

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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



**September 12, 2021**

*Welcome to worship this morning!*

*Bulletin Cues: **Bold** indicates congregational response. \* indicates please stand, if able*

# GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace and peace to you from God.

**May God fill you with truth and joy.**

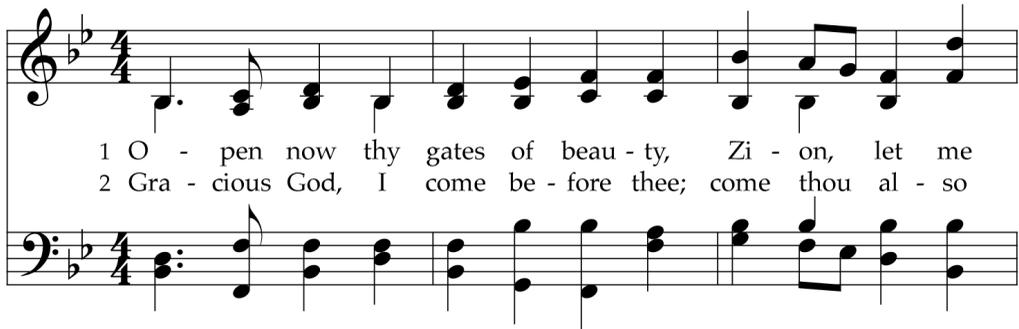
This is the day which the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

#### \*OPENING HYMN GTG 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

*vs. 1 and 2*



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so



en - ter there, where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
un - to me; where we find thee and a - dore thee,



waits for God who an - swers prayer; O how bless - ed  
there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O

is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace.  
en - ter thou; let it be thy tem - ple now.

Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

### CONFESSION AND PARDON

Because you made the world to be a good place for all;  
Because you call us your children;  
Because we long to be united with you,  
We pause to consider our faults and failings.

*Silence before the prayer of confession.*

**Creator, we disfigure your world  
and blight our children's hope for the future;  
Redeemer, we doubt your healing power  
and turn from faith to despair;  
Giver of life, we too often choose death,  
forgetting how to love in spirit and truth.  
Forgive us when we forget that faith, hope, and love abide,  
and the greatest of all is love.**

May God forgive you, Christ befriend you,  
And the Spirit renew and change your life.

**We believe that God can make it so,  
and receive this word in faith and hope.**

### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, your word is light on our path; you open your truth to all who receive it with trusting hearts. As you reveal yourself to children, speak now to us: simply, lovingly, clearly, so that we may hear and follow. In your Name, **Amen**

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 116:1-9

God, the Beloved, has heard my voice and my cry for help.

God, the faithful, listened to me

**And so I will call on him as long as I live.**

I was drowning in my own fear of death;

Distressed and anguished, I struggled to breathe;

**I called, "My God, save my life."**

The Righteous One is full of grace and mercy,

God helps the child and protects the simple;

**When I reached my lowest point, God saved me.**

Return, my soul, to your rest, for God's goodness has prevailed.

You, Beloved, delivered my soul from death,

my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

**I will walk before you as long as I live.**

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13:4-13

*Paul rarely writes about children as such; but in this familiar passage, frequently heard at weddings, he uses childhood as a metaphor for spiritual immaturity. All of us, including Paul himself, have room to grow in faith, hope, and love.*

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

SPECIAL MUSIC

## GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:14-29

*Jesus and his three closest friends, Peter, James and John, have just come down the mountain where Jesus shone with light. There they heard the voice of God from a cloud: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him."*

When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them. When the whole crowd saw him, they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him. He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" Someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so." He answered them, "You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you are able! — All things can be done for the one who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!" After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "This kind can come out only through prayer."

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

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Faith, Hope, and Love Abide*

Pastor Jan

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

\*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 799 I Love the Lord Who Heard My Cry

1 I love the Lord, who heard my cry  
2 I love the Lord, who heard my cry

and pit - ied ev - ery groan.  
and chased my grief a - way.

Long as I live and trou - bles rise,  
O let my heart no more de - spair

I'll has - ten to God's throne.  
while I have breath to pray.

### 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 656

We've Come This Far by Faith

(sing twice)

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord, trust-ing in the ho - ly Word; God's nev-er failed us yet. O, can't turn a - round, we've come this far by faith. We've come this far by faith." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and chords, with some triplets indicated by a '3' over a group of notes.

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord,  
trust-ing in the ho - ly Word; God's nev-er failed us yet.  
O, can't turn a - round, we've come this  
far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Look at your hands, see the touch and the tenderness;

Look at your feet, see the path and the direction;

Look at your heart, see the fire and the love;

Look at the cross; see God's Son and our Savior. This is God's world,

**And we will serve God in it.**

Jesus said, "I am with you always." May God the Creator bless you,

May God the Son walk with you, May God the Spirit lead your lives with love.

**Amen**

### \*POSTLUDE

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

## TODAY AT CPC

### Sunday, September 12

9:30 am Worship (Outdoors and Online)  
Bring your lawn chair!

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

Tuesday, September 14

10:00 am PW Bible Study  
12:00 pm Bulletin Announcements Due  
12:00 pm Conference Call \*  
6:30 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Wednesday, September 15

6:30 am Prayer Group

### Sunday, September 19

9:30 am Worship (Outdoors and Online)

From Margie Petersen: For Marg Nelson's party, I had sent cupcakes in 3 plastic containers, a tiered plate, all in a laundry basket. When I went to claim them last week, all that was left was the largest container, and the tiered plate. If you know where the other items went, please return them to Margie.

**Online Worship:** Sundays 9:30 – 10:30am  
**PW Bible Study:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10 am

<https://meet.google.com/vao-wjef-cbe>  
+1 575-305-4527 PIN: 652 821 468 #

\* **Tuesday's Conference Call**

<https://meet.google.com/kee-rcys-sdh>  
+1 413-889-2244 PIN: 433 818 991#



Judy Leal  
Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,  
especially daughter Jenny  
Connie Holst  
MariLynn Johnson  
Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa  
Judy Berg  
Sue Chipman  
Children & teachers returning to school

***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	Mark Neville
Guest Musicians	Brass, Etc!
IT Support	Louis Bouchard