

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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



**September 26, 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

As we gather in worship, we pray for the faith of children.

**We pray for trust, humility, and kindness.**

**We pray for wonder, imagination, and creativity.**

Let the little children come to me, Jesus said,

**for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.**

#### \*OPENING HYMN GTG 188                  Jesus Loves Me

**Jesus loves me! This I know,**

**for the Bible tells me so.**

**Little ones to him belong.**

**They are weak, but he is strong.**

Refrain:

**Yes, Jesus loves me!**

**Yes, Jesus loves me!**

**Yes, Jesus loves me!**

**The Bible tells me so.**

**2 Jesus loves me! This I know,**

**as he loved so long ago,**

**taking children on his knee,**

**saying, "Let them come to me." [Refrain]**

### PRAYER OF ADORATION

**Living God, our loving parent: you cherish all your children,**

**And we praise you.**

**With our lips, with our lives, in all our diversity,**

**each of us made in your image,**

**we praise you.**

**Because, in Jesus, you came to share our human lives,**

**our sorrow, our joy, our growth, our families,**

**we praise you.**

**Because your Spirit is at work today,  
enlightening, encouraging, surprising us,  
we praise you.**

**You embrace and welcome us as your own;  
you give us hope, meaning and purpose,  
and we praise you. Amen**

## 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**

### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-9

*This text is often referred to as "the peaceable kingdom;" notably, it's a child who leads the way to that place. It's also often used to celebrate the blessing of the animals on the Feast of St. Francis, which occurs every year on October 4.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

### RESPONSIVE READING

**Psalm 8**

O God, our Beloved, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.

**Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have ordained praise,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
**what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mere mortals that you care for them?**

Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honor.  
**You have given them the care of the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,**

All sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
**whatever passes along the paths of the seas.  
O God, our Beloved, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Prayer of the Children* by Kurt Bestor Arr. by Andrea Klouse  
performed by Gondwana Singers from Sydney, Australia

GOSPEL READING Mark 9:38-42, 10:13-16

*Just prior to the events in this passage, the disciples tried to cast the demon out of a young boy, and failed. Then Jesus cautioned them not to strive to be superior to others, but to serve them. Even after his warning, are they still stubbornly heading down that path, seeing themselves as greater? Again, he reminds them, a child will lead the way.*

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.”

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Follow that Child*

Pastor Jan

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 137

He Came Down

*all verses*

He came down that we may have love; he

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may

have love; hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

*Leader:* Why did he come?

*Additional stanzas:*

- ... that we may have light
- ... that we may have peace
- ... that we may have joy

# 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 542

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

vs. 1-3



1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing  
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen  
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's



coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -  
wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -  
per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -

fold you:  
vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
round you:

**\*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.**

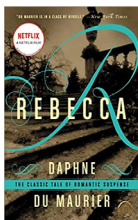
Jesus said, "I am with you always." May God the Creator bless you,  
 May God the Son walk with you, May God the Spirit lead your lives with love.

**Amen**

**POSTLUDE**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

This month's selection is *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier. Carol Jones will lead the discussion today after worship.



**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY CELEBRATES OUR ONENESS IN CHRIST WITH ALL OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS AROUND THE WORLD.**

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## TODAY AT CPC

### Sunday, September 26

9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)  
10:30 am Book Discussion Group

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

### Tuesday, September 28

10:00 am PW Bible Study  
12:00 pm Bulletin Announcements Due  
12:00 pm Conference Call \*  
6:30 pm Session

### Wednesday, September 29

6:30 am Prayer Group

### Sunday, October 3

9:30 am Worship with Communion  
(Onsite and Online)



Judy Leal  
Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,  
especially daughter Jenny  
Connie Holst  
MariLynn Johnson  
Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa  
Judi Berg  
Sue Chipman

*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:** 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#

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	Peggy McCarty
Special Music	
IT Support	Louis Bouchard