



May 24, 2026

“Gifts of the Spirit”

Pentecost &
New Member 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 “Spirit of the Living God”

Iverson

...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)*

Eternal Spark, we celebrate your Spirit's power in all of creation.
You transform, empower, and guide us. You sustain our hope!

We are touched by your flames and wind –
When poetry or prose moves us to tears or laughter...

When we listen to music that moves our soul...
When a friend takes our hand, showing us love in action.

Clothe our spirits in red! Stir the wind chimes within us –
So that our lives sing your melody today and always. Amen.

***Opening Hymn** *(insert)* “All Are Welcome”

Centering Ourselves *...in stillness and breath*

Prayer of Confession and Longing *(unison)*

Loving God, we confess the ways in which we isolate ourselves.
Open our hearts – to feel the breath and play of your Spirit.
Unclench our hands – to reach out and share in healing.
Open our lips – to drink in the delight and wonder of life.
Unclog our eyes – to see Christ in friend and stranger.
Breathe your Spirit into us, filling us with the life of Christ. 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”

**Jill Greenhalgh (5/27), Edith Stokes (5/28 - 6 yrs), Bob Iverson (5/29),
Oskar Green (5/29 - 2 yrs)**

Rite of Membership: A Covenant of Mutual Support

Words of Invitation

Pastor Clare Gromoll

Sharing by Candidates for Membership

Eli’jah Carroll, Beryl & David Garloff, Benton & Val (& Oskar) Green

Questions of Prospective Members

Do you seek to follow Jesus in the way of God’s Love, trusting the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the companionship of this community?

Do you promise to open your heart and mind among these siblings in Christian faith, trusting that we can help each other grow along the journey of faith?

Do you promise to support our ministries with your presence, talent, and resources – trusting that together we can nurture a vibrant community?

Presentation of Gifts

***Laying On of Hands & Covenanting Together**

*All are invited forward to lay hands on our new members.
Place a hand on a shoulder as we connect in a web of faith community.*

Marianne Warnes, Leadership Council Clerk

Please join with me in covenanting together.

Enfolded in God’s love, we gladly embrace Eli’jah, Beryl, David, Benton, Val and Oskar within this Christian community. We recommit ourselves to mutual care and partnership in ministry. We trust the Holy Spirit to inspire and encourage our efforts to embody love in the world. Amen!

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 & Youth Activity | Young people can go downstairs with Eli'jah
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. 119

Acts 2:1-17

Reading from the New Testament | NRSV, p. 174

1 Corinthians 12:4-13

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

Morning Message

“Gifts of the Spirit”

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

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.

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.

Invitation to Offering

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

Blue electronic giving cards found in pew pockets.



Offertory

“Spirit of Faith, Come Down”

Zunthel

*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*)

God of all, as your Spirit continues to move in our midst, inspire our generosity and ignite our energy to serve you well. We ask this in the name of Christ, trusting in your ever-present Spirit. Amen.

*Closing Hymn (NCH #177) “God of Change and Glory”

*Benediction

*Sending Song

...forming a circle (not holding hands)

“Peace I Leave With You”

**Refrain: Peace I leave with you, my friends,
shalom, my peace, in all you do.**

Peace I leave with you, my friends.

I give to you so you can give to others, too.

**Verse: To share God’s love is why I came,
To show God’s kindness without end.**

**Go, now, my friends, and do the same,
Until we come again.**

Refrain

*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 with NAMI of Washington County

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and it is time to turn silence into meaningful connection. Together, we can strengthen communities and create opportunities for empathy, understanding, and meaningful change.

PRAYER CORNER

*With Sharon Neuenfeldt, prayers for the family of **Aunt Mercedes** who passed away this week.

*With Nat Graf, gratitude that her friend's brother, **Nathan** (in an ATV accident five weeks ago), finally awoken from a coma and is at a rehab center in Chicago. For a return to wholeness as he navigates the long road ahead of him.

*With Nat Graf and Pat Mazzitello, gratitude for this congregation and all the ways **Zoey** has been embraced, supported, and celebrated on her faith journey.

*With Pastor Clare, thankful for recent joyful visits with elders including **Frank Cole, Delores Davis, Barb & Stan Hilliard, Lyle Wood & Helen Stoltz-Wood, Paula & Walt Richey.**

*With Pat Mazzitello, prayers for the safety of our brave **firefighters** in Northern Minnesota and Cross Lake, MN.

*With Cindy Parsons, prayers of comfort and peace for her mother, **Angie**, as her health declines quickly.

Sparks of Goodness: Sharing bright spots from our lives



This summer, we will hear from 13 church friends about all that adds goodness to life! Each Sunday of sabbatical, we will enjoy a brief speak-out. Goodness includes joy, purpose, fun, meaning.

Share about a hobby, volunteer gig, mountaintop moment, a professional accomplishment or lesson learned, a moment as a caregiver, or a step in your own wellness journey.

This will occur after sermon and prayers. We invite you to consider offering a 2–5 minute spark of goodness! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or by contacting Megan.

– Pastoral Relations Committee (Mary Horak Binger, Mary Maren Bjork, Mary Piasecki, Pastor Clare)



Memorial Day Parade Refreshment Stand

May 25th | 7:30 - 9:30 am

We will once again provide treats & coffee on our church lawn during the Memorial Day parade.

Bring treats or come help serve!

Contact Cindy Siegel (cindysiegel98@gmail.com, 651-343-3270) or Megan (office@stcroixunitedchurch.org, 651-439-5667) to let us know how you can help!



Graduate Sunday | **Sunday, May 31st**

Is someone in your family graduating (PreK, gr. 8, gr. 12, college, another degree or certificate program)?

Please send these details to Megan by **May 25th**:

- 1) Who is graduating?
- 2) From what school?
- 3) From preschool, high school, or with what degree or certificate?
- 4) What are their plans for next steps after graduation?



Conversations from the Heart

May 27th | 10 am & 6:30 pm

The Welcome and Care Team invites you to an opportunity to get to know fellow St. Croix United Church friends. Join us for a time of conversation and chance to foster deeper personal connections within our church community. All are welcome!



Community Collective Toy Swap

Thursday, May 21st | 9 am - 3 pm

Bring your gently used toys, bikes, etc. Give what you have, take what you like. You do not need to bring items in order to shop.

Anything left behind at noon will be donated.



Week at a Glance:

Conversations from the Heart | **May 27, 10 am** | @ Church
Connecting with the Word | **May 27, 11 am** | @ Church & Zoom
Free Community Meal | **May 27, 5:30 pm** | @ Church
Conversations from the Heart | **May 27, 6:30 pm** | @ Church
Flourish Task Force | **May 28, 4 pm** | via Zoom
Community Collective Toy Swap | **May 30, 10 am** | @ Church

Next Sunday:


Sabbatical Leave-Taking & Graduate Sunday

Stay for a potluck after worship!

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (choir director), Lori Mildon (flute), Carol Dusbabek & Gary Piasecki (usher), Jonah Gromoll (youth usher), Kathy Iverson (greeter), Sam Gromoll (acolyte), Mary Piasecki (liturgist), St. Croix United Choir, Gina Buberl, Arly Fuhr, Sarah Thorson (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer)



St. Croix United Church

www.stcroixunitedchurch.org  @SCUCBayport

Pastor Clare Gromoll

pastor@stcroixunitedchurch.org, (651) 600-6409

Megan Adams | Office Coordinator

office@stcroixunitedchurch.org, (651) 439-5667

Eli'jah Carroll | Youth Coordinator

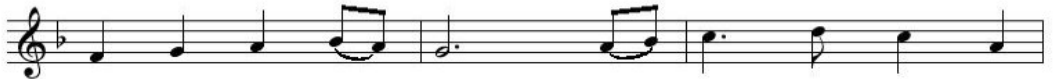
carroll.elijah2025@gmail.com, (920) 650-1225

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All Are Welcome



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And
 2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, And
 3. Let us build a house where love is found In
 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be -
 5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their



all can safe - ly live, A place where saints and
 words are strong and true, Where all God's chil - dren
 wa - ter, wine and wheat: A ban - quet hall on
 yond the wood and stone To heal and strength - en,
 songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



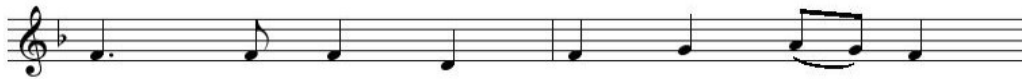
chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for -
 dare to seek To dream God's reign a -
 ho - ly ground, Where peace and jus - tice
 serve and teach, And live the Word they've
 taught and claimed As words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, Rock of
 new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness And as
 meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, Is re -
 known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger Bear the
 Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, Prayers of



faith and vault of grace; Here the
 sym - bol of God's grace; Here as
 vealed in time and space; As we
 im - age of God's face; Let us
 faith and songs of grace, Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us:
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro - claim from floor to raft - er:



All are wel-come, all are wel-come, all are wel-come



in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: TWO OAKS, 9 6 8 6 8 7 10 with refrain; Marty Haugen, b.1950
© 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

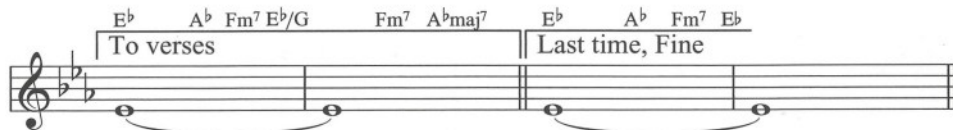
Draw the Circle Wide



Draw the cir-cle_ wide. Draw it wid-er still. Let this be our_



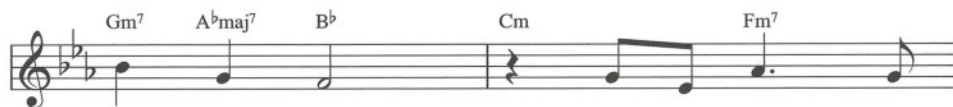
song, no one stands a-lone, stand-ing side by side, draw the cir-cle_



wide._____ wide._____



1. God the still - point of the cir - cle, 'round whom all cre -
2. Let our hearts touch far hor - i - zons, so en-com-pass
3. Let the dreams we_ dream be larg - er, than we've ev - er



- a - tion turns; noth - ing lost, but
great and small; let our lov - ing
dreamed be - fore; let the dream of



held for-ev - er in God's gra-cious arms._____
know no bor-ders, faith-ful to God's call._____
Christ be in us, o - pen ev - 'ry door._____

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God of Change and Glory

1 Cor. 12:4-27

Al Carmines, 1973

1 God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space,
 2 God of man - y col - ors, God of man - y signs,
 3 Fresh-ness of the morn - ing, new - ness of each night,

when we fear the fu - ture, give to us your grace.
 you have made us dif - ferent, bless - ing man - y kinds.
 you are still cre - at - ing end - less love and light.

In the midst of chang-ing ways give us still the grace to praise.
 As the old ways dis - ap - pear, let your love cast out our fear.
 This we see, as shad - ows part, man - y gifts from one great heart.

Refrain

Man - y gifts, one Spir - it, one love known in man - y ways.

Al Carmines, composer, playwright, performer, and teacher, has served as minister for two United Church of Christ congregations in New York City. This hymn, commissioned in 1973, was one of the first modern texts to claim diversity as a gift from God.

Tune: KATHERINE 6.5.6.5.7.7.
 Al Carmines, 1973

C F C F G

In our dif - fer - ence is bless-ing, from di - ver - si - ty we praise

C F G

one Giv-er, one Word, one Spir-it, one God known in man-y ways,

F C G7 C

hal-low-ing our days. For the Giv-er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

We welcome new members today!

May 24, 2026

St. Croix United Church

Eli'jah Carroll

Eli'jah loves knitting, cooking, playing music, and singing; as well as spending time with his wife and dog. He went to school to study music, theatre, and divinity; and has worked in stage management and authorized ministry. Currently, Eli'jah is a paraprofessional at a middle school in Apple Valley and our very own Youth Coordinator! He appreciates being in ministry with youth and through music. Eli'jah looks forward to experiencing belonging in this community.



Benton, Val, & Oskar Green

"We're the Green family — Valerie, Benton, our almost -two-year-old son Oskar, and our three very opinionated cats. We love good food, gathering people around the table, gardening, and finding joy in everyday life. Valerie runs sourdough and cooking classes around the community, while Benton works as a field-service engineer for Honeywell and resident "fixer of all things." Oskar keeps us busy, laughing, and constantly on our toes.



Our family motto is 'Do all the things!' and we tend to live that out fully — whether that means hosting dinners, tackling DIY projects, trying new hobbies, or chasing after whatever adventure God places in front of us next. We're grateful to be part of this church family and look forward to getting to know everyone better!"

Beryl Garloff

Beryl loves music and does a fair amount of singing! She also is involved in P.E.O. (Philanthropic and Educational Organization), and enjoys hanging out with family. Her BA was invaluable to her career in sales, marketing, and admin over the years. Beryl appreciates finding a church with liberal Christian theology, political activism, and a very nice congregation. She looks forward to growing in her faith and participating in a variety of church activities!



David Garloff

David loves photography! He has a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and a doctoral degree in Instructional Technology. In his last job, David served as a University Administrator - Dean of College. He appreciates our church's liberal stance and involvement in social concerns. David looks forward to joining a community with similar beliefs, and getting involved in the book club!