



April 26, 2026

“Interdependent”

Integrity of Creation
& Bible 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

“Believe”

Wiens

...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.

***Call to Worship** *(responsive)*

This we know: Earth does not belong to us; we belong to Earth.

All beings are connected – many members of one family.

This we know: We did not weave the web of life; yet we are strands in it.

Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

Let us sing our praise to the God of all creation.

Amen, let us sing!

***Opening Song (SPP #120) “Dream God’s Dream”**

Centering Ourselves

...in stillness and breath

Prayer of Confession and Longing *(unison)*

Creating God, we thirst for power instead of righteousness. We are quick to show our dominance but hide our dependence. We see your creation as resources to use instead of a community designed for sharing. We confess our complicity in removing mountaintops, clear-cutting forests, drilling for oil in land that should be protected, and draining the Earth to fuel our lifestyles.

Loving God, renew us. Transform our hearts and minds so that we might transform the world that we live in. 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”

**Jackie Savage (4/19), Rebecca Dennis (4/20), David Kirstein (4/22),
Mary Piasecki (4/25), Debbie Knox (4/30), Sharon Binger (5/2),
Frank Cole (5/2)**

Wondering Together

Presenting Gift Bibles

Infants & toddlers new to our community | *Frolic First Bible*

Turning age 4, or new to us (age 3 – gr. 1) | *Growing in God’s Love: A Story Bible*

Completing grade 2, or new to us (gr. 3 – 12) | *Deep Blue Bible (Common English Bible)*

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 Claire
Youth Group | Youth (gr. 5-12) go with Eli’jah to their downstairs 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!

Reading from the New Testament | NRSV, p. 120

Acts 2:42-47

Contemporary Reading | Nan C. Merrill

companion text to Psalm 23

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

Morning Message

“Interdependent”

Prayer Hymn (NCH #28) “For the Beauty of the Earth”

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.

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

**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

“God’s Love Endures Forever”

Calligan

*Song of Thanks

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below – Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication *(unison)*

O Great God, we dedicate ourselves to partnership with you. You call us to care for creation, amplify the voices of the oppressed, and realign our course with your dream for the world. We offer ourselves and these gifts for the good of Earth – our common home as members of your abundant creation. Amen.

***Closing Hymn (NCH #563)** “We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

...forming a circle (not holding hands)

Irish Blessing
sung twice

**May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
The rain fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again
Till we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of God’s hand**

***Parting Music**

...as we greet one another

Today Following Worship:

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

PRAYER CORNER

*For **Mary Ann Litfin**, a smooth right knee replacement surgery this coming Monday, steady healing and full recovery.

*With Gary Piasecki's cousin **Lynn**, that she may be surrounded by love after the recent death of her husband **Tom**.

*With Cindy Parsons and Bob Dickie, as they mourn the sudden death of Cindy's niece, **Jennifer**. May all who loved her find comfort in the midst of shock and sadness.

*With Pat Mazzitello, prayers for the families of great niece **Kenzie** and her baby, **Posie Jo**, who both passed due to childbirth complications - may they be surrounded by love in this painful time.

*With Bob Heurung, prayers of healing for his and Wendy's 7-month old grandson, **Quinn**, recently hospitalized with RSV.

*With Nat Graf, prayers for her friend's brother, who is still struggling to heal.

*With Nat Graf, prayers of thanksgiving for her friend's positive prognosis for her lungs.

*For the **Wednesday Community Meals** offered by this congregation, gratitude for this radical act of resistance and love; prayers for the funding to continue to serve our neighbors with food and community.

*Prayers for **Pope Leo** - gratitude for his strength, courage, integrity, and power in speaking out with the words of Jesus.

*With Bob Dickie, prayers of thanksgiving and joy for **Jesse Diggins'** retirement celebration and for all the ways she has represented the best of our community and our country.



4th Annual Valley Eco Fair

TODAY | 11 am—3 pm @ Pioneer Park, Stillwater

Presented by Sustainable Stillwater MN

This family-friendly event brings together neighbors, local businesses, and organizations to discover, create, and connect around practical sustainability solutions.

With up to 500 attendees expected, the Eco Fair is a vibrant opportunity to showcase your work, engage the community, and be part of building a resilient Stillwater for generations to come. For more info: www.sustainablestillwatermn.org



Volunteer Window Cleaners Needed!

Tuesday, April 28th | 1 pm

As the church windows get new weather stripping next week, a group of volunteers will be cleaning windows.

Can you help? Bring your favorite window-washing supplies and let's make them sparkle!

Questions? Contact Paul Spilseth at 651-271-6742



Gertens Spring Flower Pick-Up

Wednesday, April 29th | 12 - 2 pm

If you ordered flowers through the Gertens Flower Fundraiser... It's time to come get them!

Mary Horak Binger will be at the church with your flowers ready to go on Wednesday!

If you need to arrange a different time, please contact Mary at 651-357-8601.



Inquirers Gathering

Saturday, May 2nd | 4:30 - 6 pm

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

RSVP to Pastor Clare if you plan to attend!

"The perfect antidote to our modern mental health epidemic!"
PROFESSOR TIM O'BRIEN

"An urgent, culture-shifting book that will fundamentally
impact the way you live, lead and love!"
SARAH BLOOM

Mattering



The Secret to
Building a Life of
Deep Connection
and Purpose

Jennifer Breheny Wallace
Internationally Bestselling Author

Faith & Spirit Book Club ...expanding our perspectives

May 7th & 21st | 5:30 pm

*Mattering: The Secret to Building a Life
of Deep Connection and Purpose* by Jennifer Breheny Wallace.

This will be discussed across two gatherings: May 7th & 21st.

Please let Pastor Clare know if you plan to attend.

In-person and on Zoom (reach out for the link).



Week at a Glance:

Window Washing with Volunteers | April 28, 1 pm | @ Church

Connecting with the Word | April 29, 11 am | @ Church

Gerten's Spring Flower Pick-Up | April 29, 12-2pm | @ Church


Free Community Meal | April 29, 5:30 pm | @ Church

Inquirers Gathering | May 2nd, 4:30 pm | @ Church

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (choir director), Carol Dusbabek (usher), Jonah Gromoll (youth usher), Gary Piasecki (greeter), Sam Gromoll (acolyte), Kathleen Dennison (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir, (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Claire Spilseth & Kim Klish (children's activity)



St. Croix United Church

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Dream God's Dream

♩.=69

D C G D C G D Em7

Dream God's dream! Ho-ly

D/F# G Bm7

Spir - it help us dream of a world where there is

F#m7 G Em7 A A/G

jus - tice and where ev - 'ry one is free to

D/F# G Bm7 A

build and grow and love, and to sim - ply have e -

G D/F# Em7 Asus A7 D

-nough. The world will change, when we dream God's dream.

C G D C G D C G

1. I'm dream-ing_ of a world where the col - or of one's
2. I'm dream-ing_ of the call God is of - fer - ing to
3. I'm dream-ing_ of the way that I want my life to

D C Em7 D

skin will mean less than_ what's with - in the per - son's heart.
me, how to use my_ en - er - gy and my best gifts;
go. I've got hope and_ I've got goals I'd like to meet.



A world where wa - ter's clean and where
to do the work of Christ to say
I'm reach - ing for the stars, but I



air is safe to breathe. And ev - 'ry__ chi - ld
God, please use my life to spread Your__ heal - ing
won't for - get the scars of Christ who__ died to



born has e - nough to eat. dream.
love and to live Your truth.
show that the dream's for all.

For the Beauty of the Earth

St. 1-3, Folllott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.

St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Folllott S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7, with refrain
 Conrad Kocher, 1838
 Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

1 We can - not own the sun - lit sky, the moon, the wild - flowers
 2 When bod - ies shiv - er in the night and, wea - ry, wait for
 3 God calls hu - man - i - ty to join as part - ners in cre -

grow - ing, for we are part of all that is with -
 morn - ing, when chil - dren have no bread but tears, and
 a - ting a fu - ture free from want or fear, life's

in life's riv - er flow - ing. With o - pen hands re -
 war - horns sound their warn - ing, God calls hu - man - i -
 good - ness cel - e - brat - ing. That new world beck - ons

ceive and share the gifts of God's cre - a - tion, that
 ty to wake, to join in com - mon la - bor, that
 from a - far, in - vites our shared en - deav - or, that

Ruth Duck wrote this text while she was serving as a corporate member of the United Church Board for World Ministries. In it, she wanted to "emphasize humanity's shared partnership with God in caring for one another and the whole creation."

Tune: ENDLESS SONG 8.7.8.7.D.
 Attrib. to Robert Lowry in Bright Jewels
 for the Sunday School, New York, 1869

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The treble staff contains a melody with notes and rests, while the bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The lyrics are written in three lines between the staves.

all may have a - bun-dant life in ev - ery earth - ly na - tion.
all may have a - bun-dant life in one-ness with their neigh-bor.
all may have a - bun-dant life and peace en - dure for - ev - er.