

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Welcome to worship this morning!

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

January 2, 2022

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise God, all people!

For Christ is here!

The Creator, the giver of life,
has come to dwell among us.

Rejoice in the Word, now and always!

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: come and wor - ship,
to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit show us the Word made flesh— good news of great joy for all— so that we may sing with the angels: glory in the highest and peace on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 147:12-20

Praise the Beloved, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

We praise you, our God, for you strengthen our spirits|
and shower blessing on our children.

**You spread peace within our borders
and fill our land with the finest of wheat.**

You send out your command to the earth;
your word runs swiftly.

**You give snow like wool and scatters frost like ashes,
you hurl down hail like crumbs—who can withstand the cold?**

You sends out your word, and melt them;
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

You make known the ways of life and health.

Praise the Beloved, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

SPECIAL MUSIC

Andante & Hungarian Rondo for Bassoon
by Carl Maria Von Weber

Bailey Holman

GOSPEL READING

John 1:1, 10-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word was in the world, and the world came into being through the Word; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'" From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Heaven and earth will pass away but the word of the Lord stands forever.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Prepositioned

Pastor Jan

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 108

Of the Father's Love Begotten

vs. 1, 2, 5, 6



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan
2 By his Word was all cre - at - ed; he com-mand-ed; it
5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -
6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the
 was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -
 es sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex -
 to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing and un -



source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 verse of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft
 tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 wea - ried prais - es be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 shin - ing, all that breathes be - neath the sun,
 si - lent; ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

A CHRISTMAS AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
By Stephen M. Fearing, a pastor of the PC(USA)

**We believe that God has come to us as a little child,
 making our weakness his strength,
 securing our salvation by becoming one of us,
 blessing us with with a steadfast savior,
 filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another.**

**We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world,
 giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts,
 making the cause of the oppressed the highest priority,
 declaring an everlasting reign of peace,
 defeating the power of pain and suffering.**

**We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love,
inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table,
transforming us as disciples to go out into the world,
sending us forth to announce his kingdom of peace and comfort,
challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children.**

This we believe.

This we preach.

This we seek to live in word and deed.

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,

hear our prayer.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION WITH ALL GOD'S SAINTS

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God, the Beloved, dwells with you!

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the One who gives us life.

Give thanks for God-with-us, Emmanuel!

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

We do thank and praise the One who was from the beginning, and is now, the Word, the light of the world; and with all created beings of earth and sky, with angels and archangels, we join in joyful song:

SANCTUS (*Tune: GTG 118 "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"*)

All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace;

goodwill to all from highest heaven,

begin and never cease, begin and never cease.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/BREAKING OF THE BREAD

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father and Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your 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 let us not be led into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and 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 155 Raise a Song of Gladness *(repeat as needed)*



Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth.
Ju - bi - la - te De - o om - nis ter - ra.



Christ has come, bring-ing peace, joy to ev - ery heart.
Ser - vi - te Do - mi - no in lae - ti - ti - a.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

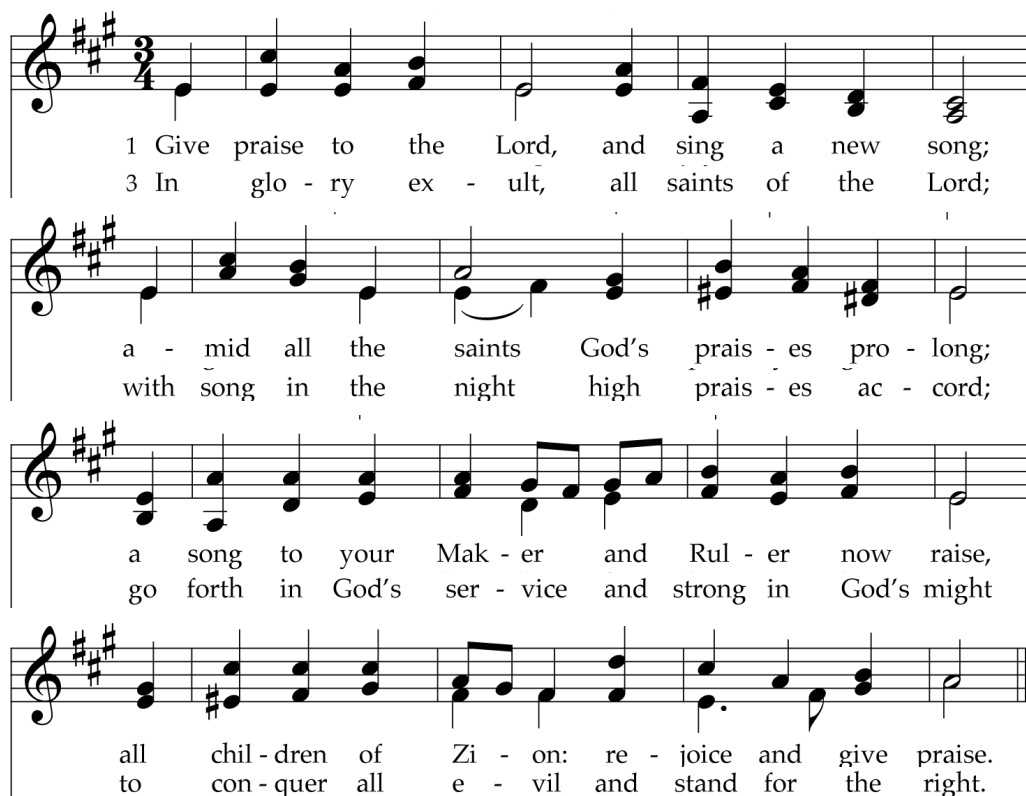
God of shepherds and sheep, wise ones and seekers, we give you thanks that you have gathered us here, revealed to us your glory, and fed us with your mercy. Now send us out with good news for all—for us a child is born: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 550

Give Praise to the Lord

vs. 1 and 3



1 Give praise to the Lord, and sing a new song;
3 In glo - ry ex - ult, all saints of the Lord;
a - mid all the saints God's prais - es pro - long;
with song in the night high prais - es ac - cord;
a song to your Mak - er and Rul - er now raise,
go forth in God's ser - vice and strong in God's might
all chil - dren of Zi - on: re - jice and give praise.
to con - quer all e - vil and stand for the right.

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Arise! Shine!

For your light has come.

Let your life be the light of Christ

so that all people may know

that they, too, share in the promises of God.

May God bless you,

and keep you in the Spirit's care;

may God lead your lives with love.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



Plan to stay after worship today to de-green the church (put away the Christmas decorations). Many hands make light work!

Newsletter



Pick up your newsletter today!

Coming in January

Guest preacher, Jerry Lacola on Sunday, January 16

Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 23

Book Discussion Group on Sunday, January 30

ANNUAL MEETING



On Sunday, January 23rd, CPC will hold the annual congregational meeting following worship (about 10:30 am). The Annual Meeting is a time to vote on leadership positions. It is also a time to look back on 2021 and look ahead to 2022. We will receive the budget and finance reports. All members of Community Presbyterian are invited and encouraged to attend!

Submissions for the Annual Report are due on Monday, January 10.

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, January 2

9:30 am Worship Service with Communion

10:30 am De-greening of the Church

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, January 3

Office Closed

Tuesday, January 4

12:00 pm Bulletin Announcements Due

12:00 pm Conference Call *

6:00 pm Brain Injury Support

7:00 pm Christian Education Committee

Wednesday, January 5

6:30 am Prayer Group

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 9

9:30 am Worship Service



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughter Jenny

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa

Mark Pillers's parents, Lars and June

*To be added to the prayer list,
please contact the church office at
507-280-9291 or*

email office@cpchester.org.

*For emergency pastoral care,
call Pastor Jan at 763-219-2927.*

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#

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	
IT Support	Bruce Felger