



**September 4, 2022**

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

*Please be sure to pick up a red ribbon and a Sharpie as you enter the worship space. You will be invited to write a blessing or a prayer for some aspect of creation. At the end of the sermon, you may go to the front of the worship space and tie your ribbon to our “burning bush.”*

# 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.**

#### OPENING HYMN GTG 41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above vs. 1, 3, and 4



1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!  
3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,  
4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:  
Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;  
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.  
and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

## 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

Exodus 3:1-5

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

### RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 139

God, my Maker, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
**you discern my thoughts from far away.**

You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**Even before a word is on my tongue, you know it completely.**

You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; I cannot attain it.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**

**Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

**In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.**

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

**I try to count them—they are more than the sand;**

**I come to the end—I am still with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Pilgrims' Hymn*

by Stephen Paulus

performed by The Tabernacle Choir

GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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 713 Touch the Earth Lightly

all verses

As this hymn is sung, please come forward to the “bush”



1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,  
 2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,  
 3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,  
 4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:  
 a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,  
 wa - ter that bless - es and air that is sweet,  
 God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,  
 we who would fos - ter clouds of di - sas - ter,  
 health in God’s gar - den, hope in God’s chil - dren,  
 teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
 God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!  
 re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.  
 us - ing us gent - ly and mak - ing us one.

An Australian aboriginal saying opens this gentle hymn from New Zealand on the stewardship of creation. “Clouds of disaster” in the second stanza refers to the testing of nuclear devices then occurring in the Pacific Ocean, but the concern for all created things is timeless.

## PROFESSION 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.**

*(Gurukul Theological college, India / adapted by Keld B. Hansen 2009)*

## JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

## CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION WITH ALL GOD'S SAINTS

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE AND GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is here.

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

**It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.**

We thank you, God, for we are wondrously made.

**You know us inside and out, and are with us always.**

Even in the farthest places you are with us;

**even in the darkest times you are light.**

You set us free from all that enslaves us,  
and ask us to set one another free.

**And so we come to your table to be renewed again,  
singing your praise:**

SANCTUS GTG 68

Holy, Holy, You Are Holy

*refrain only; sing twice*

*Refrain*

“Ho - ly, ho - ly, you are ho - ly,” ev - ery  
an - gel voice pro - claims; “All the earth re - flects your  
glo - ry; ev - ery tongue sings out your praise!”

Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and cup,  
that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ.

**Pour out your Spirit on us,  
that we may be for the world the Body of Christ,  
with courage and compassion no matter the cost,  
for the sake of the healing of the world. Amen**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION/BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### 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.**

*(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 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 520      Taste and See    *refrain only; repeat as needed*

*Refrain*

The musical notation is for a hymn in 4/4 time, marked 'All'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness'. The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

of the Lord. O taste and see, taste and  
see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

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### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we thank you for this mystery in which you have given yourself to us. In the love of Jesus you have salted us with your love, that we may serve you for the sake of justice, with courage and compassion. May this mystery live in us always. **Amen.**

### SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

\*CLOSING HYMN GTG 611 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee vs. 1 and 2  
**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
 God of glory, Lord of love!  
 Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
 opening to the sun above.  
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
 drive the dark of doubt away.  
 Giver of immortal gladness,  
 fill us with the light of day.**

**All thy works with joy surround thee;  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
call us to rejoice in thee.**

\*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

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

## TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, September 4

9:30 am Worship with Communion  
(Onsite and Online)

2:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios

## THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, September 5

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 6

12:00 pm Conference Call \*

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

1:00 pm Mission Prayer Group

5:15 pm Christian Education Committee

6:00 pm Building Usage:  
Brain Injury Support

Wednesday, September 7

6:30 am Prayer Group

Thursday, September 8

5:30 pm Building Usage: LaBranza de Dios

Sunday, September 11

9:30 am Worship (Onsite and Online)

**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#



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.*

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

Sue Chipman

The Tabernacle Choir

Louis Bouchard

