

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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\*This service is being livestreamed Prelude through Postlude and is available for public viewing.

SEPTEMBER 6, 2025

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### GATHERING MUSIC

Ben Marti

### WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Scott Kershner  
Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Peter

Welcome to long-time Christians, people from every tradition, and people new to the faith.  
Welcome to all who have never had a church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe.  
Welcome to new visitors and old friends.  
Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socio-economic status, ability and challenge.  
Welcome to believers and questioners, and to questioning believers.  
We come from different traditions and backgrounds; this is a place where we embrace all ways of worship.  
This is a place where we are welcome to celebrate and sorrow, rejoice and recover.  
This is a place where lives are made new.  
Let everyone who has ever felt cast aside, hurt, or lonely say, **"I am welcome here."**  
Let everyone who has experienced joy and beauty say, **"I am welcome here."**  
Let everyone who desires to find the goodness of God say, **"I am welcome here."**  
Come just as you are. **God promises to meet us here.**  
May the amazing grace of Jesus, the extravagant love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Lead Pastor Amy Jo Bur  
Centenary United Methodist Church, Mankato

God of all that is good and holy,  
God of all who are lesbian and gay,  
Bisexual and transgender,  
Pansexual and asexual,  
Queer and questioning,  
Intersex and nonbinary,  
Gender expansive and polyamorous,

God of the bold and fierce,  
And also of those who live with fear,

God of all peoples and all creation,

We are here because you create us in your Queer image.  
You gather us into this sacred space  
And You form us into Your chosen family.

As we turn to worship You,

Fill us with Your love and Your grace,  
That we may know we are beloved,  
That when You see us as Your precious creation,  
You are proud.

In your holy name we pray. Amen.

# HYMN

## Sing a New World into Being

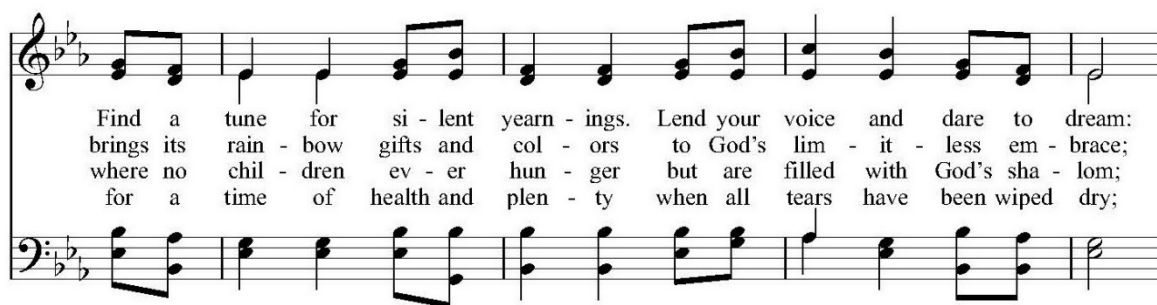
Mary Louise Bringle

NETTLETON

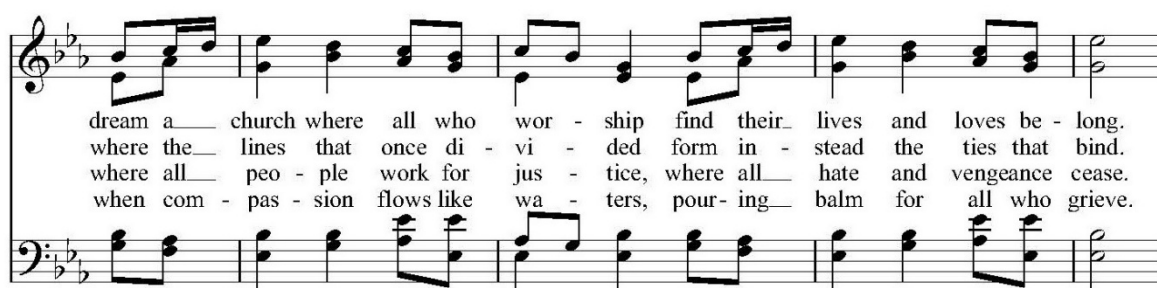
*Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second 1813*



1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.  
2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race.  
3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.  
4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph-ets' cry



Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:  
brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;  
where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;  
for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;



dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.  
where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.  
where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.  
when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.



Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!  
Sing a new world in - to be - ing; risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!  
Sing a new world in - to be - ing; raise the har - mo - nies of peace.  
Sing a new world in - to be - ing; live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

Pastor Jenna (PJ) Couch  
Lutheran Campus Ministries – Crossroads

**READING**

Matthew 13:33

Reverend Oby Ballinger  
Founder and Lead Organizer  
Prism

**33** He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

**SERMON**

*Queer Leavening*

Reverend Oby Ballinger  
Founder and Lead Organizer  
Prism

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

*Both Sides Now*  
~ Joni Mitchell

Pastor Neil Ellingson  
First Congregational United Church, Mankato  
Michelle Sedivy  
First Congregational Church, Mankato

**GLITTER BLESSING**

Reverend LaDonna Thomas  
Messiah Lutheran Church, Mankato  
Reverend Jacie Richmond  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato  
Reverend Chris Boehm Carlson  
Holy Communion Episcopal Church, St. Peter

**HYMN**

*New Patterns of Loving*

Last page

**ANNOUNCEMENT/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

Pastor Eric Garner  
First Presbyterian Church, Mankato

**BENEDICTION**

Reverend Brittany Mailleue  
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Mankato

**POSTLUDE**

Ben Marti



Barbara Hamm

ST. DENIO

1. New pat - terns of lov - ing make room for new ways,  
 2. Our an - ces - try marks us with vis - i - ble signs;  
 3. God bless all the mo - thers and fa - thers to - day;

cre - at - ing new fam - ilies to care for and raise.  
 we bear in our bod - ies ge - net - ic de - signs.  
 help us to raise chil - dren to walk in God's way,

All those who have loved us and helped us to grow  
 But love, be - yond lim - its of gen - der or race,  
 to care for each oth - er as chil - dren of God,

are fam - ilies of choice by the car - ing they show.  
 can fash - ion new fam - ilies and new ways em - brace.  
 whose love is in - clu - sive, far - reach - ing, and broad.

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