



August 9, 2026

“Seeking Wisdom”

Guest Preacher:
Rev. Jennifer Jaimes

Gathering Music

Prelude & Lantern Lighting “This Day God Gives Me”
...acknowledging the light of Christ among us

Quinn

please observe silence as we settle into sacred time and space

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Spark of Goodness

Bob & Wendy Heurung

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

God is waiting for us

With a tender heart and a searching question.

God is ready for us

With truth and wisdom from a deep well.

God is blessing us

With rivers of living water.

God is sending us

To sing, pray and witness every day.

God is here.

Let us worship God!

* = Sitting or standing

*Opening Hymn

MORNING

I Sing as I Arise Today

83

Attrib. to St. Patrick (372–466)

Transl. anon.

1 I sing as I arise to-day! I
2 The word of God to be my speech, The
3 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, Al-

call on my Cre-a-tor's might: The will of God to
hand of God to be my stay, The shield of God to
le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, al-

be my guide, The eye of God to be my sight,
be my strength, The path of God to be my way.
le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

The prayer known as "Breastplate" has been traditionally ascribed to St. Patrick, who is said to have brought Christianity to Ireland. It appears in many versions, including this anonymous morning hymn.

Tune: SEED OF LIFE L.M.
William P. Rowan, 1986

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Centering Ourselves

...in stillness and breath

Prayer of Confession and Longing *(unison)*

So often, O God, we struggle to pray because we are afraid we do not know how. We worry about saying the wrong things, and so remain silent. We try to sort the good from the bad in our lives, and become tongue-tied. We lift up the concerns closest to our hearts yet feel guilty as we forget the needs of others, or work so hard to lift up the sick and the suffering, the hungry and the helpless, that we neglect our own aches and longings. So we continue to confess our own need of you — you who come to love us, heal us and make us whole. Hear our confession of sin and forgive us. Give us voices to pray and sing, ears to hear your truth and wisdom, all in the name of Jesus the Christ in whose name we pray. 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”

Christopher Staberg (8/10), Jessy Hintze (8/14)

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...

“Rooted and Growing” | Children (age 4+) and youth can join Eli’jah for an activity
Children 3 and under | Families supervise their own toddlers
We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship!

Reading from the Old Testament | NRSV

1 Kings 3:16–28

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

Morning Message

“Seeking Wisdom”

Prayer Hymn (p. 6 of bulletin) **“Be Now My Vision”**

Prayers of the People

*We share aloud prayers for ourselves, others, and parts of the world
Please tell Rev. Jennifer 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)



***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*)

Source of life,
receive the gifts we offer;
and let all our service,
inspired by the Breath of life
give you glory and praise;
in the name of the Word of life. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** (p. 7 of bulletin) “God of Grace and God of Glory”

***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**

...as we greet one another

Today Following Worship:

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

Be Now My Vision

Ancient Irish text, c. 8th century; transl. Mary E. Byrne, 1905
Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; adapt.

Unison

1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;
3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—
ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;
you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,
Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,
You and you on - ly are first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.
now and for - ev - er your child I will be.
great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Dating from the eighth century or earlier, this Irish hymn was translated into prose by Mary Byrne. It was then versified by Eleanor Hull, author of several books on Irish literature and history. David Evans arranged the Irish melody for this text in 1927.

Tune: SLANE 10.10.9.10.
Traditional Irish melody
Harm. David Evans, 1927

God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
 your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
 we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
 in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church, New York City, which he served for twenty years.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
 John Hughes, c. 1907

Sabbatical Support Team

Mary Horak Binger (out of town 8/4—8/11), **Nat Graf**, **Debbie Knox**, **Dan Warnes**,
Eli'jah Carroll, and **Megan Adams**

This team is available to visit when you need a listening ear or a caring presence.

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

Nat (651-470-0408, ngraf11@gmail.com)

will serve as main lines of contact, yet we welcome you to reach out to any of us.



Outdoor Worship This Summer

@ Lakeside Park Beach House (95 Central Ave, Bayport)

Join us in worshipping down by the river on our last
outdoor Sunday:

August 23

Thank you to today's partners: Rev. Jennifer Jaimez (Guest Preacher), Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (choir director), Lori Mildon (flutist), Mary Piasecki (liturgist), Gary Piasecki (greeter & usher), Carol Dusbabek (usher), St. Croix United Choir, Sue Favilla & Kim Klisch (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Kathleen Dennison (children's activity assistant), Sharri Kinhead (altar flowers)



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PRAYER CORNER

*With Wendy Staberg, prayers for the family and friends of **Shelly Maxwell**, who passed away after a 2.5 year battle with Stage 4 breast cancer. Shelly was a friend of the Staberg and Frazier families.

*With Cindy Baker, prayers for her brother, **Karl**, who is currently in the hospital undergoing testing for stomach and/or liver cancer. May good results and good treatments follow.

*With Mary Horak Binger, gratitude that her sister **Irene** is here for four weeks! Also, gratitude for **this church family** helping with the transition of attaining a newer car when her car died.

*With Sarah Thorson, prayers for her best friend, **Kristy**, as she mourns the passing of her husband **Bob Nass** (who died on Sunday).

*With Bob Dickie, gratitude that his dog **Toby**, is doing well and they are getting a little more quality time together.



Soup & Shop Planning Meeting

Thursday, August 13th | 9:30 am

Would you like to be part of the conversation as we start planning for Soup & Shop 2026? You're welcome to attend a first meeting to see if it interests you. Fresh ideas are welcome!

When this annual friend-raising, fundraising event rolls around (Nov. 21), it will be all hands on deck!

Any questions? Please contact Mary Binger (mehbinger@gmail.com, 651-357-8601).



Week at a Glance:

Finance Team | Aug. 11, 4 pm | @ Church

FREE Community Meal | Aug. 12, 5:30 pm | @ Church

Community Collective Craft Night | Aug. 12, 6:30 pm | @ Church

Soup & Shop Meeting | Aug. 13, 9:30 am | @ Church

Community Collective | Aug. 13, 7 pm | @ Church



Bayport Derby Days ...coming soon!

Friday, Sept. 18th | 5 - 10 pm

We will have a table at the Party in the Park (at Perro Park, next door to the church) throughout the evening.

We need volunteers to:

- *set-up and take down
- *provide treats to share
- *serve the treats
- *greet our neighbors and hand out information about our Food Share Pantries and Free Wednesday Suppers, as well as bubbles or backpack tags!

If you are able and willing to help, please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall, or let Megan know!



**Faith & Spirit
Book Club**
*expanding
our perspectives*

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi

A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, Theo of Golden is a beautifully crafted novel about the power of creative generosity, the importance of wonder to a purposeful life, and the invisible threads of kindness that bind us to one another.



For more info
about the book,
click the QR code.

Join us...

**Thursday, August 20th
6:30 - 8 pm**

Hosted at St. Croix United Church



St. Croix United Church | 309 N. Third St in Bayport
www.stcroixunitedchurch.org

Interested? Contact us: office@stcroixunitedchurch.org
Valley Bookseller in Stillwater has copies for 15% off!

Book Club... "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi

Thursday, August 20th | 6:30 - 8 pm

One spring morning, a stranger arrives in the small southern city of Golden. No one knows where he has come from...or why...

His name is Theo. And he asks a lot more questions than he answers.

Theo visits the local coffeehouse, where 92 pencil portraits hang on the walls, portraits of the people of Golden done by a local artist. He begins purchasing them, one at a time, and putting them back in the hands of their "rightful owners." With each exchange, a story is told, a friendship born, and a life altered.

A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, Theo of Golden is a beautifully crafted novel about the power of creative generosity, the importance of wonder to a purposeful life, and the invisible threads of kindness that bind us to one another.

Books available at a 15% discount at Valley Bookseller.

All are welcome - invite friends!