

The Creator's never-ending story

Most of us have a song we hum or whistle along to that make the miles of life or even a long drive fade. Recently, I found I was intrigued by a Chorister Guild publication which described the becoming of melody written by Alice Parker. Parker, who simply shines with all that is 93, is revered for her collection of over 500 spiritual, hymn and folk songs. Her story has evolved from a distant formative time when as a girl she sang before speaking, to her current, world renowned zeal and spirit to passionately mentor and direct. It's evident as your eyes take in her performance that Alice is aging by the lovely smile lines dancing toward her wavy, grey locks, but what seemingly radiates---are not the lines of her face. What becomes known to the eye and soul are the graceful lines of her movements paced with intentional purpose to a song or a story that knows no age. Music is expanded off the black and white pages.

Alice writes about her conviction, "Music is first and foremost sound, and a paper diagram is a very imperfect medium for its transmission. Vocal sound comes from human throats, and is infinitely variable. An inner vision of those sounds is necessary before one can evoke them through composing or performance."

I paused in my drive as the radio poured out a middle-school choir singing Parker's song, *What I Am I Must Become*. It is based upon Native American text.

My thoughts rolled back toward junior high like any of us might, recalling the lengthy, sprouting continuum of voice, confidence and change. Parker seemed to capture tween's becoming and the melody only gives witness to what is beautiful. She explains, "Children have so much 'becoming' to do. What they don't realize —yet — is that is true of all of our lives."

Prayer at WBLUMC

One way our church helps nourish and support the hungers of life is through prayer. If you have a special need or celebration that could use extra care, we invite you to partake in one of these prayer avenues. If your spirit has the need to support others through prayer, we invite you to join in one of the teams.

The Prayer Team: If you would like to request a prayer from this team, please write it on a prayer request card or contact Julie Jacot at 651-777-3728 or ljjacot@q.com.

The Email Prayer Chain accepts requests by contacting a pastor or leader Ronda Nelson, rondalauva2@msn.com.

The Phone Prayer Chain is organized through the UMW. If you would like to request a prayer, call Eva Shipley at 651-429-3570.

Likewise, within the black and white letters that inspire our faith, we read of God's inner vision surging into our becoming like a never-ending evolving song or parable. God is in our beginnings, middles and endings. God is the compassionate force that mingles into one of the most loving assurances we most desire and yearn to pass forward to the children, strangers and friends whose lives and stories we share. Everyone likes a story with a happy ending. Roman's offers us a picture where the word 'family' is blown into an infinitely variable family without borders. Our faith claims a heritage, "For we are all led by the Spirit of God as children of God. For you have not received a spirit of fearful slaves to fall back into fear. Instead you have received God's Spirit when you were adopted as God's children. When we call "Abba! Father!" It is that very spirit joining with us to affirm or bear witness that we are God's...Heirs of God's glory bearing witness with our spirit."

God is joining humanity and uniquely joining you. It is God, in the stories of your lives; your Momma's and Papa's, your Aunt's and your Uncle's, your co-worker and even your ornery neighbor. What amazing chapters we might write and witness to as we live into our Creator's prayer for this huge family of God that known beyond any age.

If you would like to check out the song *What I Am I Must Become*, do an internet search for Composer's Notebook, June 7, 2018, John Zeck.

This writing is dedicated to folks who foster becoming ... musicians, teachers, mentors and parents.

A Blessed Father's Day to dads of all kinds — and especially to our sacred Parent, Abba! Amen.

~ J.Jacot



10am Summer Worship ~ Sunday, July 15, 2018

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

• PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

"I do not understand the mystery of grace — only that it meets us where we are and does not leave us where it found us."

~ Anne Lamott

"Grace isn't about God creating humans and flawed beings and then acting all hurt when we inevitably fail and then stepping in like the hero to grant us grace — like saying, 'Oh, it's OK, I'll be the good guy and forgive you.' It's God saying, 'I love the world too much to let your sin define you and be the final word. I am a God who makes all things new.'"

~ Nadia Bolz-Weber

PRELUDE

"Landslide"

Sophie Amelkin, soprano

Fleetwood Mac

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

"A Simple Song"

Leonard Bernstein

+OPENING WORDS (responsively)

Sometimes it feels like all we hear are stories of pain and trauma, of fighting and discord, **stories of disaster and destruction, of people hurting and abusing each other.**

We could use some good news. This morning, let us take a deep breath.

May we give God the chance to be present with us.

May we let God in on our hurts, our pains, our mistakes, and our wrongs.

And may we give God the opportunity to rewrite these stories into stories that are more beautiful, good, and true.

May we be transformed by the stories of God's redeeming grace and transforming love.

+OPENING HYMN

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

No. 292



White Bear Lake
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH
1851 BIRCH STREET, WBL, MN 55110 | 651-429-9026 | WBLUMC.ORG

UNISON PRAYER

**Holy God, we long to be faithful stewards of your abundant grace:
To serve your world with wisdom and energy
and to serve each other in love and humility.
Forgive us when we stumble over pride,
and when our words and actions are not guided by love.
Turn our hearts when we act in folly.
Restore our energy when it is gone.
Sometimes, O God, our efforts fail.
But your abundant grace is strong and eternal,
and forgiveness is ours through Jesus Christ.
Be with us in our small and sacred acts of faith.
We ask this in his name. Amen.**

ANTHEM

“How Do You Keep the Music Playing?”

Music: Michel Legrand
Lyrics: Alan and Marilyn Bergman

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the children’s message, children through 3rd grade (completed) are invited to leave for Children’s Church.

MORNING 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:9-14

Reader: Heather Broneak

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Leader: For the word of God in Scripture,
for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Provocative Stories of Jesus: The Pharisee & the Tax Collector

Pastor Bill Eaves

+HYMN

“I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing”

No. 333

CONNECTION CARDS

Please take time now to fill out your green connection cards. After the prayer of dedication, you can place them in the offering plates as they are passed to you.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING

“Peace, I Leave With You”

Chancel Choir

René Clausen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CLOSING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

No. 89

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

“Earth & All Stars”

Keith Kolander

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week’s arrangement is provided by Andy, Emma & Peteria Cochran Routt, Soli Deo Gloria

GOODBYE RECEPTION

Join us after worship today in Fellowship Hall to say goodbye and thank you to outgoing Choir Director Matt Goinz. We’ll have cake in addition to the usual treats, and a table for cards and well-wishes.

TODAY'S MUSICIANS & TECHNICIANS

WBLUMC Chancel Choir; **Matt Goinz** and **Sophie Amelkin**, solo vocalists;
Peteria Cochran Routt and **John Koziol**, keyboards; **Kirk Holslin**, sound technician; Chris Faust, PowerPoint presenter

Provocative Stories of Jesus

Jesus told stories to make a point, to draw pictures in the minds and hearts of his listeners — and to provoke a response. As with all good stories, the parables of Jesus are rich with meaning. Through the centuries we have often reduced them to platitudes or simple moral lessons. We’ll look at these stories through the eyes of those who heard them first, the mostly Jewish crowds who were attracted to Jesus and his teachings. We’ll discover that these stories can still surprise us, shake us up, indict us, and open us up to multiple interpretations that prompt us to see the world in new ways.

July 22 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: *Mustard Seed*
July 29 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: *Pearl of Great Price*

Coming up at WBLUMC

Bread Talks: Find your purpose at any age

What's your God-given purpose? This question prods and pokes us throughout our life, nudging us forward until we discover our unique way of making a difference in the world.

Whether you're 21 or 92, join us in Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm on **Wednesday, July 25**, for this inspiring message as WBLUMC member Faith Ralston shares her life lessons and coaching experiences to help you ignite and renew your own purpose. Light supper will be provided. For information, contact Lori McBride at lorijomcbride@gmail.com.



Wednesday women's golf group

Our next outings will be **July 18** at Manitou Ridge, 3200 N. McKnight Road in White Bear Lake and **July 25** at Stillwater Oaks Golf Course, 11177 McKusick Road N. in Stillwater. To play, email Mary Cripe at suzary006@comcast.net by Monday.

Send your summer photos!

Once again, visual artist Mary Ellen Calderwood will collect photos that represent your summer and hang them in the church halls starting mid-July. Please send images to mecalderwood@aol.com **ASAP** so Mary Ellen can start hanging them after the quilts come down July 15.

Save the date: Pizza picnic Aug. 15!

Bring a neighbor, friend or family member to our 2018 summer pizza picnic on Wednesday, Aug. 15, 5:30-7:30pm. It's a great evening of live music, games, family fun, and of course fresh, homemade pizza from the wood-fired brick oven. Help spread the word! If you'd like to volunteer, email Glenn Oliphant at golipha@gmail.com

Kids' & youth camps begin today!

This Sunday, several students along with Joan and Linnea will be arriving at camp to experience God in new places and new faces. Please keep all the students in your prayers, especially the ones having their first sleep-away from home experience.

Outside worship in August

Reminder: We'll worship outside in God's creation during the month of August. Join the birds, bees and beautiful summer flowers on the north lawn at 10am starting Sunday, Aug. 5.

2018 UMC Creation Care Summit

Hosted by Minnesota EarthKeepers, this national gathering at Hamline University **July 26-29** is designed for United Methodists concerned about environmental justice, sustainable food, transportation options, energy systems, climate change, and environmental degradation. Join us to explore ways to collaborate between local congregations, annual conferences, general boards, agencies, and interest groups. Get details and registration information online at umcreationcaresummit.org.

Calling all knitters: Lydia project

United Methodists in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota are being asked to knit or crochet 10,000 purple scarves, enough for each attendee

of the 2020 General Conference, which will be in Minneapolis. WBLUMC has committed to making 40 scarves by June 2019. To help, contact Julie Rindelaub at rindelaub@msn.com or 651-343-4725, or go to minnesotaumc.org/lydiaproject.



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WBLUMC calendar

Sunday, July 15

Good Earth Village camp starts!
10-11am—Summer service; Children’s Church; nursery
11am—Coffee, tea and treats, Fellowship Hall
Individual prayer, prayer room

Monday, July 16

Good Earth Village camp
10am—Hang Loose Women’s Al-Anon, room 206
7-8:30pm—Book club planning meeting, room 200
7-8:30pm—Hearts & Hands Knitting Group, library

Tuesday, July 17

Good Earth Village camp
12:30-1:45pm—Faith in Action meeting, room 200
6-8pm—Board of Directors meeting, room 200
6pm—Yoga Devotion class, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, July 18

Good Earth Village camp
1-2:30pm—Prayer Team meeting, prayer room

Thursday, July 19

Good Earth Village camp
7:10am—Men’s Breakfast Group, library
10am—Pages of Wisdom AA, room 107

Friday, July 20

Good Earth Village camp ends

Saturday, July 21

7:30am—Men’s Prayer Group, room 200
10am—WBL Sat. Morning Women’s Group, room 200/206

Sunday, July 22

10-11am—Summer service; Children’s Church; nursery
11am—Coffee, tea and treats, Fellowship Hall
Individual prayer, prayer room

Monday, July 23

10am—Hang Loose Women’s Al-Anon, room 206

Tuesday, July 24

6pm—Yoga class, Fellowship Hall

Welcome!

WHITE BEAR LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.
Our vision is to provide nourishment
for the hungers of life.

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday:	9am to 12pm
Monday-Thursday	9am to 3pm
Friday and Saturday	CLOSED

SUNDAY BULLETIN/WEEKLY E-BLAST

Have a church-related event you’d like to appear in the Sunday bulletin or the weekly e-blast? Please email all pertinent information, including contact information, to office@wblumc.org no later than **1pm Tuesday** for the bulletin and **1pm Wednesday** for the e-blast. All information is subject to staff approval. Thank you!

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Visit **wblumc.org** for sermon podcasts, PDFs of the 9am bulletins, the church calendar and programming info.

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bill.eaves@wblumc.org,
763-355-7825 mobile
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Linnea Uhler, Director of Youth
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