



September 6, 2026

“What Makes Work
Good?”

Labor Day Weekend

Welcome!

We encourage wearing name tags.

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

Gathering Music

Ring of the Bell

Prelude & Candle Lighting “Put On Love and Live in Harmony” *Norwegian Tune*
...acknowledging the light of Christ among us

please observe silence as we settle into sacred time and space

Words of Welcome & Announcements

One Whoever we are and wherever we are on a life journey -

All We are welcome here - **each one beloved within the body of God**

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*)

Come, all who labor – weighed down with responsibilities and stress.
The load we carry is heavier than we can bear alone.

Come, all who seek to weave work, service and play into a life with integrity.

We gather for renewal and support as we live out our commitments.

Come! Bring your failures and successes, sorrows and joys.
At the Spirit's leading, we open ourselves to receive God's gifts.

***Opening Hymn (NCH #448)** “Take My Life, God, Let It Be”

Centering Ourselves

...in stillness and breath

Litany of Labor, Confession & Longing (*responsive*)

God of all, we give thanks for the gift of work that adds meaning and purpose to our lives. **Companion in our labor, hear our prayer.**

For all whose work is a calling—that they continue to find joy in their labor.
Joy in our lives, hear our prayer.

For all who work because they must—exhausted in jobs that do not feed their spirits. **Source of all meaning, hear our prayer.**

For all whose work leads them into ethical struggles and frustrating circumstances. **Guide for our path, hear our prayer.**

For all who are underemployed, financially stressed or questioning their own worth. **Savior in the stress, hear our prayer.**

For all who are retired, whether enjoying it or struggling with loss of purpose.
Teacher of quietness, hear our prayer.

Our lives depend on the labor of many who are underpaid and overworked. **We confess that we sometimes act without noting effects on the labor of others.**

Guide us to be intentional and effective in our contributions to community life.
Surround us, Holy Spirit, and breathe into us your gracious power. 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”

Claire Spilseth (9/11)

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...

Nursery | Families with infants & toddlers are welcome to use the downstairs nursery
Older children and youth are welcome to remain in worship

Sunday School (for children) and **Youth Group** (for middle & high schoolers) start Sept. 13!

We welcome the sounds and movements of children in worship!

Reading from the Epistles | NRSV, p. 161

Romans 12:1–18

One: Ancient words can speak to us today.

All: May we listen for our still speaking God.

Contemporary Reading | by Carrie Newcomer

“Holy As A Day Is Spent”

One: God speaks wisdom through our neighbor.

All: May we be moved by what we hear.

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.

Morning Message

“What Makes Work Good?”

Prayer Song (SPP #61)

“Call to Prayer”

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 added to our printed Prayer Corner*

...God, in your love **Hear our prayer**

Prayer of Jesus

We use several versions of this beloved prayer, faithfully expressed across the ages

**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 Offering

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

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



Offertory

“Come to Me All Who Labor”

Lunde

*Holy Communion is open to members and friends of all ages
as we seek to follow Jesus in the way of radically inclusive love*

The Invitation and Prayer

God is here with us!

Let us celebrate together –

Love lives on through us!

At a table where all are welcome.

Let us pray to the God of all.

Loving Creator of all – we celebrate your presence, joining our voices with the wind and streams, animals and flowers, the living and the dead (pause), the stars, planets, and all members of creation – forever proclaiming your expansive love. Amen.

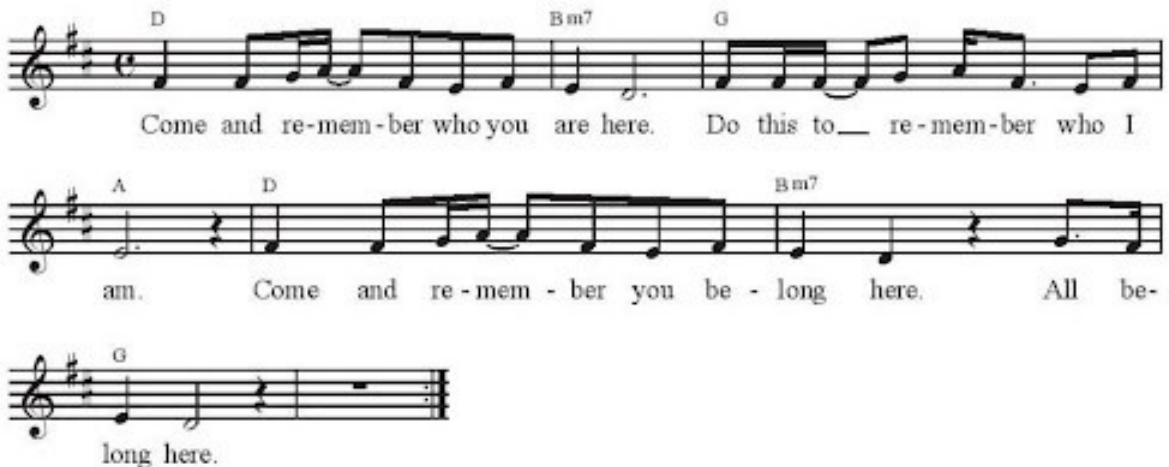
Words of Remembrance and Blessing

Communion Song

“You Belong Here”

by The Many

we sing together twice



As recorded by The Many.
Lyrics by Lenora Rand. Music by Hannah Rand.
© 2017 Plural Guild Music.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

*Take a piece of (gluten-free) bread and a cup of juice, receiving words of blessing
Place your empty cup in a basket as you return to your seat*

Musical Interlude *...as we participate in the sacred meal*

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The bread of life and cup of blessing for everyone! **Thanks be to God!**
God of all—for the bread of life we have eaten, for the cup of salvation we have tasted, for the life you give us – we praise you today and forever. Amen.

***Benediction**

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

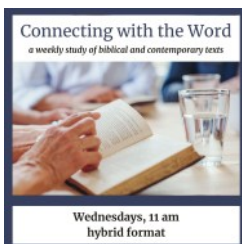
“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

**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 downstairs for refreshments and good company!



Connecting with the Word

Wednesdays | 11 am @ church & Zoom

Come any Wednesday to 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.

PRAYER CORNER

*For **Nepal** in the wake of catastrophic floods, may God hold those who lost loved ones and those who are rescuing in the midst of sorrow, grief, and chaos.

*Positive thoughts for **young people starting or returning to college** as they face new challenges and embrace new adventures.

*With Eli'jah, prayers of love and support for all the **trans people** who have been misgendered and told they could never be who they are.

*With **Kathy Whiterabbit**, gratitude for overcoming a summer-long battle with shingles and for **Forrest, Jr**, recovering from his auto accident earlier this summer and returning to work.

Connection Sunday | **Sept. 13th, 9:30 am**



Plan to bring a small amount of water (1/4 cup) from somewhere you have been this summer. It could be from a vacation spot to which you traveled, a favorite nearby place, or your home. Bring it in an enclosed container. During worship, we will combine our water with grateful hearts. We will also name aloud these water sources.



Blood Drive | **Sept. 15th | 9 am—3 pm**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "Bayport" to schedule an appointment.

Guns to Gardens



The Social Justice Team will be collecting \$25 gift cards for Cub and Aldi in support of the Guns for Gardens event happening on Oct. 3rd at First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater.

If you'd like to help with this effort, you may leave the gift cards with Megan in the church office,

Wendy Heurung, Kathleen Dennison, or Betsy Runke by **Sept. 27th.**

Last year, 38 guns were gathered! Thank you for your support!



Week at a Glance:

Finance Committee | **Sept. 8, 4 pm** | @ Church

Connecting with the Word | **Sept. 9, 11 am** | @ Church & Zoom

FREE Community Meal | **Sept. 9, 5:30 am** | @ Church

Community Collective Craft Night | **Sept. 9, 6:30 pm** | @ Church

Leadership Council | **Sept. 9, 6:30 pm** | @ Church & Zoom

Social Justice Team | **Sept. 10, 10:30 am** | @ Church

Community Collective | **Sept. 10, 7 pm** | @ Church

Adult Forum: Sabbatical Reflections | **Sept. 13, 11 am** | @ Church & Zoom

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (choir director), Lori Mildon (flute), Gary Piasecki (greeter & usher), Carol Dusbabek (usher & communion server), Sharri Kinkead (liturgist & altar flowers), St. Croix United Choir, Sue Favilla & Jane Hanson (communion prep), Mary Horak Binger (communion server), Jill Greenhalgh & Kim Klisch (fellowship), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer)



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Take My Life, God, Let It Be

448

Frances R. Havergal, 1874; alt.

Rom. 12:1

1 Take my life, God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - ly.
2 Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.
3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
4 Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow.

Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.

Frances R. Havergal wrote her hymn following a visit to Areley House in Worcestershire, England. Among the ten persons at the house were "some unconverted . . . some converted but not rejoicing." Before she left, "everyone had got a blessing."

Tune: VIENNA 7.7.7.7.
Justin H. Knecht, 1797
Alternate tune: HENDON

Call to Prayer

$\text{♩} = 100$

D G/D A/D G/D

D D/F# G D

1. Float - ing and flam - ing and fill - ing new life.
 2. Search - ing and sav - ing and sooth - ing in - deed.
 3. Call - ing and car - ing and chang - ing each heart.

F#m Bm E A

Hov - 'ring and heal - ing and help - ing with sighs.
 Teach - ing and turn - ing and tak - ing the lead;
 Lov - ing and lift - ing us to a new start;

Em A Bm/A A⁷ D/F# Em

Spir - it at work since the dawn - ing of time;
 Fa - ther - ing, Moth - er - ing, birth - ing new ways;
 Je - sus our Sav - ior, our teach - er, our Lord;

A Bm C#dim Bm G Em/G A D

meet us right here, touch us right now.
 meet us right here, touch us right now.
 meet us right here, touch us right now.

A Bm C#dim Bm G Em A D

Meet us right here, touch us right now.
 Meet us right here, touch us right now.
 Meet us right here, touch us right now.