

a community of misfits on a mission finding identity in Jesus

MISSION

TO BE A NEW PEOPLE, ROOTED IN CHRIST WHO PASSIONATELY LOVE GOD AND PURPOSEFULLY SEEK THE RENEWAL

OF OUR CITY

SUNDAYS

COFFEE HOUR: 9:30 - WORSHIP: 10:00

SAINT PAUL NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK (SPNN)
550 VANDALIA ST. #170
SAINT PAUL, MN 55114

ROOTSMC.ORG

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHER:

- PRELUDE SONG "Provider" John Kerns
- WELCOME Pastor T. C.
- DIGITAL HOUSEKEEPING Pastor T. C.
- BREATH PRAYER Pastor Osheta
- CANDLE-LIGHTING Pastor Osheta
- MISFIT CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Osheta
- CHILDREN'S BLESSING Pastor Osheta & Everyone
- GIVING & DOXOLOGY Pastor Osheta & Everyone

LOVEFEAST:

- LOVEFEAST INTRO Pastor T. C.
- SONG "How Bad We Need Each Other" John Kerns
- HYMN "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" John Kerns
- LOVEFEAST BLESSING Pastor Osheta & Everyone
- SERVE LOVEFEAST Everyone
- HYMN "Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice" Br. Chris & Sis. Tina
- BOARD OF WORLD MISSION Br. Chris Giesler

SEND:

- ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastors T. C. & Osheta
- MUSICAL BENEDICTION John & Everyone

COMMUNION

At Roots we practice an Open Table, meaning if you are a follower of Jesus or want to draw closer to God, you are welcome to participate. Pastors will serve each table the elements, then you are invited to serve one another. Then we partake of the elements together.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Them (Him/Her), all creatures here below;
Praise Them (Him/Her) above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make Their (His/Her) face to shine upon you.

And be gracious, gracious, gracious to you.

May the Lord lift up Their (His/Her) countenance upon you.

And give you, give you, give you peace.

DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



https://rootsmc.org/connect

If it's your first time visiting or you're new to Roots—or even if you've been a part of the community for some time—one of the best ways to reach out is through our digital connect card. With it you can request a meet-up with a pastor, find out ways to serve, sign up for the Weekly (an email newsletter that is sent out weekly), and more.

GIVING



https://rootsmc.org/giving

Many people have had negative experiences connected with giving to churches. Some have felt pressured and others shamed. Some churches teach that giving is like a law one must obey while others teach that giving is like an investment strategy. At Roots, we only want people to give for two reasons:

- 1. Because you want to help support Roots' ministry and community;
- 2. As an act of worship because God has blessed you.

If you believe in our mission and our calling, please prayerfully consider giving. 100% of our funding comes from the generosity of people who believe in our ministry. We're forging a spiritual family that—like the early followers of Jesus—considers everything we have available for God's use to meet the needs of others (cf. Acts 2.42–47). Thanking God for provision in our lives, we pray that those who give would be shaped by their generous sacrifice, and that God would bless and multiply the gifts that are given in such a way that we would see God's Kingdom become a reality on earth as it is in heaven.

WELCOME LITANY

Welcome, fellow misfits!

We come from many backgrounds and many perspectives. We come into this space longing for acceptance.

Welcome to this place, inspired by a rag-tag collective of disciples whom Jesus called to follow him. Diverse people from fishermen to weaving women all found their home in him.

We come into this space authentically, knowing our lives matter and our diversity is our strength.

Welcome to this place for parables, traditions, conversations, and mysteries.

We come into this space seeking divine guidance. We're done being told our curiosity is too much and our questions are dangerous.

Welcome to this place of flipped-over tables, sacrificial love, and prophetic invitations.

We come into this space seeking justice. We know all is not right in the world and we resist oppression.

Welcome to this place where your name is first and always, "Beloved."

We come into this space open to the loving heart of God. We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are. And we are not alone!

So we honor this space we're creating together by praying:

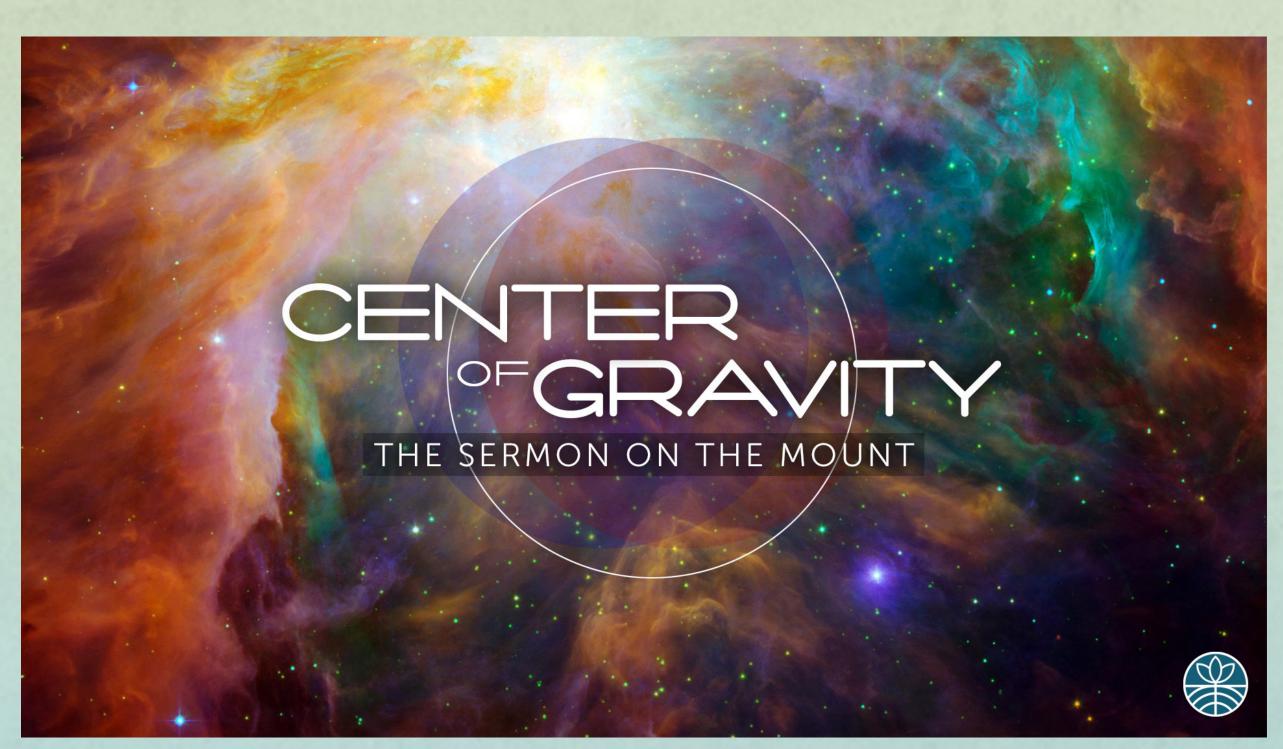
Lord, help us to be a new people, rooted in Christ, who passionately love God, and purposefully seek the renewal of our city.

KIDS AT ROOTS



We love kids—the way they move around, and we welcome the noise they make. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers: read through the program with them. Encourage them to shout out their answers when questions are thrown out. Help them participate in the Lord's Supper. Kids help us to see and know God, so let's be grateful for the joyful noise they make.

SERMON SERIES



For Moravians, and other historic Peace Churches like Anabaptists, the bullseye of Christian teaching is the Sermon on the Mount. It's the Center of Gravity. The Holy Scriptures contain the revelation of God's redemptive history—the inspired story of God's covenant with God's people. That's the outer circle of the bullseye.

That story climaxes in the story of Jesus in the four Gospels in the New Testament. Those are the two next inner circles. Then, the central theme of the Gospels is God's in-breaking Kin(g)dom that is arriving and has now arrived in and through Jesus the Messiah. The core of that message is the Sermon on the Mount. The Sermon on the Mount is the summary of Jesus's core teachings about the Kin(g)dom of God that he declared and demonstrated as he traveled around first-century Judea-Palestine. If we think of Jesus's ministry as a messianic campaign, calling disciples to join him in his redemptive mission, then the Sermon on the Mount was his "stump speech."

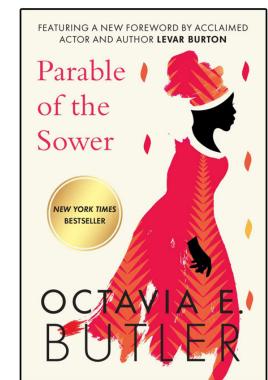
Not only is the Sermon on the Mount the "center of gravity" for Christians because of the centrality of its message to Jesus's life and ministry. It's also the "center of gravity" because it prevents us from the imbalances of either Legalism on the one side or Cheap Grace on the other. The Sermon on the Mount invites Jesus's disciples into a vision of the Kin(g)dom that expresses God's love through works of faith in the power of the Spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS









Parable of the Sower Octavia Butler

Dates & Times Coming Soon!

For our next Polis book, we'll be reading Octavia Butler's Afro-futuristic novel, *Parable of the Sower*. Dates and times of Polis meet-ups are still being worked out. But if you're interested in joining other misfits in reading and dialoguing, please reach out to Pastor T. C. via email TC@RootsMC.org



This Advent, you're invited to join other misfits as we explore the themes of hopeful waiting, prophetic comfort, and fulfillment in Christ, using the story of Simeon in Luke 2 and the beloved hymn, "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People." In a season marked by anticipation, this series will delve into the ache of longing and the assurance of God's promised consolation, offering hope and peace amid personal and communal suffering and challenges.



This series will call us as misfits into the tension of Advent—a time of both lament and joy. Through powerful imagery of Isaiah's prophecy, the tender faithfulness of Simeon, and the lyrical richness of the hymn, we will explore how Christ meets us in our waiting and invites us to become agents of his comfort in the world. We will be reminded that God's comfort is not passive but active, calling us to prepare the way for Jesus's arrival in our lives and through the Spirit to our community.

PEACE OF GOD LYRICS

[Verse 1]

Let the peace of God guard your heart
Let the peace of God guard your heart
The peace of God, the peace of God
Let the peace of God guard your heart

[Verse 2]

Let the hope of God
lift your head
Let the hope of God
lift your head
The hope of God,
the hope of God
Let the hope of God
lift your head

[Verse 3]

Let the love of God send you out Let the love of God send you out The love of God, the love of God Let the love of God send you out

[Bridge]

Oh let us be among the ones
Who give ourselves away,
Just as the One
Who gives Himself for all
Oh let us see where your Spirit's
At work within the world
And join in, like light that heeds
the call
To shine, to shine
Where the flames are dim
To shine, to shine
Where the veils are thin
To shine, to shine
Where the love that wins
Make us beacons in our day

[Verse 4]

Let the dreams of God live in us
Let the dreams of God live in us
Let the dreams of God,
the dreams of God
Let the dreams of God live in us

Let the peace of God guard our hearts Let the hope of God lift our heads Let the love of God send us out

NOTE TO GUESTS

Roots is a worshipping community that has gathered in the Hamline-Midway, Frogtown, and historic Rondo neighborhoods of St. Paul since 2014. It was founded by a group of "misfits" who wanted to forge community in the Way of Jesus. While Roots was initially affiliated with the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC), in April of 2023, Roots officially joined the Moravian Church Northern Province.

When we think about "church," we're not thinking about a building. Rather, we're thinking about a people, a shalom-seeking community, learning how to trust the Holy Spirit, and experiencing new life in Jesus.

As a "community of misfits," we're creating a space that's safe for everyone and makes room for flourishing. We're particularly aware that many find Roots through a painful journey that involves trauma in religious spaces. We want to especially offer safety and belonging to members of marginalized groups, like our BIPOC and LGBTQ+ siblings. As a congregation in the Moravian Church Northern Province, we're proud to offer full inclusion to all, without discrimination based on race or ethnicity, class or ability, gender expression or sexual orientation.

It's our expansive view of God that moves us to provide an expansive welcome to all people. From Scripture we're taught that God is neither 'male' nor 'female,' but is instead the One from whom 'male and female' derive. Human beings, regardless of gender expression, reflect the Image of God (cf. Gen. 1:26-27). That is why we are free to use male, female, or gender-neutral pronouns for God. So, use whichever pronouns feel best to you. Our view of God is big enough to hold all our curiosity and diversity.

LEADERSHIP

T. C. MOORE,
LEAD PASTOR
TC@ROOTSMC.ORG

BEN EISENREICH, UNIFIED BOARD MEMBER

JOHANNA MOSENG, UNIFIED BOARD MEMBER

CAROLINE VOLLMAR, UNIFIED BOARD MEMBER OSHETA MOORE,
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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Map by MARLENA MYLES omylesdesigns

We would be remiss not to acknowledge the host people on whose land we live. This land that we call Minnesota is the homeland of the Dakota people. The Dakota have lived here for many thousands of years and are still here! We thank them and their relatives for their care of the land, and we recognize their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to elders both past and present.

We also want acknowledge and lament the many legacies of violence, dis-placement, migration, and settlement that have happened here. The legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery and the horrors of Colonialism have caused untold destruction. We mourn the great loss that such evil has wrought on the Indigenous people of this land and we commit to seeking restoration and reparation.

May the Creator, the Great Spirit, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, give us the strength and wisdom to walk in harmony with one another, through Christ our Lord. Amen.