

Community Presbyterian Church
open hearted, open minded

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



Teach our hearts
to welcome...
Hope

November 29, 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

The heavens are being torn open!

The mountains quake at God's presence.

The face of God is soon to shine among us.

Even the stars cannot contain God's glory!

OPENING HYMN GTG 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

vs. 1 and 6



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

CALL TO CONFESSION

All we, like sheep, have gone astray;
we have followed our own hearts rather than God's good will.
But there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Beloved.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

CONFESSION

O God of hosts, save us.

Save us from traps of our own creating:

from fear that blocks the way of love,

from worry that blocks the way of joy,

from isolation that blocks the way of relationship,

from structural injustices that keep the world bound.

Forgive us, God of hosts, until the stars fall from heaven

and we live as people transformed.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain made low.

Now the glory of the Truth is revealed,

For the mouth of the Merciful has spoken.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

The world says, "All is lost."

God says, "All is loved."

The darkness says, "The light is dying."

Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears."

Hope says "Wait, watch, and listen."

As we light our first Advent candle,

we pray for holy hope of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Hope.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

Veni Veni Emanuel
performed by the Vancouver Youth Choir

by Michael John Trotta

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit, prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 64:1-5, 8, 9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed... Yet you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might, and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink.
You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

Stir up your might, and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.
Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.

Stir up your might, and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

YOUTH PRESENTATION

Advent Hope

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37

With Advent and the beginning of a new church year, we plunge into the Gospel of Mark, our guide through this year. However, we begin near the end of Mark, in a chapter sometimes called the “little apocalypse.” Here, Jesus foretells the destruction of Jerusalem and describes the events that herald the end of the age. Remember, though, that apocalypse doesn’t necessarily refer to catastrophe, but to the revealing of truths once hidden.

“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like

a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of our God stands forever.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Teach Our Hearts to Welcome Hope

Pastor Jan

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 92

While We are Waiting, Come

vs. 1 and 2

1 While we are wait - ing, come;
2 With power and glo - ry, come;

while we are wait - ing, come.
with power and glo - ry, come.

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,

while we are wait - ing, come.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus,
whose faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God.
As the Christ, he was chosen to be the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel,
the beginning of a new creation, and the pioneer of a new humanity.
God in Christ gave history new meaning and direction
and called the church into a ministry of reconciliation for the world.
Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19

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.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

CLOSING HYMN GTG 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

vs. 1 and 3

BLESSING AND CHARGE

May the God of peace make you holy,
and the power of the Spirit sustain you,
until the coming of Jesus Christ, most blessed. **Alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord! **Amen**

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You 104



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you a - right?
3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,
In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

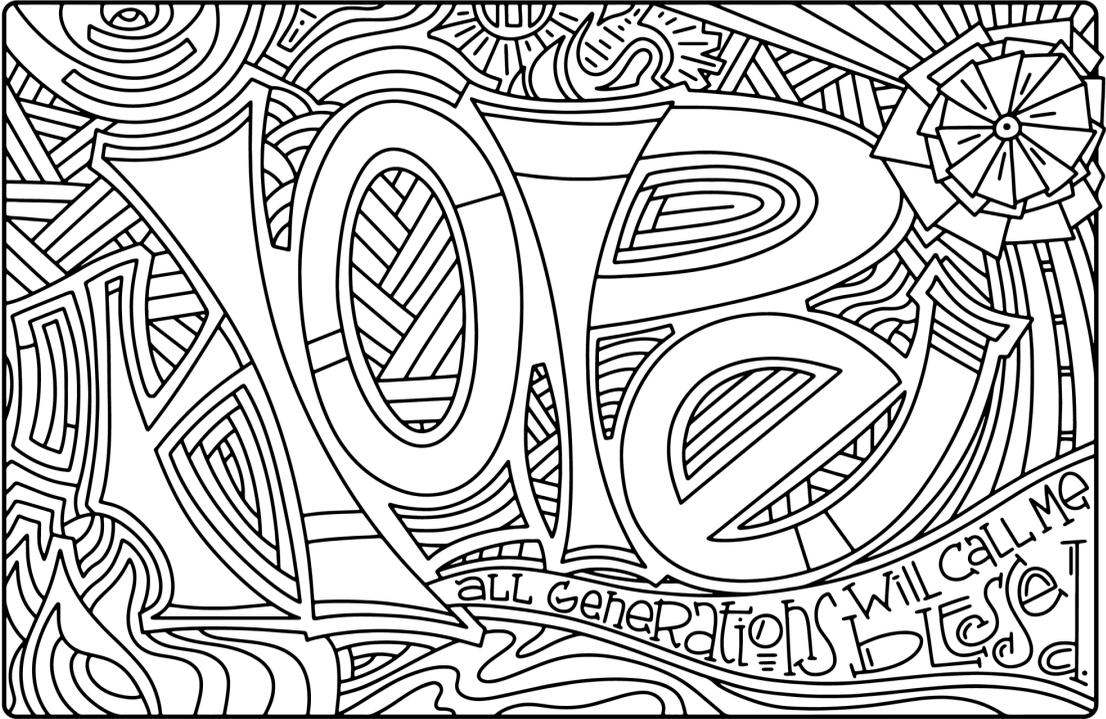


to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
when your re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

Though many Advent hymns address Christ with entreaty and invitation, this more contemplative text considers how an individual prepares for and responds to Christ's coming. It also brings together a recollection of the First Coming with an anticipation of the Second Coming.

TEXT: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. Catherine Winkworth and others, 1863, alt.
MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; harm. William Henry Monk, 1861

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
7.6.7.6.D



illustratedchildrensministry.com

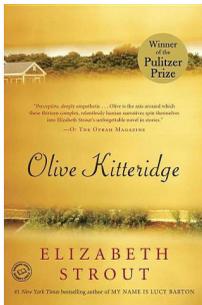
*From the Finance & Stewardship Committee:
Reminder to pay your Per Capita (\$36.50) and
please submit your 2021 pledge soon to assist
in preparing the 2021 budget. Thank you!*

Adopt-a-Family



*Adopt-A-Family donations this year
are only gift cards to be as COVID safe
as possible. The church will be purchas-
ing \$75 gift cards for the 6 people we
were assigned. If you are able to donate
towards the \$450 needed to help these
families, please send the donation into
the church and just be sure to men-
tion Adopt-A-Family on the donation.
Thanks in advance.
Mission Committee*

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



*The Book Discussion Group
will meet next Sunday,
December 6, immediately
following worship - just stay
online! We will be discussing
Olive Kitteridge. We look
forward to an interesting
discussion! All are welcome!*

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, November 29 Advent 1

9:30 am Online Worship Service

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Tuesday, December 1

12:00 pm Conference Call *

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

6:00 pm Brain Injury Support Group

6:00 pm Christian Education Committee

Wednesday, December 2

6:30 am Prayer Group

Friday, December 4

12:00 pm Conference Call *

Sunday, December 6 Advent 2

9:30 am Online Worship Service
with Communion

10:30 am Book Discussion Group



Judy Leal

Jane, Ed, Jenny, Elissa and
the Burgstaler grandchildren

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Jennifer Hall's mother, Karen

Sue Chipman

Brenda Parshall, Children's Place
Director

*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	Dave Copeland
IT Support	Louis Bouchard
Candle Lighter	Carole Copeland