

## CARE OF CREATION: ANIMALS

September 18,  
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

*(Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)*

We gather in the name of God:

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all creatures!

**Praise be to the Holy Trinity!**

God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe, Source of all life,  
to whom the angels sing;

**Wondrous Light of all mysteries known or unknown to humankind,  
and life that lives in all.**

*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 - mighty, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Merciful One, we your worried people come to you again,

**Stressed and anxious for our livelihoods, our health, our security,  
Our future and our children's futures.**

**Yesterday's grace has vanished from our memory;  
Tomorrow's hurdles loom large in our imagination.**

**We fear we will never have enough of time, energy, will, luck.**

**But you have assured us that your care is infinite,  
That we will be clothed and fed like the flowers and the birds.**

**Forgive us; let us learn from your precious creatures.**

**Teach us to care and not to care; teach us to sit still.**

*Silence for reflection*

Our God bends down to breathe grace into your spirit, and rest for your soul.

The one whose eye is on each sparrow watches over you;

Your value is infinite in God's sight.

Take heart; your sins are forgiven. You are loved.

**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 39:1-12, 26, 30

"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them. "Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, to which I have given the steppe for its home, the salt land for its dwelling place? It scorns the tumult of the city; it does not hear the shouts of the driver. It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing. Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will it spend the night at your crib? Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes, or will it harrow the valleys after you? Will you depend on it because its strength is great, and will you hand over your labor to it? Do you have faith in it that it will return, and bring your grain to your threshing floor?"

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 104:14-23, 31

You, Beloved Maker, cause the grass to grow for the cattle,  
and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth,  
**and wine to gladden the heart, oil to make the face shine,  
and bread to strengthen the human heart.**

The trees of the generous One are watered abundantly,  
the cedars of Lebanon planted by the divine hand.

**In them the birds build their nests;  
the stork has its home in the fir trees.**

The high mountains are for the wild goats;  
the rocks are a refuge for the coney.

**You have made the moon to mark the seasons;  
the sun knows its time for setting.**

You make darkness, and it is night,  
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.

**The young lions roar for prey, seeking food from God.**

**When the sun rises, they withdraw and rest in their dens.**

People go out to their work and to their labor until the evening.

**May God's glory endure forever;  
may the Creator rejoice in all that is made.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Brass, Etc!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 12:22-31

Jesus said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well."

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

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

\*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 800 Sometimes a Light Surprises

vs 1-3



1 Some - times a light sur - pris - es the child of God who sings;  
 2 In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue  
 3 It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;



it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings;  
 the theme of God's sal - va - tion and find it ev - er new;  
 who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too;



when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain  
 set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,  
 be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;



a sea - son of clear shin - ing to cheer it af - ter rain.  
 "Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."  
 and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*adapted from The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia  
 Mihinare o Aotearoa, influenced by Maori theologians*

**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 661

Why Should I Feel Discouraged

*vs 1&2*



1 Why should I feel dis - cour - aged? Why should the shad - ows come?  
 2 "Let not your heart be trou - bled," his ten - der word I hear,



Why should my heart be lone - ly and long for heaven and home,  
 and rest - ing on his good - ness, I lose my doubts and fears;



when Je - sus is my por - tion? My con - stant friend is he:  
 though by the path he lead - eth but one step I may see:



his eye is on the spar - row, and I know he watch - es me;



his eye is on the spar - row, and I know he watch - es me.

Refrain



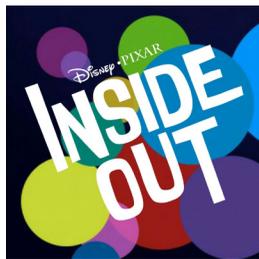
I sing be-cause I'm hap-py, (I'm hap-py) I sing be-cause I'm free, (I'm free)  
for his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me.

\*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

CPC presents...  
a Movie!

On Sunday evening,  
September 25, CPC  
will host an outdoor,  
back-to-school movie  
event, screening the

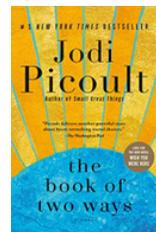


highly acclaimed Disney film, *Inside Out*,  
which explores the complex emotions of Joy,  
Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness in ways that  
young children can understand, but that we all  
experience. We'll gather at 7:00 to grab some  
popcorn, and settle in on the west lawn as  
dusk falls. The movie is 90 minutes long. Bring  
lawn chairs, blankets, drinks and friends.  
Popcorn will be provided free of charge!

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!**

**The Peace and Global Witness offering  
will be collected on October 2!**

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

## TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, September 18

- 9:30 am Worship (Outside and Online)  
10:30 am Blue Sky Conversation  
2:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, September 19

- 1:00 pm Mission Prayer Group

Tuesday, September 20

- 10:00 am PW Bible Study  
12:00 pm Conference Call \*  
12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due  
12:00 pm Newsletter Information Due

Wednesday, September 21

- 6:30 am Prayer Group  
6:00 pm Finance & Stewardship Committee

Thursday, September 22

- 5:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios

Sunday, September 25

- 9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)  
10:45 am Book Discussion Group  
2:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios  
7:00 pm CPC Presents... A Movie!

### Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Jan Wiersma
Choir Director	Meg Cain
Handbell Director	Judy Kereakos
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch



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@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#

### Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist	Dave Copeland
Special Music	Brass Etc!
IT Support	