

January 16, 2022

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

*Welcome to worship this morning!*

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

*Water - in its many forms  
- offers us a lens through  
which we juxtapose the brittle  
harshness of deep winter  
with the internal softening  
of grace. As we in the North  
embrace this deadly cold  
time of year, we explore and  
deepen the potential and  
resilience we each carry within  
ourselves - as individuals  
and communities. Parts  
of this service are adapted  
from Epiphany resources by  
Rev. Emily Meyer, Executive  
Director, The Ministry Lab,  
St Paul, MN [UCC, UMC, &  
PC(USA)]*



## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

God is the heart of life

**and we are the heartbeat.**

May our hearts be filled with songs of joy.

**We rejoice in the miracle of life.**

We gather to thaw frozen hearts and to let go -  
so that we might be held;

**we melt and let go, so that we might be filled.**

1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

Our God, our Source of Life, calls to you, and declares:

Return now, to fresh flowing streams,

Let your souls be fed with the water of Life,

**Like a well-watered garden, brimming with blooms.**

Young ones: sing and dance with delight.

Elders and youth: rise up and join in.

**Here, in this gathering, exchange tears for laughter.**

I will scoop you together and immerse you in comfort.

**In this household, I will empty out sorrow and fill you with joy.**

We claim the joy of water as it sustains and nourishes us.

**Let it flow and pour and sparkle for all people.**

**that each may know the daily gift of God in water.**

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us as we turn to you, so that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children, with Jesus our brother, the Christ of all creation. **Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE READING                      John 2:1-11

*In this story, the first of Jesus' public miracles, water plays a special role! It turns out plain water makes the very best wine.*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

### RESPONSIVE READING                      Psalm 36:5-10

Your steadfast love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,

**your judgments are like the great deep;  
you save humans and animals alike.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**Continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

CPC Choir

Tune by George N. Allen, Text by Joyce Merman, Arr. by Roy Ringwald

*Precious Lord, take my hand, bring me home through the night,  
Through the dark, through the storm, to Thy light.  
I have been to the mount, I have seen the Promised Land;  
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.*

*Precious Lord, take my hand, bring Thy child home at last,  
Where the strife and the pain all are past.  
I have dreamed a great dream that Thy love shall rule our land  
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.*

*Precious Lord, take my hand, take Thy child unto Thee,  
With my dream of a world that is free.  
For that day when all flesh joins the glory Thou has planned,  
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Jerry Locula

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 750 Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

*sing twice*

*Words by the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa*

Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;

light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.

Vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is ours  
Oh, vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is

through God who loves us. us.  
ours through God who loves us. us.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

God, our Savior,  
**hear our prayer.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

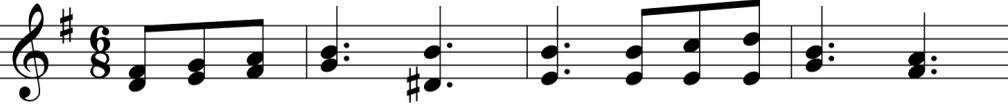
**Our Father and Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kindom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and let us not be led into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kindom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

# SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

\*CLOSING HYMN GTG GTG 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*vs. 1 and 3*



1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en  
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent



ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -  
tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the



ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening  
way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the



skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get.

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -  
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.  
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

You are being sent:

To catch people with Good News.

To lure them with Love.

You are blessed. You are loved.

Your roots are firmly planted in the Water of Life,  
 in the stream that never runs dry.

Shower the world with Love -

and watch as the Beloved Garden blossoms.

Go in peace, and walk wet, always.

**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

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**We welcome special guest preacher, Jerry Locula today!**

Combining our observance of the PC(USA) Dismantling Structural Racism Sunday with our national commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (January 17), we welcome Jerry back to our worship. “Observed every January on the third Monday of the month, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service is the only federal holiday that has a call to action focusing on building beloved communities from coast to coast. It was King who, in fact, popularized the concept of the “beloved community,” explaining that economic equity and social justice are the twin pillars of a healthy society. At its heart, the idea of the beloved community is simply this: We share the wealth of the Earth with all so there is human decency for all and no hunger, poverty, violence or homelessness for anybody.” from Presbyterians Today, December 20, 2021. Jerry Locula comes from Liberia. He’s currently with Peace Church in Rochester. Jerry has spent his adult life working for peace, human rights and social justice in Africa in both Church and society.

# Community Presbyterian Church

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## TODAY AT CPC

### Sunday, January 16

9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, January 17

Martin Luther King Jr. Day -Office Closed

Tuesday, January 18

12:00 pm Bulletin Announcements Due

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

5:30 pm Finance & Stewardship Committee

Wednesday, January 19

6:30 am Prayer Group

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 20

12:00 pm Newsletter Articles Due

### Sunday, January 23

9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)

10:30 am Annual Meeting

**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#

On **Sunday, January 23rd**, CPC will hold the annual congregational meeting following worship (about 10:30 am). All members of Community Presbyterian are invited and encouraged to attend!



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,  
especially daughter Jenny

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa

Mark Pillers' parents, Lars and June

Sue Chipman

Mary Alice and Wayne Richardson

***To be added to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 507-280-9291 or via 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	Peggy McCarty
IT Support	Louis Bouchard