquirers Gathering | March 29, 10:45 am | @ Church**

**Palm Sunday Faith In Action | March 29, 2 pm | @ State Capitol**

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (choir director), Lori Mildon (flute), Carol Dusbabek (usher), Kathy Iverson (greeter), Maya Klish-Solano (acolyte), Sharri Kinkead (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir (cantors), Jill Greenhalgh & Rolf Dittmann (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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CREDITS & PERMISSIONS | **Call to Worship, Prayer of Dedication** adapted from "To Hear and Be Heard, An Intergenerational Liturgy for the Sixth Sunday of Pentecost," written by the Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf Taylor, Eden Theological Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri (<https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/pentecost-6-july-4/>). **Prayer of Confession & Longing** reprinted or adapted by permission of the publisher from *Before the Amen: Creative Resources for Worship*, ed. Maren C. Tirabassi & Maria I Tirabassi. Copyright © 2007 The Pilgrim Press. **Scripture Readings** from *The NRSV*. **Prayer of Jesus** by Parker Palmer. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-703858. All rights reserved.

## Imago Dei

*(Image of God)*

♩=85

Cm Gmsus Cm Gmsus Cm Gmsus Cm Gmsus Cm

I-mag-o De - i,

Cm<sup>7</sup> Fm<sup>7</sup>/Ab Gmsus Gm<sup>7</sup> Cm

I-mag-o De - i, born in the im-age of\_ God are we... I-mag-o De - i,

Cm<sup>7</sup> Fm<sup>7</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup>sus Cm

Last time, Fine

I-mag - o De - i, called to com-pass-ion; born\_ to be free.

Fm<sup>7</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup>

1. How shall we live as im - ag - es of God?  
2. How shall we love the neigh - bor filled with greed?  
3. Then shall we see the im - ag - es of Christ.

Fm<sup>7</sup>/Ab Cm<sup>7</sup>sus Gm<sup>7</sup>sus

How best re - flect the won - der of our Mak - er?  
How best re - spond to those con - sumed by hat - red?  
Then shall we know that God is in our neigh - bor.

Cm Fm<sup>7</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup>

Hum - bly we will walk, with mer - cy re - spond\_ and know the  
Look be - yond the fear that keeps them from know - ing the A -  
Hum - bly we will walk, with mer - cy re - spond\_ and know the

Fm<sup>7</sup>/Ab Gm<sup>7</sup> Cm Gmsus

Es - sence of Love\_ is al - ways with us...  
- bun - dance of Love\_ that's al - ways with us...  
Es - sence of Love\_ is al - ways with us...

## Every Step of the Way

66

$\text{♩} = 128$   
F C/E Dm C Bb Dm/A C/G Gsus G

Cmaj<sup>9</sup> G/B Am Am/G

Help me do the jus - tice to be

Dm<sup>7</sup> Gsus G C G/B

done to - day. Help me love kind -

Am Am/G Dm<sup>7</sup>

- ness in all I do and say.

Gsus G Em<sup>7</sup> F C<sup>#dim</sup> Dm<sup>7</sup> Gsus

— Help me walk hum-bly with you, O God I pray

G F

— ev - 'ry step of the way,

Dm<sup>7</sup> C/E F/G C

— ev - 'ry step of the way.

Based on Micah 6:8.

Words and Music: Christopher Grundy

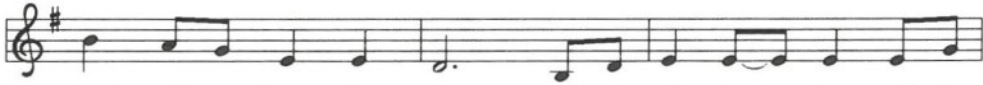
Music arrangement: Christopher Grundy and Gregory Milton

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# Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.