

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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



## August 16, 2020

*Welcome to worship this morning!*

*Bulletin Cue: Bold indicates congregational response.*

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

How delightful it is when people live together in peace! As a family formed by faith,  
**we gather to worship the Beloved.**

Lifelong followers seeking support, new disciples searching for grace—  
**we gather as one before the Giver of Mercy.**

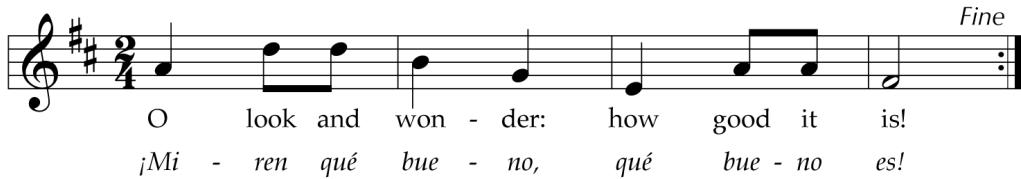
Children of God, come!

Whatever our origin, we are claimed and gathered in.

**Let us praise God!**

OPENING HYMN GTG 397

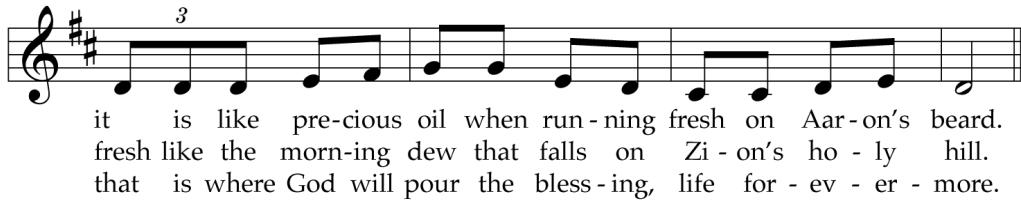
How Good It Is



O look and won - der: how good it is!  
Mi - ren qué bue - no, qué bue - no es!



1 How good it is when broth-ers dwell in peace with one an - oth - er;  
2 How good it is when sis - ters dwell in peace with one an - oth - er,  
3 How good it is when all earth's peo - ple dwell in peace to - geth - er:



it is like pre-cious oil when run - ning fresh on Aar - on's beard.  
fresh like the morn-ing dew that falls on Zi - on's ho - ly hill.  
that is where God will pour the bless - ing, life for - ev - er - more.

CALL TO CONFESION

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.**

## CONFESSTION

Holy One, there is so much we have to confess:  
When we discount another's pain or overlook neighbors,  
**forgive us.**

When we choose callous words over compassion,  
**forgive us.**

When we think others less deserving of grace  
and ration kindness as if it could be exhausted,  
**forgive us.**

Have mercy upon us, Lord, and heal our brokenness  
so that with every word and deed that proceed from our hearts,  
**we may seek to glorify you.**

## 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     *Any Dream Will Do*     Angela Mair, German Classical Guitar  
                            by Andrew Lloyd Webber

## 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

## Adapted from Genesis 40-47

Whatever happened to him, Joseph rose to the top. When his brothers conspired against him, he came out alive. As a slave in Egypt, he came to command his master Potiphar's entire household. Potiphar's wife tried to ensnare him, and when he resisted, he was falsely accused and sent to prison. Yet even in prison, he was trusted and put in charge of other prisoners.

In prison he met two servants of Pharaoh. Both had dreams that Joseph correctly interpreted: one was hanged, the other restored to his place. Years later, Pharaoh himself

had troubling dreams of seven fat cows that were devoured by seven thin cows; and of seven full ears of corn that were absorbed by seven meager ears. The servant finally remembered Joseph in prison and his powers of interpretation. Always giving God the credit, Joseph predicted that seven years of plenty would be followed by seven years of famine. Pharaoh appointed Joseph, only 30 years old, to be overseer, to store resources for the lean years, and rewarded him lavishly.

When all came about as Joseph had predicted, and the famine walked the land, Joseph's family in Canaan heard of food for sale in Egypt. Accordingly, his ten older brothers traveled to Egypt to purchase food. Joseph recognized them, though they didn't know him. He put them to various tests, inquiring about their father and ordering them to bring their youngest brother, Benjamin, when they returned. Once again, he tested their loyalty, framing Benjamin for stealing his personal cup, and threatening to take him as his slave. When he saw that his brothers were intent upon protecting this youngest brother, he revealed himself to them. With Pharaoh's blessing, Joseph brought his entire family to settle in Egypt.

After Jacob's death, the brothers again expressed fear that Joseph will take revenge on them for their previous cruelty. Joseph answered, "Don't be afraid! You may have intended it for harm, but God meant it for good, to preserve a great people here." And the descendants of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob and his twelve sons grew strong and numerous in Egypt.

#### RESPONSIVE READING

#### Psalm 67

God, Giver of Mercy, be gracious to us and bless us -  
Make your face shine upon us, that your ways may be known,  
your saving power among all nations.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing out loud for joy,  
for you judge all people equally and guide all the nations upon earth.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God continue to bless us; let the ends of the earth revere him.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Truth and Reconciliation*

Pastor Jan

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 770 I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table *vs. 1 and 4*

1 I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble; ble;  
 4 Here all the world will find a wel - come; come;  
 I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.  
 here all the world will find a wel-come, Al - le - lu - ia.  
 I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble; I'm gon - na  
 Here all the world will find a wel - come; here all the  
 eat at the wel - come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.  
 world will find a wel - come, Al - le - lu - ia.

## 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 250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

*vs. 1 and 2*

## 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**

# In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

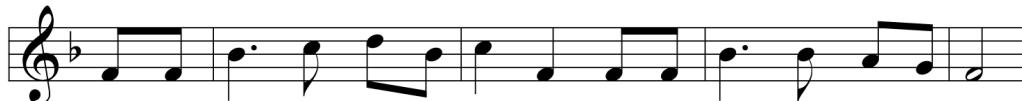
## Hymn of Promise



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek-ing word and mel - o - dy;



in co - coons, a hid-den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring-ing hope to you and me.



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys-ter - y,



un - re-vealed un - til its sea - son, some-thing God a - lone can see.

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning." Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

TEXT and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986  
Text and Music © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

PROMISE  
8.7.8.7.D

# Community Presbyterian Church

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## TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, August 16, 2020

9:30 am Online Worship Service

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, August 17

Office Closed

Tuesday, August 18

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

Wednesday, August 19

6:30 am Prayer Group

Thursday, August 20

12:00 pm Newsletter Information Due

Friday, August 21

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

**Sunday, August 23**

9:30 am Online Worship Service



Judy Leal

Jane, Ed, Jenny, Elissa and  
the Burgstaler grandchildren  
Connie Holst  
MariLynn Johnson  
Vera Atkinson's great-grandson,  
Kaiden Nelson

*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.*

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	Mary Meyer
IT Support	Ronda and Bill Marshall

## 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#