

Community Presbyterian Church
open hearted, open minded



CARE OF CREATION: OCEAN SUNDAY

September 11, 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 *(Rev. Jeff Schlesinger, Ruth Ivory-Moore, Pat Almonrode,
Rev. Sarah Locke, Henry Huntington)*

O God, you have claimed us in baptism through the waters of Creation:

**we join the Atlantic and Pacific, the Great Lakes,
and the 11,842 lakes of Minnesota
in giving you thanks and praise;**

you have called us to live in unity and love with our neighbors:

**we join in worship with all creatures
that walk, crawl, slither, fly, or swim.**

O God, you nourish the earth with water and snow,
and till the soil with frost and thaw:

we come before you to be cultivated by your Word.

O God, the planets and solar systems and galaxies belong to you:

**we come before you with great humility,
amazed that you are even mindful of us.**



1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered
 2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the
 3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a -
 4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the



by the Spir - it's breath, first to wit - ness
 cap - tives passed on through, wash - ing off the
 round the One fore - told, o - pened to re -
 thirst and flood the soul. Well - spring, Source of



day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.
 chains of bond - age: chan - nel to a life made new.
 veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
 life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness; make us whole.

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of our vibrant world,

**You have given us the responsibility to care for each other,
 and the privilege of caring for our earthly home.**

**Yet we have ignored the voices of Indigenous and marginalized people;
 we have closed our ears to the voices of women, children, the vulnerable;
 we have neglected or silenced the voices of creation itself,
 crying out for life and health.**

**Forgive us. Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, and our minds
 to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor,
 so that we may recognize that all you have made is sacred.**

Silence for reflection

In your mercy, you call us again, opening our ears, offering opportunities to do better. You gather us into relationships of mutual care and listening. Enlighten us now by your Spirit that renews the face of your Earth. **Amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Creator God, call to us, as from the burning bush, with the sustaining fire of your Spirit. Breathe upon us. Open our ears and move our hearts. Teach us to listen for the voice of each creature declaring your glory, for “faith comes from hearing.” Fill us with the light of your healing love that sustains our common home. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Job 38:1-18

God answered Job out of the whirlwind: “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?— when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped?”

“Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is dyed like a garment. Light is withheld from the wicked, and their uplifted arm is broken. Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 104:24-26

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

 In wisdom you have made them all;
 the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
 creeping things innumerable are there,
 living things both small and great.

There go the ships, and Leviathan
 that you formed to sport in it.

RESPONSIVE READING based on Ephesians 1:3-10

Blessed be God who has blessed us in every way,
who chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world;

May we be holy and blameless in love, as our Maker desires.

God destined us for adoption as children and willed it to be so,
to the praise of the glorious grace bestowed on us in the Beloved.

**Through Christ's gift of himself, we have a fresh start;
through grace our past failures are erased.**

Through grace, we receive wisdom and insight
into the mystery of God's will, wonderfully revealed in Christ,

**that in the fullness of time, all things in heaven and on earth,
created and eternal, will be gathered into one in love.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Will the Circle be Unbroken with I Saw the Light* arr. by Meg Cain
Mark Neville and Meg Cain, duet

GOSPEL READING Luke 5 :1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

SERMON

Depth Charge

Pastor Jan

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 170 You Walk along Our Shoreline

all verses

1 You walk a - long our shore-line where land meets un-known sea.
2 You call us, Christ, to gath - er the peo - ple of the earth.
3 We cast our net, O Je - sus; we cry the king-dom's name;

We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me.
We can - not fish for on - ly those lives we think have worth.
we work for love and jus - tice; we learn to hope through pain.

And if you still will fol-low through storm and wave and shoal,
We spread your net of gos - pel a - cross the wa - ter's face,
You call us, Lord, to gath - er God's daugh - ters and God's sons,

then I will make you fish - ers but of the hu - man soul."
our boat a com - mon shel - ter for all found by your grace.
to let your judg - ment heal us so that all may be one.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.
We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,
hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your beloved community of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN

Healing Is Flowing, Deep in the Waters

(Tune: Morning Has Broken)

**Healing is flowing, deep in the waters,
healing from Eden, flowing from old.
All through creation, God sends forth waters,
oceans of healing, for all the world.**

**Healing is rising, fresh with the morning,
healing is rising, bursting with grace;
Christ, as you surge from deep in creation,
heal Earth's deep wounds and rise in this place.**

**Healing is breathing, life from the Spirit,
healing is breathing, making flesh whole;
breath of the Spirit, blow through our churches,
Come, heal our people, body and soul.**

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

adapted from the CTBI Eco-Congregation Programme

May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church –
To listen to the voice of all creatures
As they reflect God's glory in creation. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Service and Bulletin Notes

This Affirmation of Faith is from Gurukul Theological college, India / adapted by Keld B. Hansen 2009.

This version of the Lord's Prayer is adapted from The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. This version of the Lord's prayer was influenced by Maori theologians.

The Daily Reflections was from September 7, 2022 It was written by Christian Kasten. He is a recent graduate of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. He currently is a political science major at the University of Missouri. He plays chess, coaches soccer and spends much of his summers as a counselor at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center.

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, September 11

9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)

2:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Tuesday, September 13

10:00 am PW Bible Study

12:00 pm Conference Call *

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

6:30 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Wednesday, September 14

6:30 am Prayer Group

Thursday, September 15

Office Closed

5:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios

Sunday, September 18

9:30 am Worship (Outside and Online) -

Bring your lawn chairs!

2:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughter Jenny

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa

Shannon Cisewski

Judy Robb's brother, Dan

Stephanie Pasch's father, Merle

*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.*

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

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

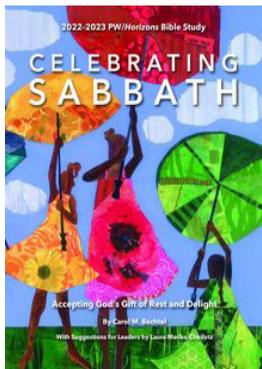
Special Music

IT Support

Carol Jones

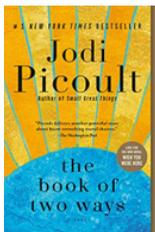
Mark Neville, Meg Cain

Louis Bouchard



The 2022 PW Bible Study, *Celebrating Sabbath* begins on Tuesday, September 13th at 10 am, onsite or online. Talk to Pastor Jan for more info!

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The book discussion group will meet on September 25, following worship (onsite and online). The group will discuss Jodi Picoult's book, *The Book of Two Ways*. Copies are available at the Rochester Public Library.

It will be an interesting book and an even more interesting discussion!

All are welcome to join in!

CPC presents... a Movie!

On Sunday evening, September 25, Christian Education will host an outdoor, back-to-school movie event, screening the highly acclaimed Disney film, *Inside Out*, which explores the complex emotions of Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness in ways that young children can understand, but that we all experience.

We'll gather at 7:00 to grab some popcorn, and settle in on the west lawn as dusk falls. The movie is 90 minutes long.

Bring lawn chairs, blankets, drinks and friends. Popcorn will be provided free of charge!

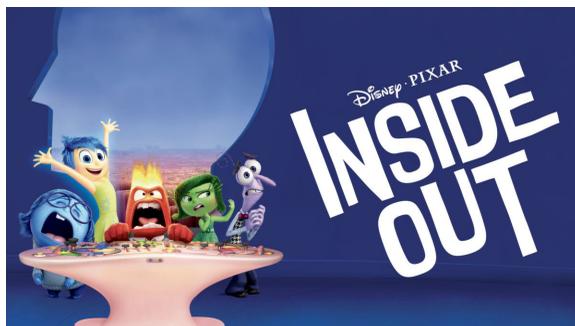
Blue Sky Conversations are back! September 18 after worship (onsite and online)



On September 18, CPC is encouraged to come with good ideas of how to spend our "tithes" portion of Margaret's bequest, but it's through sparking off one another that the ideas really begin to soar.

A Mission Prayer group has also been meeting to pray about the allocation of the "tithes" portion of Margaret Nelson's bequest.

In October, Session will appoint an ad hoc committee for the fascinating task of allocating funds. Committee members will probably emerge from Blue Sky conversations and the Mission Prayer Group. Choose your preferred vehicle, or take a ride in both! We have great work ahead.







“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” Matthew 25:34–40 (NIV)

In Matthew 25, Jesus talks about who will inherit the kingdom. At first, this seems like a fairly simple list. Donate to the food bank, drop off some of your old clothes to Goodwill, bring some flowers to your friend who’s sick, and you’re good to go. However, what is often overlooked is how hard it can be to *continually* do what Jesus has asked. When what is easy is at odds with what is right, we often forget what it means to be a Christian: to help those most vulnerable in the world.

Climate change means and will continue to mean more natural disasters. In times when disasters feel so far from our own homes, we forget that Jesus calls us to love everyone despite their gender, race, age, political ideologies or region of the world. With humanitarian crises around the globe, some of our neighbors have to flee to other countries in need of exactly what Jesus has called us to provide. Often we have failed to fully welcome our neighbors. Limited resources and the overwhelming numbers impede our call to hospitality. Yes, it is in these very situations that the Prince of Peace has called us to be his hands and be of service to the world. As the world changes, may our commitment to follow Christ be unwavering.

Action: Do what is right, not what is easy.

Prayer: *Today, we pray for those who have lost friends, family members and loved ones to the violence of war. With bomb sirens crying by the hour and buildings now rubble at their feet, we pray your love is shown to them through us, Lord, as they attempt to rebuild a new life. We ask you to empower us to be your helping hands at such a dire time despite our inconveniences, indecisiveness and shortcomings. We pray you give us the strength and courage to actively aid and welcome those displaced by war. Allow peace to spread through our hearts, bodies and minds as we know you are with us, now and forever. Amen.*