

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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



January 31, 2021

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Beloved with your whole heart

The Righteous One is gracious and merciful,
remembering the everlasting promise to show compassion.

The works of God's hands are faithful and just,

They are established for all eternity.

Holy and awesome is the Holy Name;

God's praise endures forever!



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
2 The church from you, dear Sav - ior, re - ceived this gift di - vine;



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
and still that light is lift - ed on all the earth to shine.



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
a - mid the rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Nothing can be hidden from our God, maker of heaven and earth,
whose wisdom is endless, whose mercy is great.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

CONFESSION

You have shown us, O God, what it means to follow you;
open our hearts and minds to your teachings.
You modeled compassion in the person of Jesus Christ,
but we do not always follow his example of kindness.
You made all things good so that creation sings your praise,
but we wound your earth by our thoughtlessness.

Forgive us, O God.

Pour your compassion on us today,

and by your forgiveness, show us, too, your way of compassion.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Those who trust in the Holy Name will renew their strength.
They will run and not be weary, they will walk and not grow faint.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

Alleluia

Young Women's Choir Amaranthe

composed by Randall Thompson

Oudenaarde, Belgium

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The entire book of Deuteronomy takes the form of an extended sermon--Moses' final words to the people he had led out of slavery in Egypt before they crossed over into the Promised Land. Moses himself would not make that crossing with them, but he is concerned that these people stay in the path of truth and not follow false teachings. "Horeb" refers to Mount Sinai where God gave Moses the law, and the people disobeyed by making an idol of their own.

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 111

Praise God! I will thank you with my whole heart,
To all who will listen, I will tell of your goodness.

**Great Builder, your works are wonderful;
I delight in the beauty of all you have made.**

Your teachings are full of honor and integrity;
Those who follow them find new life.

**You lift the hearts of those who suffer
and come to them in their time of need.**

Your steadfast love is food for the soul,
and nourishment in times of fear.

**You remember your promise
to be present to the weary and afflicted.**

Your voice is truth and your commands are sure;
they are written on the hearts of your faithful people.

**You bring new life to the world--
life in abundance is your gift to us.**

Reverence for you, O Holy One, is the beginning of wisdom.
All who honor your word have a good understanding.

Your Spirit endures forever!

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

What's an omnivore to do without refrigeration? Throughout biblical times, meat was prized but precious, not daily fare. On special occasions, people offered animal sacrifices to their gods and were allowed a portion for themselves, to eat or to sell. Israelites since Moses' time had done the same. One of the theological battles raging in first century Christianity was whether a person was condemned for eating meat offered to other gods. Paul insists that whatever you think you "know," tenderness toward your fellow Christians should guide your behavior.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours [to eat meat offered to idols] does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus has just called as disciples the two pairs of brothers, Andrew and Simon (renamed Peter), and James and John. All of them fished in the Sea of Galilee, but left nets, boats and even families to follow Jesus. Today, he preaches for the first time as recorded in Mark. Capernaum lies on the north shore of the Sea.

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Word became flesh and lived among us. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

I know it's true (I saw it on the internet)

Pastor Jan

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 722

Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak

vs. 1 and 4

1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv - ing
4 O fill me with your full - ness, Lord, un - til my
ech - oes of your tone. As you have sought, so
ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and
let me seek your err - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAVERS 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 300

We Are One in the Spirit

vs. 1 and 3



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;



we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:

Refrain



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Beloved children of God, receive the gift of the Holy Spirit,
the grace of Jesus Christ, and the blessing of the Holy Name forever.

Alleluia!

As Jesus called the first disciples, so he calls to us this day: Follow me.

Amen

F	O	N	N	R	T	I	T	P	S
Q	O	A	S	E	B	I	R	C	S
U	M	L	I	C	R	I	A	H	S
I	N	U	L	I	R	P	Y	T	R
Y	Q	C	P	O	E	Y	E	A	E
O	L	S	L	R	W	A	E	B	D
H	H	O	N	E	C	E	R	B	R
M	N	A	H	H	A	O	R	A	O
E	U	G	O	G	A	N	Y	S	N
M	Y	O	R	T	S	E	D	E	O

CAPERNAUM SABBATH SYNAGOGUE
 TEACH SCRIBES UNCLEAN
 SPIRIT DESTROY HOLY
 QUIET ORDERS OBEY



Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, January 31

9:30 am Online Worship Service
10:30 am Annual Meeting

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Tuesday, February 2

10:00 am Online Bible Study
12:00 pm Conference Call *

Wednesday, February 3

Pastor Jan's vacation starts

6:30 am Prayer Group

Sunday, February 7

9:30 am Online Worship Service
with Communion
Outdoor Event, weather-permitting,
details tbd

*Youth outing proposed for Sunday, Feb. 7th.
We hope for enough snow and temperate
weather for a sledding outing after church.
Look for more details as time and place are
finalized.*

Online Worship /Bible Study

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#



Judy Leal
Jane, Ed, Jenny, Elissa and
the Burgstaler grandchildren
Connie Holst
MariLynn Johnson
Joanne Powell, recovering from surgery
Sherrie Wilson and her family,
on the death of Sherrie's aunt

*To be added to the prayer list,
please contact the church office at
507-280-9291 or
email office@pcrochester.org.
For emergency pastoral care,
call Pastor Jan at 763-219-2927.*

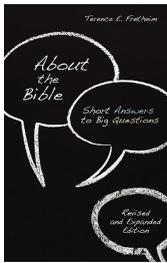
Pastor	Rev. Jan Wiersma
Choir Director	Meg Cain
Handbell Director	Judy Kereakos
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist	Sherrie Wilson
IT Support	Louis Bouchard



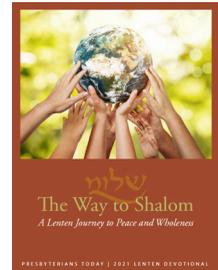
- Starting in February, Stephanie will be in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 9-noon (at least).
- Pastor Jan will be taking time off from February 3-12. She will not be traveling out of Rochester, so will be available for pastoral emergencies.



About the Bible: Bible Study continues

Our winter/spring Bible study looks at these and other questions. It continues to meet virtually, Tuesdays at 10 am. It will not meet on Tuesday, February 9. Contact Pastor Jan if you're interested in joining this discussion. All are welcome, even

if you missed the first meetings!



Lenten Devotionals will be available for pickup beginning Wednesday, February 10. They will also be available online.

ASH
WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 17

Ash Wednesday will be different this year. You are invited to pick up ashes at church or have them sent to you (let Stephanie know by 2/14). Then on the evening of Ash Wednesday, during the Online Worship service (7:00 pm), you will be invited to put ashes on your own forehead or your family members' foreheads.



Annual Meeting TODAY Sunday, January 31, following worship

Today, CPC will have its annual meeting following worship (about 10:30 am). Presently, the plan is to hold this meeting virtually - so just stay online after worship! All members of CPC are invited and encouraged to attend!