

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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

*Welcome to worship this morning!*

*Bulletin Cue: **Bold** indicates congregational response.*

**July 26, 2020**



## **GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*The Water Is Wide*  
Arranged by Brant Adams

Garrett O'Connell, oboe

CALL TO WORSHIP

Imagine a tiny seed that grows to be a majestic tree,  
with branches that offer shelter and shade;  
Imagine yeast, hidden in flour to leaven our bread:

**This is what the kingdom of heaven is like.**

Jesus—our teacher, friend, and leader—  
gives wisdom and understanding to those  
longing for a foretaste of the kingdom of heaven.

**Let anyone with ears to hear listen!**



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;



thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.

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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

God, your ways perplex and disturb us.  
 You challenge our ideas about the best way to live,  
 and stretch our understanding of what has value.  
 You turn our expectations upside-down,  
 And change our thinking to reflect your love for all.  
 Forgive us when we step on other people  
 in our rush to get the most and best of everything.  
 Help our lives embody your desire for creation  
 and contribute to a world full of justice and joy.

## 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

SPECIAL MUSIC      *Christians, We Have Met to Worship*      Garrett O'Connell, oboe  
Arranged by Brant Adams

## 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.**

RESPONSIVE READING PSALM 105 (adapted from Nan Merrill, *Psalms for Praying*)

Give thanks to God; open your hearts to love.

Listen in silence for the voice of the counselor,

And sing praise with a joyful heart.

**We will bear witness to the truth with our lives.**

Seek the One who is life and strength;

Remember that you are not alone;

When we love sincerely, doubt and fear are released.

**We will see that differences are reconciled in God's plan.**

God, you are the promise of our wholeness;

You want us to choose life in freedom.

Your covenant of love abides through all ages;

**You forgive us when we stray far from home.**

Help us learn to trust you; guide us into peace,

With your help, we can choose to live in harmony,

We can respect all life without judgment,

**Then we will see the beauty of unity in diversity.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:26-39

The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness.

We don't really know how to pray as we should,  
and so the Spirit prays within us with sighs too deep for words.

And God, who searches the heart, knows the mind of the Spirit,  
because the Spirit prays for the saints according to the will of God.  
We know that all things work together for good for those who love God,  
for those who are called according to God's purpose.

If God is for us, who can be against us?

If God did not withhold even the Son, but gave him up for all of us,  
we can be sure that God will also give us everything else we need.

Who will bring any charge against God's elect?

It is God who clears our name, so who can condemn us?

It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised,  
who sits at the right hand of God, who surely prays for us.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine,  
or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,  
nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

After the parable of the weeds and the wheat, Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." 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."

And Jesus told them still more parables: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The Marvelous Mystical Mustard Seed*

Pastor Jan

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE**

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 714

God of the Fertile Fields

*vs. 1 and 3*

1 God of the fer - tile fields, shap - er of  
3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that  
earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your  
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our  
boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,  
that all in ev - ery land be clothed and fed.  
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.

## 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 765

May the God of Hope

## 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**

# May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

## Song of Hope / Canto de esperanza



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our  
*¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en*



lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us  
*cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -*



on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.  
*nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.*



Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;  
*O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.*



work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.  
*Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.*

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## TODAY AT CPC

**Sunday, July 19**

9:30 am Online Worship Service

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

**Monday, July 27**

6:00 pm Building Rental: Med City Tai Chi

**Tuesday, July 28**

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

6:00 pm Session Meeting

**Wednesday, July 29**

6:30 am Prayer Group

**Friday, June 31**

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

**Sunday, August 2**

9:30 am Online Worship Service  
with Communion



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	Connor Meyer
IT Support	Ronda and Bill Marshall