

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

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

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

September 5, 2021



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

In the Hall of the Mountain King
from Edvard Grieg's Peer Gyat Suite 1, op. 46, No. 4

Leo Meilander

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The whole earth declares the greatness of God!

Even infants and children see and sing God's praise!

Let all beings, from the least to greatest, bless our God.

We gather in joy to worship the source of our life.

*OPENING HYMN GTG 20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

vs. 1 and 4

Refrain

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

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.

**You love us like a parent with open arms, O God.
Forgive us when we fail to love in return:
when we do not challenge injustice;
when we are not generous with the gifts we have to share;
when we are slow to compassion and quick to judgment;
when we contribute to the brokenness of the world
instead of helping to make it whole.
Forgive us. Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way.**

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**

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 10:13-19

The people of Israel were chosen and called by God not in order to lord it over other nations and people but to care for "the stranger," the Other, as God had cared for them.

Moses instructed the people of Israel, "Keep the commandments of the Lord your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it, yet the Lord set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today. Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer. For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no

bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 146

adapted

Happy are those whose help is in God, their Maker,
God of heaven, earth and sea and all that is in them.

**It is God who keeps faith forever,
who works justice for the oppressed and feeds the hungry.**

It is God who sets the captives free,
who restores the sight of the blind, and raises up the lowly.

**It is God who protects the stranger,
who sustains the widow and the orphan.**

God our Maker will reign forever,
Our God through all generations.

**I will praise the Maker as long as I live;
I will sing to God all my life.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Storybook Waltz by Carolyn Miller

Sofia Meilander

Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho

Leo Meilander

an African American Spiritual Arranged by Valerie Roubos

GOSPEL READING

Mark 7:24-30

Jesus' ministry leads him away from his usual setting, beyond the border of Israel into Syria. There he encounters a woman who challenges his focus on his own people and perhaps opens his mind to the needs of a wider world..

From the Sea of Galilee, Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre on the Mediterranean coast, in. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

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

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 340 This Is My Song

vs. 1 and 2



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,

hear our prayer.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE AND GREAT THANKSGIVING

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

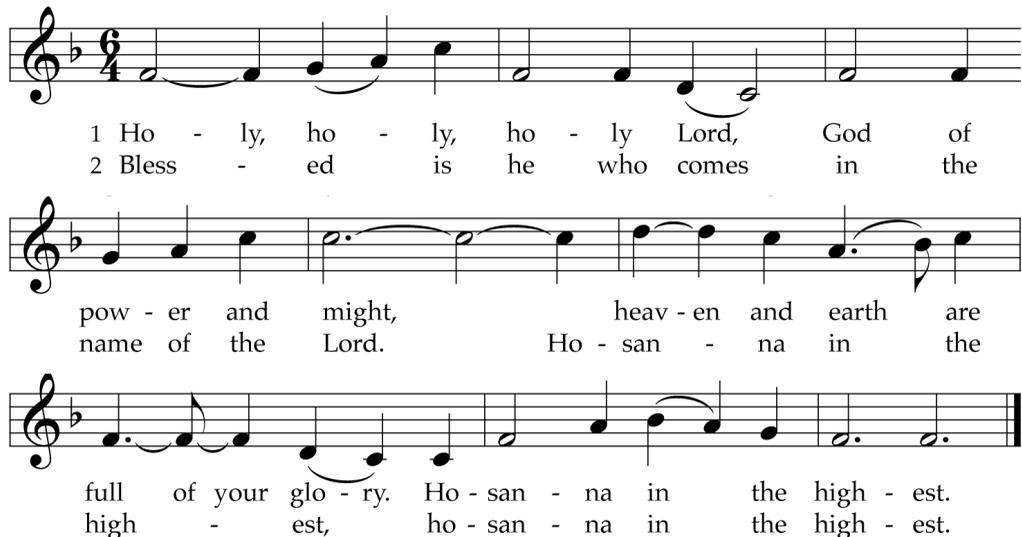
We lift them up in love.

Give thanks to the Beloved, who is Spirit and truth.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We do thank and praise you, our Creator, our Savior, and our Friend,...and sing your grace and glory with all creatures of earth and sea and sky, and all the company of heaven:

SANCTUS GTG 552



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION/ BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.

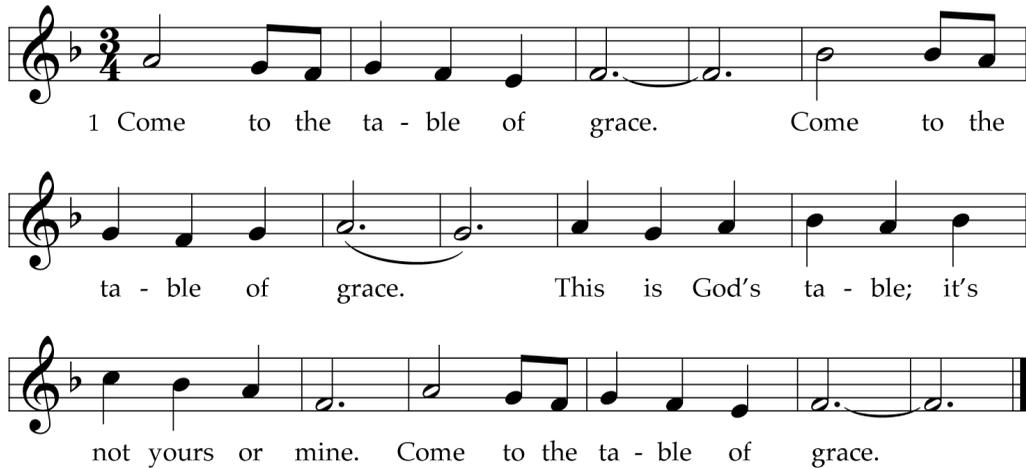
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED

*For communion, gluten free bread and grape juice are served for all who partake.
Please take and eat the bread as it is served, and then as a sign of unity, hold the cup
until all are served so that we might partake together.*

HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION GTG 507

Come to the Table of Grace



1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the
ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's
not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy Spirit, you have filled us with your life. Christ our Savior, you have embraced us in your love. God our Mother, you have fed us with your grace. Now send us out into your beloved world to share your life, your love, your grace with all. Blessing and honor and glory to you. **Amen**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 767

Together We Serve (vs. 1, 3, and 4)



1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,



in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.



We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
We of - fer a home to those who will come,
To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,



ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

*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

Spanish Caballero by Faber

Leo Meilander

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TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, September 5

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

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, September 6

Labor Day - Office Closed

Tuesday, September 7

12:00 pm Bulletin Announcements Due

12:00 pm Conference Call *

6:00 pm Brain Injury Support Group

7:00 pm Christian Education Committee

Wednesday, September 8

6:30 am Prayer Group

Sunday, September 12

9:30 am Worship (Outdoors and Online)

From Margaret Nelson...

Thank You to all who helped with my delayed birthday party last Sunday. I had a wonderful time and it appeared everyone else did, too.

Online Worship

Sundays 9:30 – 10:30am

<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

Kevin and Susan Olson

Judy Berg

Sue Chipman's friends, France and Bong

***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.***

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	
Special Music	Leo & Sofia Meilander
IT Support	Louis Bouchard

It's about the children

For the next four weeks, Sundays will celebrate the role of children and families in Jesus' teaching and ministry, and throughout the Bible.

This weekend, during a holiday instituted over 100 years ago to honor laborers, take time to ponder and pray over the plight of children forced into labor, both paid and unpaid, and frequently haz-

ardous. "They are everywhere but invisible, toiling as domestic servants in homes, laboring behind the walls of workshops, hidden from view in plantations" (PCUSA website).

The latest global estimates indicate that the number of children in child labor has risen to 160 million worldwide – an increase of 8.4 million children in the last four years... accounting for almost 1 in 10 of all children worldwide, or 1 in 5 children in poorer countries.

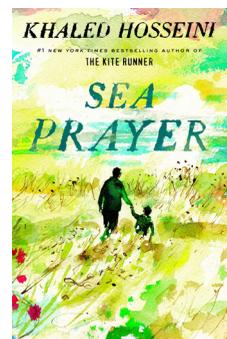
The number of children aged 5 to 17 years in hazardous work – defined as work that is likely to harm their health, safety or morals – has risen by 6.5 million to 79 million since 2016.

Additional economic shocks and school closures caused by COVID-19 mean that children already in child labor may be working longer hours or under worsening conditions, while many more may be forced into the worst forms of child labor due to job and income losses among vulnerable families. The report warns that globally 9 million additional children are at risk of being pushed into child labor by the end of 2022 as a result of the pandemic.

Children in child labor are at risk of physical and mental harm. Child labor compromises children's education, restricting their rights and limiting their future opportunities, and leads to vicious inter-generational cycles of poverty and child labor.

Information provided by the United Nations, UNICEF:

<https://data.unicef.org/resources/child-labour-2020-global-estimates-trends-and-the-road-forwar>



Words and Images today are from the *Sea Prayer* by Khaled Hosseini, illustrations by Dan Williams.