

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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



**July 19, 2020**

*Sunday Worship at Community Presbyterian Church  
Blessing of the Ministry of Pastor Jan Wiersma*

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

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have come to worship the living God,  
who knit us together when we were yet unnamed,

**and welcomes us with a parent's embrace.**

We have come to worship the almighty God, who searches us and knows our hearts,

**and still loves us completely.**

We have come to worship the eternal God, who seeks us wherever we are

**and shepherds us with a guiding hand.**

OPENING HYMN GTG 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness  
 2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures  
 of the sea. There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice,  
 of the mind. And the heart of the E-ter-nal  
 which is more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's  
 is most won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more  
 sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place  
 faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's Word, and our lives re-  
 where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.  
 flect thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our Lord.

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### CALL TO CONFESSION

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.

**Trusting in God's grace, let us examine our lives.**

### CONFESSION

O Lord, you have searched us and known us.

You know when we cultivate kindness  
 and our lives bear fruit that blesses the world.

You know, too, when our words sow seeds of discord  
 and our actions choke out generosity and grace.

You know when our confidence in our own righteousness  
 causes us to name others as unwelcome in your realm.

**As we wait with eager longing for your reign to be revealed,  
plant within us gifts of love and mercy, patience and wisdom,  
so that we might live as children of your blessing  
and bear fruit that enriches your harvest.**

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

#### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mighty and merciful God, lover of justice and equity, you call us to support the weak, to help those who suffer, and to honor all people. By the power of your Holy Spirit, make us advocates for your justice and instruments of your peace, so that all may be reconciled in your beloved community; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 44:6-9

Thus says the Lord, the ruler of Israel, and the Redeemer, Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?

Let them tell us what is yet to be.

Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?

You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me?

There is no other rock; I know not one.

#### RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 86:11-17

Teach me your way, my God, my guide, so that I walk in your truth;

give me an undivided heart to honor your name.

I give thanks to you, O Beloved, with my whole heart;

**I will glorify your name forever.**

For great is your steadfast love toward me;

you have delivered my soul from the depths of despair.

The insolent rise up against me; ruffians seek my life:

**they do not attend to your will and your way.**

But you, my Beloved, are merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.  
Turn to me and be gracious to me; give me your strength;  
**Save me, for I long to serve you as my parents did.**

Show me a sign of your favor,  
so that those who hate me may see it and feel ashamed,  
**because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

#### GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43

After explaining the parable of the sower and the good soil, Jesus put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

**Thanks be to God.**

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 713

Touch the Earth Lightly

(vs. 1 and 4)



1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,  
4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:  
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,  
teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
us - ing us gent - ly and mak - ing us one.

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## BLESSING OF A TEACHING ELDER IN RELATIONSHIP TO A CONGREGATION

*Leader:* A teaching elder / pastor serving a congregation in the manner that Jan Wiersma will serve Community Presbyterian Church in Rochester – as a part-time, stated supply pastor – does not require an installation (as you have known in the past). This relationship between pastor and congregation, however, is no less important and no less mutual, and thus we celebrate this relationship with a brief liturgy of blessing and commitment.

## A LITANY OF GIFTS

As in one body we have many parts  
and each part has its own function,  
so all of us together with Christ are one body,  
and we all belong to each other.

*Based on Rom. 12:4–8, 11–13*

**We have different gifts according to the grace God has given us.**

If your gift is to hear God's Word,  
**speak it out in faith.**

If your gift is service,  
**live to serve others.**

If your gift is the heart of a teacher,  
**teach what is true.**

Let preachers preach with conviction, and givers give freely;  
**let officers work diligently for the people,  
and let those who serve the poor, serve gladly.**

Let us not lack for enthusiasm, but be ardent in spirit,  
**serving the Lord,  
rejoicing in hope,  
patient in suffering,  
constant in prayer,  
supporting one another,  
and welcoming all.**

## STATEMENT ON THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

*Leader:* The mission of God in Christ gives shape and substance to the life and work of the Church. *Book of Order F-1.01*

In Christ, the Church participates in God's mission for the transformation of creation and humanity by proclaiming to all people the good news of God's love, offering to all people the grace of God at font and table, and calling all people to discipleship in Christ.

The ministry of the church is shared by pastor and people,  
so that all together may fulfill the mission  
to which we are called in Jesus Christ.

The particular responsibility  
of the ministry of a teaching elder  
is to build up the church and serve the people of God,  
so that the Word may be rightly proclaimed  
and the sacraments rightly celebrated.

The Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area  
acknowledges the role and place of the Rev. Jan Wiersma  
as stated supply pastor of Community Presbyterian Church in Rochester

**We remember with joy  
our common calling to serve Christ,  
and we celebrate God's call to our sister,  
to serve among us as pastor.**

#### QUESTIONS OF PUBLIC COMMITMENT

*Leader:* While the usual constitutional questions asked of a person being installed as pastor of a congregation are not required for the form of service Jan undertakes, most are still relevant to the ministry which you will do here. And so Jan, I would ask you, before this congregation, to answer publicly these questions, as a means to name your commitment to ministry here:

Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior,  
acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church,  
and through him believe in one God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? *I do.*

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments  
to be, by the Holy Spirit,  
the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal,  
and God's Word to you? *I do.*

Will you be governed by our church's polity,  
and will you abide by its discipline?  
Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry,  
working with them,  
subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? *I will.*



Will you in your own life  
seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ,  
love your neighbors,  
and work for the reconciliation of the world? *I will.*

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people  
with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? *I will.*

In the same way, the congregation too can publicly affirm your commitment to this  
pastoral relationship:

*A ruling elder of the church addresses the congregation:*

Do we, the members of the church, accept Jan Wiersma  
as our pastor, chosen by God to guide us  
in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for her,  
encourage her,  
to listen as she preaches,  
welcome her pastoral care,  
and honor her authority,  
as she seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord? **We do and we will.**

PRAYER FOR BLESSING FOR THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY

DECLARATION

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.

## SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE


CLOSING HYMN GTG 733

We All Are One in Mission


*(vs. 1 and 2)*




1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
2 We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - ferent; our pur - pose is the same:



A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so ev - ery folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.

## CHARGE AND BLESSING

Go now to live to the glory of God,  
As inhabitants of earth,  
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.

**Thanks be to God.**

Now may the God of hope bring you such joy and peace in believing  
that you overflow with hope in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**



*Special Thanks to Jean Emmons, vice-moderator of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area and a ruling elder at First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, for representing the Presbytery in the litany of the Blessing of the Teaching Elder.*



**Sunday, August 9, 2:00pm-3:30**

Rochester's Diversity Council is offering CPC a special 90-minute skills-building event: "**Allies & Advocates** is an interactive, scenario-based training that provides individuals with the opportunity to learn about and practice responses to incidents they may encounter in

their daily lives. The session provides tools and tactics to interrupt bias and hate through effective deescalation, respectful intervention, and social accountability." More information is available at [www.diversitycouncil.org](http://www.diversitycouncil.org). If you are interested in participating, please RSVP to Carole Kinion Copeland. Carole's current cell phone is: 507-990-0544 and her email is: [Carole.kinioncopeland@gmail.com](mailto:Carole.kinioncopeland@gmail.com).

**We have been invited** to partner with a local Black congregation in support of their food shelf, Lifegate Services, which is currently stretched because of covid-19. The congregation is Chosen Generation, located near Jefferson School. Through the **month of July**, they are eligible for \$4000 in matching funds through Open Your Hearts (OYH). Individuals may donate as well as the congregation. Checks may be sent to CPC with Lifegate in the memo or they can be made payable to and sent to: Lifegate Services Food Shelf, 1300 10th Ave NE, Rochester, MN 55901.

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## TODAY AT CPC

**Sunday, July 19**

9:30 am Online Worship Service

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, July 20

Office Closed

12:00 pm Newsletter Articles Due

6:00 pm Building Rental: Med City Tai Chi

Tuesday, July 21

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

Wednesday, July 22

6:30 am Prayer Group

Friday, June 24

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

**Sunday, July 26**

9:30 am Online Worship Service



Judy Leal

Jane, Ed, Elissa and Burgstaler family

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Vera Atkinson's great-grandson,

Kaiden Nelson

Sherrie Wilson's niece, Michelle

*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.*

### Online Worship

Sundays 9:30 – 10:30am

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

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

\* **Tuesday/Friday Conference Call**

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

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

Pastor	Rev. Jan Wiersma
Choir Director	Meg Cain
Handbell Director	Judy Kereakos
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

### Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist	Alayna Kopecky
IT Support	Ronda and Bill Marshall