



August 14, 2022

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

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.


**Faith is a gift to be received, treasured,
and shared with joy and thanksgiving.**

Let us praise God, who freely gives the gift of faith.

OPENING HYMN GTG 462

I Love to Tell the Story

vs. 1 and 3



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

CALL TO CONFESSION

God calls us to walk in faith, but we do not always follow.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

(Silence for reflection)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the ages, God of the old, old story,

we hear of our ancestors

and are astounded by their faith.

They trusted you, but we waver.

They believed your promise,

but we cling to our own ideas.

Forgive us and free us from our fear,

that we may follow with joy wherever you may lead;

through Jesus Christ, the beginning and end of faith.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

From age to age, from generation to generation,

God's mercy never fails. Hear the good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, loving One, guide us by the Spirit of truth to hear the Word of life you speak, and to give all glory, honor, and praise to you, through Jesus Christ, in whose name we gather, worship, and pray. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 11:1, 29-12:2

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Duet, Mark Neville and Meg Cain

Will the Circle Praise the Lord

Will the Circle Be Unbroken, Arranged by David Moore with

I Saw the Light, Arranged by Camp Kirkland

Rearranged by Meg Cain

GOSPEL READING

Luke 12:49-56

Jesus, on his way to Jerusalem, conveys the truth in parables and in warnings: what's coming will not be easy.

Jesus told his disciples, “From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be

demanded. I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

Your Word, our light; your grace, our hope; your love, our life. **Thanks be to God.**


SERMON

Progress, not perfection: Our heroes of faith


Pastor Jan

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE


*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 457 How Happy Are the Saints of God vs. 1 and 2



1 How hap - py are the saints of God who do not
2 Like deep - ly root - ed trees, they stand be - side an



heed the wick - ed way; de - light - ing in the
ev - er - flow - ing stream. Their fruit is plen - ti -



ho - ly Word they seek God’s wis - dom night and day.
ful and good; their leaves are al - ways grow - ing green.

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,
hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER/PRAYER OF JESUS

paraphrased by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

**Beloved, Center and Source of our living, whose presence is heaven,
your holy love fills Creation.**

**May your delight be fulfilled and your Realm unfold among us,
the visible world blossoming out of the unseen.**

We turn to you alone for our sustenance, the bread of life each day.

Set us free from our failings, as we set free all who have failed us.

Lead us beyond our desires and save us from the grip of evil.

For the world is within you; all power is from you,

and all glory is about you in eternity, which is the present moment. Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 846

Fight the Good Fight

vs. 1, 2, 4



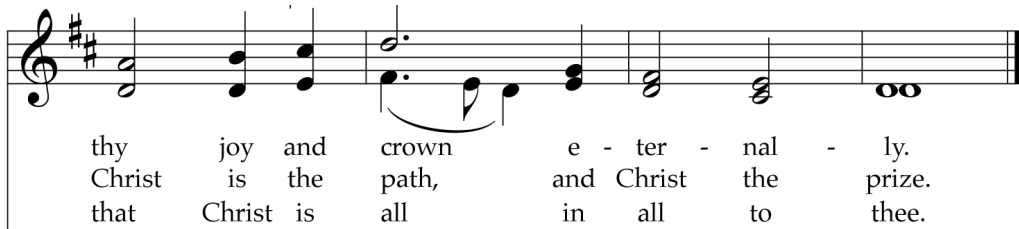
1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.
2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.



Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.
God chang - eth not, and thou art dear.



Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Life with its way be - fore us lies;
On - ly be - lieve, and thou shalt see



*CHARGE AND BLESSING

The blessing of God, all-giving and all-holy,
who was and is and is to come—
be with you now and always.

Go in peace to love your God
with heart and soul and mind and strength,
and to love your neighbor as yourself. **Amen**

POSTLUDE

Gage East opportunity:

Wondering about the back-to-school party? The Gage East team decided that, rather than have a party similar to last year's, they would point families in the direction of the many resources already available. However, Wes says, "We would remain grateful for a few notebooks (college-ruled) and highlighters, marker sets, pencils and erasers, etc. These would be distributed upon request, and possibly after Christmas break when kids/youth tend to start running lower on some supplies." If anyone would like to purchase and contribute items, you can bring them to church by Labor Day weekend (Sunday, September 4) and they will be delivered later that week.

Come and enjoy strings in the garden during our next outdoor worship service on August 21st at 9:30. The musicians are: Lori Ringen-Poencet on violin 1, Kimberlee Souhrada on violin 2, Anne Buezis on viola, and Bri McDonough, cello.



Some parts of this service were used by permission of Steve Garnas-Holmes, from his web resource, *Unfolding Light*.

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, August 14

9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Tuesday, August 16

12:00 pm Conference Call *

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

Wednesday, August 17

6:30 am Prayer Group

6:30 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Thursday, August 18

Office Closed

Saturday, August 20

12:00 pm Newsletter Items are Due

Sunday, August 21

9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)

Outdoor worship, weather permitting - bring a lawn chair!



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughter Jenny

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa

Shannon Cisewski

Jennifer Hall

Judy Robb's brother, Dan

*To be added to the prayer list, please
contact the church office at
507-280-9291 or via email
office@cpcrochester.org.*

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

Pastor

Choir Director

Handbell Director

Pianist

Custodian

Office Manager

Rev. Jan Wiersma

Meg Cain

Judy Kereakos

Glenna Muir

Nancy Sanford

Stephanie Pasch

Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist

Special Music

Special Music Accompanist

IT Support

Sue Chipman

Mark Neville,

Meg Cain

Judy Kereakos

Bruce Felger

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#