

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



January 1, 2023

Welcome to worship this morning!

Bulletin Cues: **Bold** indicates congregational response, * indicates please stand, if able
Bathrooms are located down the hall, around the corner to the left. A family bathroom is located in the hallway on the right hand side (next to the Kidz Klub).

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP


Praise the Holy One, sun, moon and shining stars!

Praise God, earth and sea and all its monsters, fire and snow, hail and frost!
Mountains and hills, fruit trees and cedars, wild animals and birds, praise!


Rulers and peoples, men and women, young and old, praise!
For God has raised up a ruler for all people,
a gift for God's faithful, for those who are dear to God. Praise the Holy One!

OPENING HYMN GTG 143

Angels from the Realms of Glory




1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;
Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,
you have seen his na - tal star:
to the e - ter - nal Three in One:



come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Today God gives us a new year, a new day in this world of beauty and wonder.
Yet Herod still reigns with evil and violence,
with the domination, oppression, injustice and enmity by which Empire works.

**We acknowledge that we live in a world
of cruelty and injustice, a world that needs to be healed.**

**We confess that acts of injustice are carried out in our name,
that we are complicit in injustice and oppression.**

God of love, we ask your forgiveness, and trust your grace.

Silence for reflection

In this new year, we *can* be made new people,
Set free from the world's ways of domination and cruelty.
Baptized into Christ, renewed by the Holy Spirit, we are freed from old ways.

**We resolve to live new lives, lives of mercy, love and justice,
In the name of Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God, you spoke to us through the prophets, and led us in your way.

You spoke to Joseph in his dreams, and guided him through danger.

You led the magi by a star, and guided them to Christ.

Alleluia! Speak to us, God, and guide us.

Be present with us, Christ, and save us.

Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 63:7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that
he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast
love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he
became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that
saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried
them all the days of old.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 148

Praise God! Praise the Beloved from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

Praise God, all angels and all the heavenly host!

Sun and moon; and all you shining stars, praise God's Name!

Praise the Eternal, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Praise the One who commanded and you were created.

The One who established you forever, who fixed your boundaries eternally.

Praise your Creator from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Leaders of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Beloved,

whose name alone is exalted; whose glory is above earth and heaven.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly/Silent Night, Holy Night

CPC Choir

Composed by Jonathan Willcocks,

quoting *W Żłobie Leży* (Polish) and *Stille Nacht* by Franz Gruber

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2: 13-23

In this reading, the Wise Persons have already come and gone. We'll meet them again next week. But today, a new day in a new year, we taste the sorrow that accompanied the glory, and know Jesus not as infant king, but as refugee, fleeing for his life with his family. What new word does this story have for us today?

Now after the wise ones left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise ones, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

'A voice was heard in Ramah,

wailing and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, ‘He will be called a Nazorean.’

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The World We Dream

Pastor Jan

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 154 Jesus Entered Egypt

all verses



1 Je - sus en - tered E - gypt flee - ing Her - od's hand,
2 Je - sus was a mi - grant liv - ing as a guest
3 Je - sus cross - es bor - ders with the wan - dering poor,



liv - ing as an a - lien in a for - eign land.
with the friends and strang - ers who could of - fer rest.
search - ing for a ref - uge, for an o - pen door.



Far from home and coun - try with his fam - i - ly,
Do we hold wealth light - ly so that we can share
Do our words and ac - tions an - swer Je - sus' plea:



was there room and wel - come for this ref - u - gee?
shel - ter with the home - less, and a - bun - dant care?
“Give the low - ly wel - come, and you wel - come me”?

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,
hear our prayer.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE AND GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is with you.

And also with you.

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, that you make all things, and make all things new....

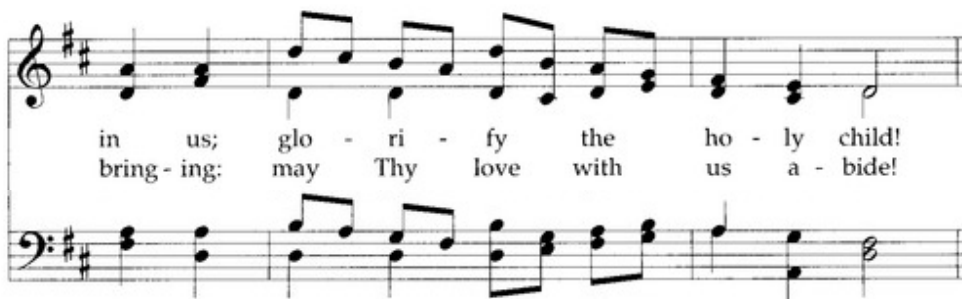
And so with all your saints we sing your praise.

SANCTUS

O Sanctissima (O Thou Joyful)

1. O thou joy - ful, O thou won - der - ful grace - re - veal - ing
2. O thou joy - ful, O thou won - der - ful love - re - veal - ing

Christ - mas - tide! Je - sus came to win us from all sin with -
Christ - mas - tide! Loud ho - san - nas sing - ing and all prais - es



WORDS OF INSTITUTION/BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father and Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

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 Peace, Peace, Peace (Tune: GTG 124 Still, Still, Still)

**Peace, peace, peace, God grant you peace my friends.
The Christ child comes, so sweet and tender,
Greet him with your trust and wonder.
Peace, peace, peace, God be with you, my friends.**

**Love, love, love, love light your way my friends,
Here at the manger humbly kneeling,
Gladly going, serving, healing,
Love light your way my friends.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we thank you for this mystery in which you have given yourself to us. You dwell among us in the poor and the vulnerable, and you call us as well to this holy self-giving. Send us into the world as your light, to care for all your holy children, in the name of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *vs. 1 and 3*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

As you leave this place, may you go knowing that
from generation to generation, we have been claimed and loved.
From generation to generation, God has been by our side.
From generation to generation, we are not alone.
The God of yesterday and of tomorrow
knows you by name, loves you, and calls you forth,
saying, “Go be the person you are called to be,
love wildly, do justice, and come back soon.”

Amen. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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

Church Staff

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	Bruce Felger
Special Music	CPC Choir
IT Support	Louis Bouchard

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Happy New Year!

9:30 am Worship with Communion - Onsite and Online

2:30 pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios

Monday, January 2

Office Closed

Tuesday, January 3

12:00 pm Conference Call *

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, January 4

6:30 am Prayer Group

7:00 pm CPC Choir

Thursday, January 5

5:30 pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, January 8

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

10:30 am De-greening of the Church

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

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**

+1 413-889-2244 PIN: 433 818 991 #



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughters Jenny
and Elissa

Connie Holst

MariLynn Johnson

Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa

Shannon Cisewski

Judy Robb's brother, Dan

Ron Murray

Dick and Nancy Massaro

*To be added to the prayer list,
please contact Pastor Jan at
pastor@cpcrochester.org.*

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

COFFEE HOUR ANYONE?

The worship committee is suggesting that CPC restart the coffee hour after Sunday service with the guidelines below.

- The individual(s) who host coffee hour will be the only individual(s) serving to minimize handling of items.
- Coffee hour hosts will wear a mask and gloves while serving.
- It is strongly encouraged that items be individually wrapped.
- Disposable cups will be used.



Sign up for a Sunday – in the narthex or by contacting the church office.



Annual Report/ Annual Meeting Sunday, January 22, after worship, will be the Annual Congregational Meeting. Plan to attend as CPC will look back on the past year, recognize leaders that have completed their term, vote for the new class of elders and deacons, and look forward to the year ahead. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

The **annual report deadline is Monday, January 9th**, with the hopes that the annual report will be available on Sunday, January 15th.

