

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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

**February 14, 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

Come, let us go to the holy mountain,  
and worship Christ with the disciples!

We will see Christ transformed before us.

We will see our lives transformed before Christ.

**Come, let us go to the holy mountain and worship the Son of God.**

1 O Splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, from light e -  
 2 Come, Ho - ly Sun of heaven - ly love, rain down your

ter - nal bring - ing light; O Light of Light, light's  
 ra - diance from a - bove, and to our in - ward

liv - ing spring, true Day, all days il - lu - min - ing;  
 hearts con - vey the Ho - ly Spir - it's cloud - less ray.

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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

God of transformation, you make new life where there was old,  
 dazzling light where there were shadows,  
 peace where there was violence,  
 and friends where there were enemies.

**Forgive us, O God, when we stand in the way  
 of your transformative love.**

**Forgive us when we do not live as people  
 who have been changed by your grace.**

**Call us back to the mountain again,  
 and send us out as witnesses and agents of transformation.**

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

*Elijah Rock*

by Moses Hogan

performed by the Alabama State University Choir from Montgomery, Alabama

### 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

2 Kings 2:1-12

*Elijah, the greatest prophet of Israel since Moses, has been retired by God after his greatest triumph: the defeat of Jezebel and the prophets of Baal. He has groomed his acolyte Elisha to be his successor.*

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 50:1-6

The mighty one, God the Eternal, speaks  
and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty:

**God shines forth!**

Out of Zion our God comes  
and does not keep silence;  
before him is a devouring fire,  
and a mighty tempest all around him:

**God shines forth!**

The Everlasting Judge calls  
to the heavens above and to the earth:  
“Gather to me my faithful ones,  
children of the covenant!”

**God shines forth!**

The heavens declare God’s righteousness;  
The Glorious One alone is judge.

**Amen. Alleluia**

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

*What is glory, really? Radiance, light, splendor: Paul sees it in Christ, who is God revealed. An earlier verse reminds us that we who see are also being changed “from glory into glory.” And yet, it’s not about us, but about what we reflect when our faces are turned to Christ.*

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:2-9

*Jesus had journeyed with his disciples to Caesarea Philippi, an ancient site sacred to pagans, Greeks, and Roman emperors; there Peter first names him Messiah, and there Jesus begins to warn them of his coming arrest and death, a future Peter flatly rejects. So what, really, is glory all about? And how do you respond?*

Six days after Peter's declaration and Jesus' revelation, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

SERMON

*Living Light*

Pastor Jan

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 673

Jesus, Light of Joy

*vs. 1 and 3*



1 Je - sus, light of joy, sur - round us; let your splen - did  
3 With the saints we lift our voic - es, God of pow - er,



glo - ry shine: source of ev - ery earth - ly bles - sing,  
God of might. All cre - a - tion shines with glo - ry,



heav - en's ev - er - last - ing sign. Al - le - lu - ia,  
sing - ing prais - es day and night: al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, we a - dore you, light di - vine.  
al - le - lu - ia, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly light.

# 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 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*vs. 1 and 4*



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



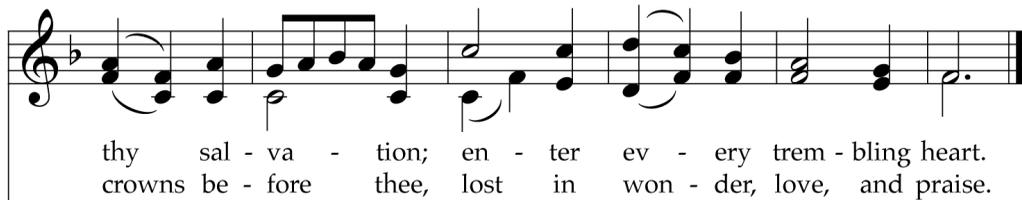
earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;  
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



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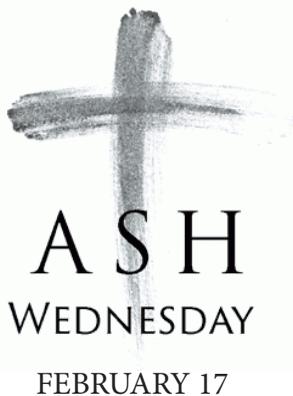
## CHARGE AND BLESSING

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**



*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.*

Brighter days are coming!  
The pandemic and economic downturn are a burden to many, so now is great time to discuss what we can do when the world turns right-side-up again. Be part of our first **Blue Sky** conversation today, following worship, and ending promptly by 11:15.



CPC has a strong tradition of mission to answer God's call now. How can we build on that tradition? What is your dream for the future of CPC? What's God's dream for CPC? For the world? Where is God already at work in our midst? How can we be part of it?

Your voice, your prayers, your spirit are important! This is not an invitation to be part of a committee, but to chime in as the Spirit moves you. Please plan to stick around next Sunday after worship for our **Blue Sky** conversation!

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

## TODAY AT CPC

### Sunday, February 14

9:30 am Online Worship Service  
10:30 am Blue Sky Conversation

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, February 15

Office Closed, Presidents Day

Tuesday, February 16

10:00 am Online Bible Study  
12:00 pm Conference Call \*  
5:30 pm Finance & Stewardship Committee

Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday

6:30 am Prayer Group  
7:00 pm Online Worship Service

Friday, February 19

12:00 pm Conference Call\*

### Sunday, February 21

9:30 am Online Worship Service



Judy Leal  
Jane, Ed, Jenny, Elissa and  
the Burgstaler grandchildren  
Connie Holst  
MariLynn Johnson  
Sherrie Wilson and family,  
on the death of her aunt  
Glenna Muir and her mother

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

### 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#

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	Carol Jones
IT Support	Louis Bouchard