

*Community* Presbyterian Church  
open hearted, open minded

3705 Fairway Place NW, Rochester, MN • [www.cpcrochester.org](http://www.cpcrochester.org) • 507-280-9291



**May 10, 2020**

*Welcome to worship this morning! Bulletin Cue: **Bold** indicates congregational response.*

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Help in using Google Meet for worship

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled."

**We long for abiding peace and friendship that renews our souls.**

Jesus says, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

**We seek wisdom that endures and guidance for our journey.**

Jesus says, "Where I am, there you may be also."

**We come to encounter Christ. Let us worship our God!**

OPENING HYMN GTG 361

O Christ the Great Foundation

*verses 1-3*

# O Christ, the Great Foundation 361



1 O Christ, the great foun - da - tion on which your peo - ple stand  
2 Bap - tized in one con - fes - sion, one church in all the earth,  
3 Where ty - rants' hold is tight - ened, where strong de - vour the weak,



to preach your true sal - va - tion in ev - ery age and land:  
we bear our Lord's im - pres - sion, the sign of sec - ond birth:  
where in - no - cents are fright - ened, the righ - teous fear to speak,



pour out your Ho - ly Spir - it to make us strong and pure,  
one ho - ly peo - ple gath - ered in love be - yond our own,  
there let your church a - wak - ing at - tack the powers of sin



to keep the faith un - bro - ken as long as worlds en - dure.  
by grace we were in - vit - ed; by grace we make you known.  
and, all their ram - parts break - ing, with you the vic - tory win.

The text was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that prepared an important ecumenical Chinese hymnal, *Hymns of Universal Praise* (1936). This familiar tune invites comparison of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).

TEXT: Timothy T'ingfang Lew, 1933, alt.; trans. Mildred A. Wiant, 1966  
MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864  
Text © 1977 Chinese Christian Literature Council Ltd.

AURELIA  
7.6.7.6.D

## CALL TO CONFESSION

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,  
in baptism you claim us as beloved children  
and set us apart as witnesses to your love.

**At times we forget we bear the mark of your grace  
and act as if you have no claim on our lives.**

You call us to the risky work of justice and peace,

**but we default to what is comfortable and safe.**

You call us to ministries of generosity and compassion,

**but we make little room in our busy lives for gestures of mercy.**

Wash us again with your grace and transform us by your Word,

**that we might proclaim your good news in word and deed.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC    Gigue from Bach's First Unaccompanied Suite    Bri McDonough  
by J. S. Bach

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

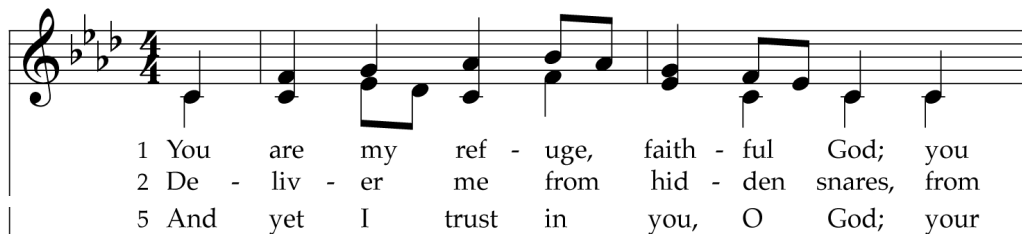
Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING    Acts 7:55-60

*Stephen, one of the early converts to the Jesus Way, is remembered as the church's first martyr. His preaching enraged some of the politically powerful in Jerusalem and they incited the people against him. In the end, it is Stephen who knows the joy and well-being of life as a gift from God, in contrast to his hate-poisoned opponents whose lives are spent in service to death.*

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

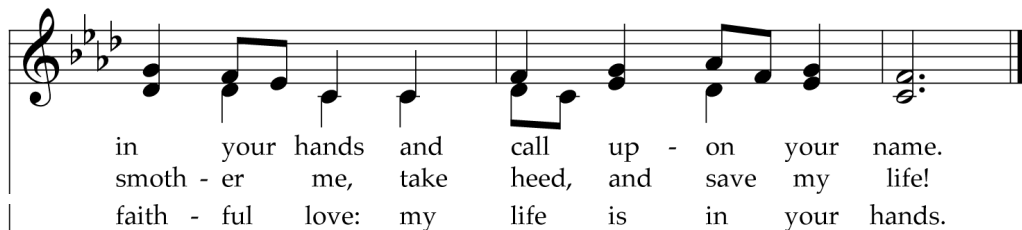
PSALM 31    GTG 214    You Are My Refuge, Faithful God    verses 1, 2, 5



1 You are my ref - uge, faith - ful God; you  
 2 De - liv - er me from hid - den snares, from  
 5 And yet I trust in you, O God; your



shel - ter me from shame. I put my spir - it  
 sor - row, pain, and strife. When trou - bles seem to  
 cov - e - nant still stands. Re - deem me, in your



in your hands and call up - on your name.  
 smoth - er me, take heed, and save my life!  
 faith - ful love: my life is in your hands.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” and

“A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

GOSPEL READING

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak

on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

This is the good news which we have received,  
in which we stand, and by which we are saved.


**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Jan Wiersma

### RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 807 When We Must Bear Persistent Pain verses 1, 3, 4



1 When we must bear per - sis - tent pain and suf - fer  
3 We thank you for the bet - ter days when we may  
4 In ease or pain, in life and death, to you our



with no cure in sight, come, Ho - ly Pres - ence,  
smile to greet the sun, to do your work with  
frag - ile lives be - long, and so we trust you



breathe your peace with gifts of warmth and heal - ing light.  
clear - ing mind, and bless your name when day is done.  
in all things. You are our hope, our health, our song.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,

**hear our 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. Amen.**

## OFFERING GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

*(In lieu of a time of offering, people are invited to unmute one by one and share something that has inspired gratitude or given them hope in this past week; when all who desire to do so have spoken, we will collectively pray in response.)*

## PRAYER

God of life, of all life and of each life, we lay our own lives before you; we give our lives to you. In this time of global crisis, we give thanks for all your continued care, not for us alone, but for your whole suffering and precious world. We are yours, today and eternally.

**Amen.**

## SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

CLOSING HYMN GTG 815

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

*verses 1-3*

## CHARGE AND BLESSING

May the God who shakes heaven and earth,

whom death could not contain,

Who lives to disturb and heal us,

Bless you with the power to live the gospel

Wherever you may be on this day of resurrection!

**Thanks be to God!**

Now whether going forth or staying home,

do everything in Jesus' name,

remembering his new commandment

to love one another, just as he has loved us. **Amen.**



# 815 Give to the Winds Thy Fears



1 Give to the winds thy fears; hope, and be  
2 Through waves and clouds and storms God gent - ly  
3 Leave to God's sov - ereign sway to choose and



un - dis - mayed. God hears thy sighs and  
clears the way. Wait pa - tient - ly; so  
to com - mand. So shalt thou, won - dering,



counts thy tears; God shall lift up thy head.  
shall this night soon end in joy - ous day.  
own God's way, how wise, how strong God's hand!

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

## TODAY AT CPC

**Sunday, May 10**

9:30 am Online Worship Service

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

\* Daily Conference Call at 12:00 pm  
(see contact information below)

Monday, May 11

10:00 am Online PW Bible Study

Tuesday, May 12

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

5:30 pm Online Session Meeting

6:30 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Wednesday, May 13

6:30 am Prayer Group

6:00 pm Online Confirmation Class

**Sunday, May 10**

9:30 am Online Worship Service

### Online Worship through May 31

Sundays 9:30 – 10:30am

<https://meet.google.com/vao-wjef-cbe>

+1 575-305-4527 PIN: 652 821 468 #

\* **Daily Conference Call - 12:00 noon**

<https://meet.google.com/kee-rcys-sdh>

+1 413-889-2244 PIN: 433 818 991#

**PW Bible Study - Monday 10:00 am**

<https://meet.google.com/goi-npns-qoj>

+1 405-649-0091 PIN: 970 844 563 #



Judy Leal

Jane, Ed, Elissa and Burgstaler family

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Bill Marshall's father, Russ

Ron Murray

Lyal Powell

*To be added to the prayer list,  
please contact the church office at  
507-280-9291 or  
email [office@cpcrochester.org](mailto:office@cpcrochester.org).  
For emergency pastoral care,  
call Pastor Jan at 763-219-2927.*

Choir Director

Meg Cain

Handbell Director

Judy Kereakos

Pianist

Glenna Muir

Custodian

Nancy Sanford

Office Manager

Stephanie Pasch

### Serving in Worship Today

Guest Preacher

Rev. Jan Wiersma

Liturgist

Sherrie Wilson

IT Support

Ronda and Bill Marshall

Special Music

Bri McDonough