

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

3705 Fairway Place NW, Rochester, MN • www.cpcrochester.org • 507-280-9291



Liberating Love: Glimpsing Glory

October 18, 2020

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

We hope to see you again soon!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the rising of the sun until its setting,

God's holy name be praised.

In the visions of the old and the dreams of the young,

God's holy name be praised.

In the banquet hall of heaven and in every corner of our hearts,

God's holy name be praised.

Let all that has life and breath praise the great I AM.

We praise and worship our holy God.

OPENING HYMN GTG 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy

vs. 1 and 2



1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,



For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!



In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

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

Beloved, in you we live and move and have our being.

You made us in your image and call us now to live into that image.

But when times are tough and we fear we are losing hope,

we forget that we carry your resurrection life within us.

We forget that you have promised to lead us forward

into a life that is abundant, where all may flourish.

Forgive us for doubting the future you have already established.

Forgive us for failing to share our faith and hope with those who need it

With your help, we will become what you created us to be.

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 *All That Hath Life and Breath Praise Ye The Lord!*

performed by Lee University Choir

Composed by Rene Clausen

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let the fire of your Spirit open our hearts and minds to your word, O God. Help us to hear your voice and follow your paths all the days of our lives. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 33 and Deuteronomy 34 (adapted)

God told Moses that an angel would lead the people into the Promised Land, saying, "I will not go with you, for my wrath would consume this stiff-necked people." But again Moses interceded, and again God relented, and said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And God said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim to you the name, 'I AM WHO I WILL BE.' I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But you cannot see my face, for no one shall see me and live." And God covered Moses in the cleft of a rock while the glory passed by; for God said, "You shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

When the 40 years of wilderness wandering had been completed, and the Israelites had received the law of healing love, and had suffered much, and learned much, I AM prepared at last to bring them into the land promised to their ancestors. And they made camp in Moab on the eastern bank of the Jordan River and received from Moses God's final instructions before entering the land.

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land. Then I AM said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there."

Then Moses, servant and prophet of I AM, died there in the land of Moab. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 90

Beloved, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
before you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,
so we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past;
You sweep them away; they fade like a dream;
The years pass like grass, renewed every morning, but soon withered.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,
so we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

So teach us to count our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
Make us glad for as long as our afflictions have lasted.
Let your work be familiar to us, and your favor be upon us.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,
so we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

Beloved, prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 22:15-22; 34-40

As the plot to get rid of Jesus thickened, both temple parties and even the Jewish puppets of Rome stepped up their efforts to make him convict himself with his own words. Jesus saw through their schemes and thwarted their plotting.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Sadducees also, who did not believe in the resurrection as the Pharisees did, tried to stump him with a trick question about marriage in the hereafter. He returned this volley, too, with ease, and the crowds were astonished.

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Liberating Love: Glimpsing Glory

Pastor Jan

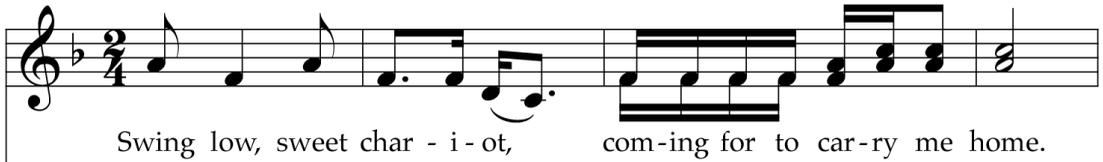
RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 825

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

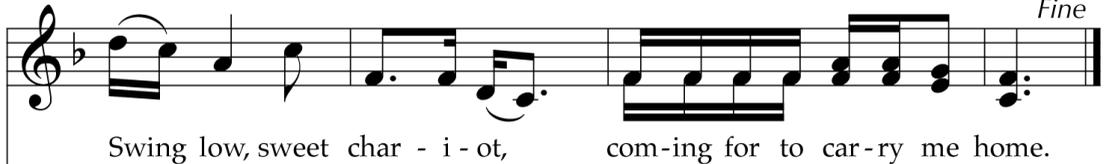
vs. 1 and 2

Refrain

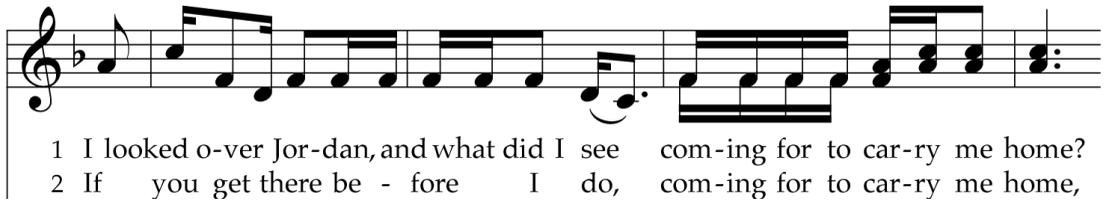


Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com-ing for to car-ry me home.

Fine

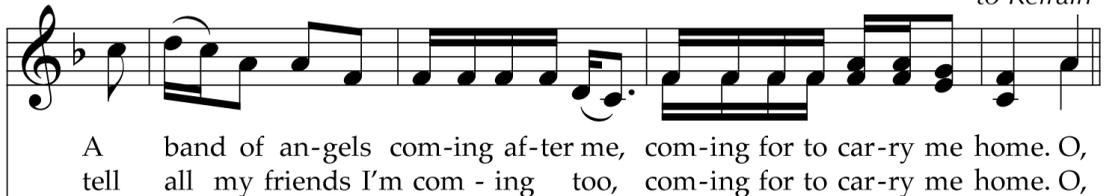


Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com-ing for to car-ry me home.



1 I looked o-ver Jor-dan, and what did I see com-ing for to car-ry me home?
2 If you get there be - fore I do, com-ing for to car-ry me home,

to Refrain



A band of an-gels com-ing af-ter me, com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,
tell all my friends I'm com - ing too, com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,

While ostensibly based on Elijah's ascent into heaven (2 Kings 2:11), this African American spiritual also communicates the enslaved people's hope that they might find deliverance across a river (i.e. in the free states beyond the Ohio).

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

Beloved, you have set your blessing upon us and we are grateful. Confirm in us the truth by which we live; confront us with the truth from which we turn away. We ask not for what we want but for what you know we need, as we offer this day and ourselves to you.

Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

CLOSING HYMN 313

Lord, Make Us More Holy

vs. 1 and 2

CLOSING BLESSING

O God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.

Now may God's blessing of peace be to the nations, east and west;

Peace to our neighbors, black and white;

Peace to all women, peace to all men,

The peace and presence of Christ above all be with you.

Thanks be to God.

313 Lord, Make Us More Holy



1 Lord, make us more ho - ly; Lord, make us more ho - ly;
2 Lord, make us more lov - ing; Lord, make us more lov - ing;

Lord, make us more ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain:
Lord, make us more lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain:

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain.
lov - ing, lov - ing, lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain.

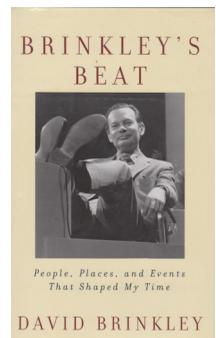
Like many African American spirituals, this one creates a framework for almost endless expansion beyond the four stanzas given here. This sung prayer is notable as an affirmation of God's active care for the once-gathered community while dispersed and of hope to be reunited.

Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

Online Book Discussion Group
October 25, 10:30 am
Brinkley's Beat by David Brinkley



As we are learning what Brinkley knew about people, places, and events, someone mentioned that she'd like to know more about Brinkley himself. So I checked and found there is a book in the library downtown in which he claims to have lived through 11 Presidents, 4 wars, 22 political conventions, 1 moon landing, 3 assassinations, 2000 weeks of "news and other stuff" on TV and 18 years of growing up in N. Carolina. I believe he finished the book just before he died in 1992. We may learn more at the Book Discussion right after Church next Sunday. Everyone is welcome.



Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, October 18

9:30 am Online Worship Service

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, October 19

Stephanie - Vacation

10:00 am PW Bible Study

Tuesday, October 20

Stephanie - Vacation

12:00 pm Conference Call *

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

5:30 pm Finance & Stewardship Committee

Wednesday, October 21

6:30 am Prayer Group

Friday, October 23

12:00 pm Conference Call *

Sunday, October 24

9:30 am Online Worship Service

10:30 am Online Book Discussion Group



Judy Leal

Jane, Ed, Jenny, Elissa and

the Burgstaler grandchildren

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Vera Atkinson's great-grandson,

Kaiden Nelson

Jennifer Hall's mother, Karen

***To be added to the prayer list,
please contact the church office at***

507-280-9291 or

email 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

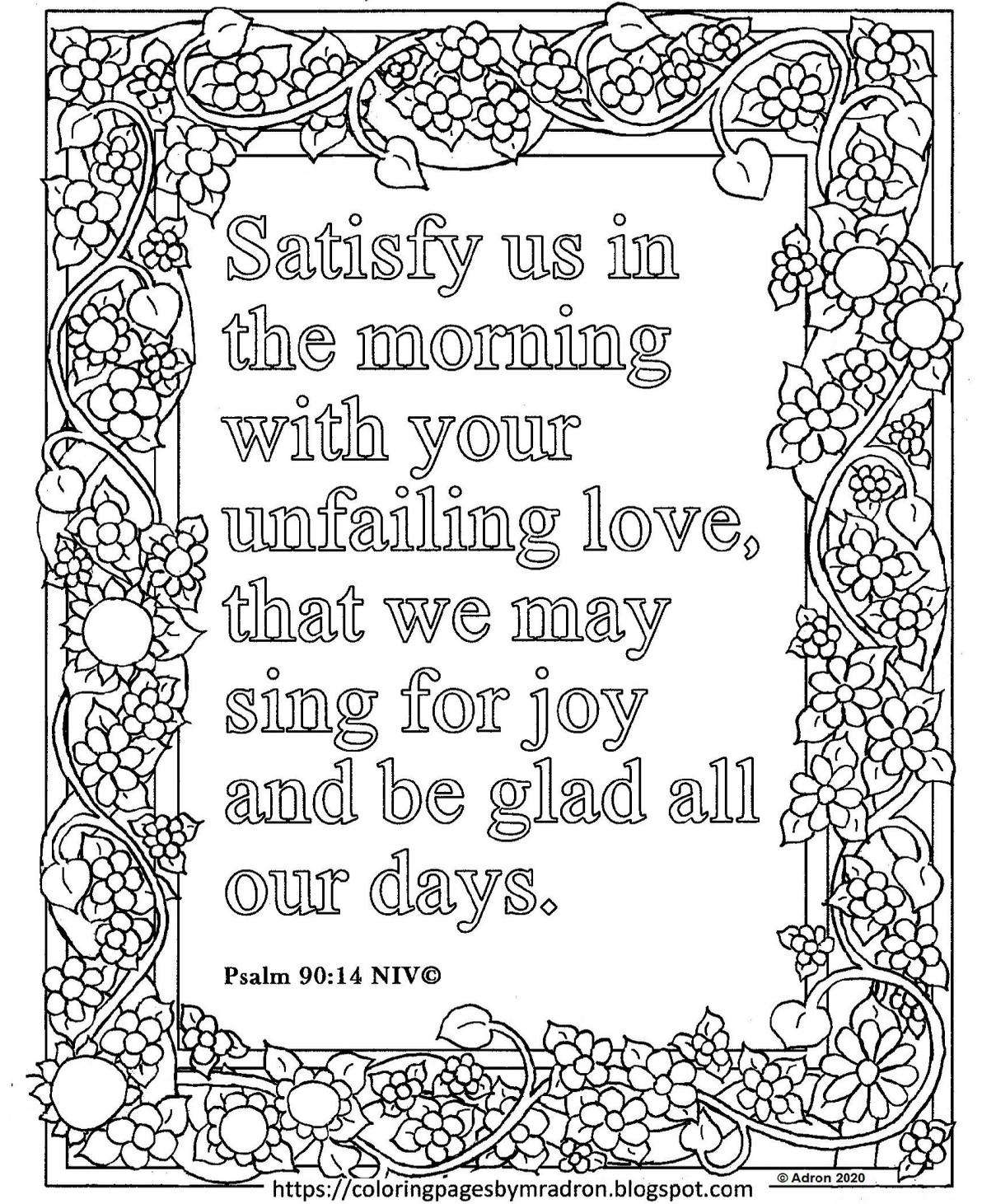
Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist

Margie Petersen

IT Support

Ronda and Bill Marshall



Satisfy us in
the morning
with your
unfailing love,
that we may
sing for joy
and be glad all
our days.

Psalm 90:14 NIV©