

**St Paul's  
UCC**

**Henderson  
MN**

**January  
29th,  
2023**



**Organ Prelude**

**Ringling of  
the Bell**

# Call to Worship

L: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

**P: Those who do justice. Those who confront inequities and uplift the oppressed.**

L: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

**P: Those who love kindness. Those who love neighbor, friend and foe.**

L: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

**P: Those who walk humbly with you. Those who follow your lead and answer your call.**

Just and Loving God, we enter into your sacred spaces, in sanctuaries and in homes, in public gatherings and private places. You bridge time and space to forge us as a beloved community. You, O Sovereign, make plain the way of life for us. Encourage us to join your journey, to love your children and creation, and to contribute to your kingdom on earth. **Amen.**

# **Be thou my vision #288**

**Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me,  
save that Thou art  
Thou my best Thought,  
by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping,  
Thy presence my light.**

Be Thou my Wisdom,  
and Thou my true Word;

I ever with Thee and

Thou with me, Lord;

Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;

Thou in me dwelling,

and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not,  
nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine Inheritance,  
now and always:

Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven,  
my Treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven,  
my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys,  
O bright Heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart,  
whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.



# **\*Confession**

Holy Wisdom, you have expressed your hope for us and vision for life abundantly. Many times we settle for a temporary truce over real peace. We avoid confrontation and accountability that builds up and creates a more just world.

We refuse to relentlessly pursue your will when discomfited by the cost of discipleship. We come to you in silent confession...(brief time of silence)

Forgive us, O God.

## **\*Words of Assurance**

Receive the good news that each day presents a new opportunity to follow the way of Jesus—to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. The grace of the Holy One meets us. God embraces and supports us in the turning and will be faithful to strengthen us on the path of righteousness.

**Assembly: We believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

# *Gloria Patri*

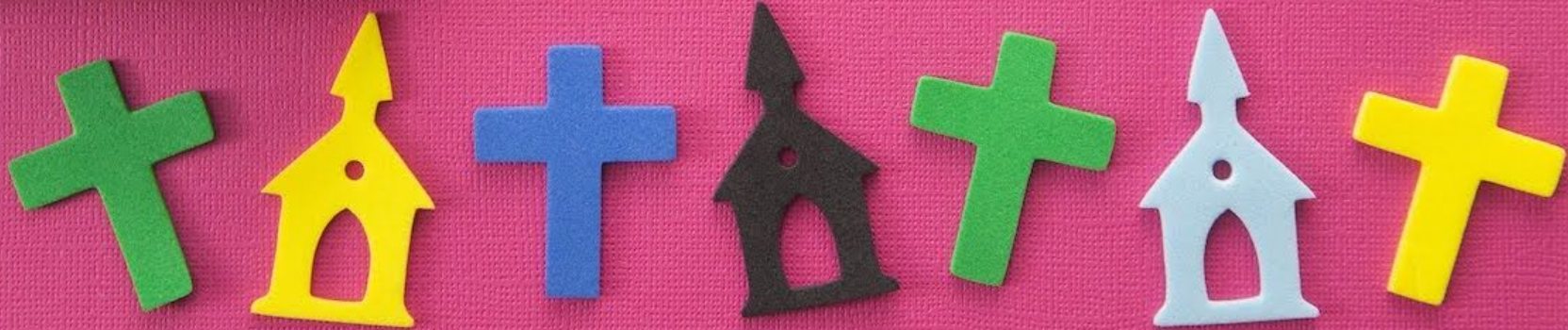
***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.***

*Welcome  
&  
Announcements*



Holy  
Bible

# CHILDREN'S SERMON



## **Scripture: Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12**

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*


When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”



# THE SERMON



A scenic landscape featuring a valley with a river or stream, surrounded by dense evergreen forests in the foreground and snow-capped mountains in the background under a blue sky with scattered clouds.

For healing of the nations,  
for peace that will not end,  
for love that makes us lovers,  
God grant us grace to mend.

# **Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

# Cares Chorus

*I cast all of my cares upon you.  
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.  
And any time I don't know what to do,  
I will cast all of my cares upon you.*



# Invitation

## Offertory Music

OFFERING  
WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD



# *Doxology*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.***

**Just God, we share our humble offering  
in hope and trust that, through these  
gifts, your kingdom comes and your will  
is done. Amen**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

# **God Made From One Blood #427**

God made from one blood all  
the families from earth,  
The circles of nurture  
that raise us from birth,  
Companions who join us  
to work through each stage  
Of childhood and youth  
and adulthood and age.



We turn to you, God,  
with our thanks and our tears  
For all of the families we've known  
through the years,  
The intimate networks  
on whom we depend  
Of parents and partners  
and children and friends.

Through families we've  
tasted the value of trust  
And felt what it means to  
be loving and just,  
Yet families have also  
betrayed their best goals,  
Mistreating their members  
and bruising their souls

Help families in all of  
their various forms  
To face with integrity  
struggles and storms;  
Grant peace to our homes  
that will nurture the bud  
Of peace for the families  
you made from one blood.

# **Benediction**

As you go in the world, hold the blessings of peace. Be the good news to a world shrouded in brokenness, pain, and despair. Show the world the kingdom that lives in you. Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.