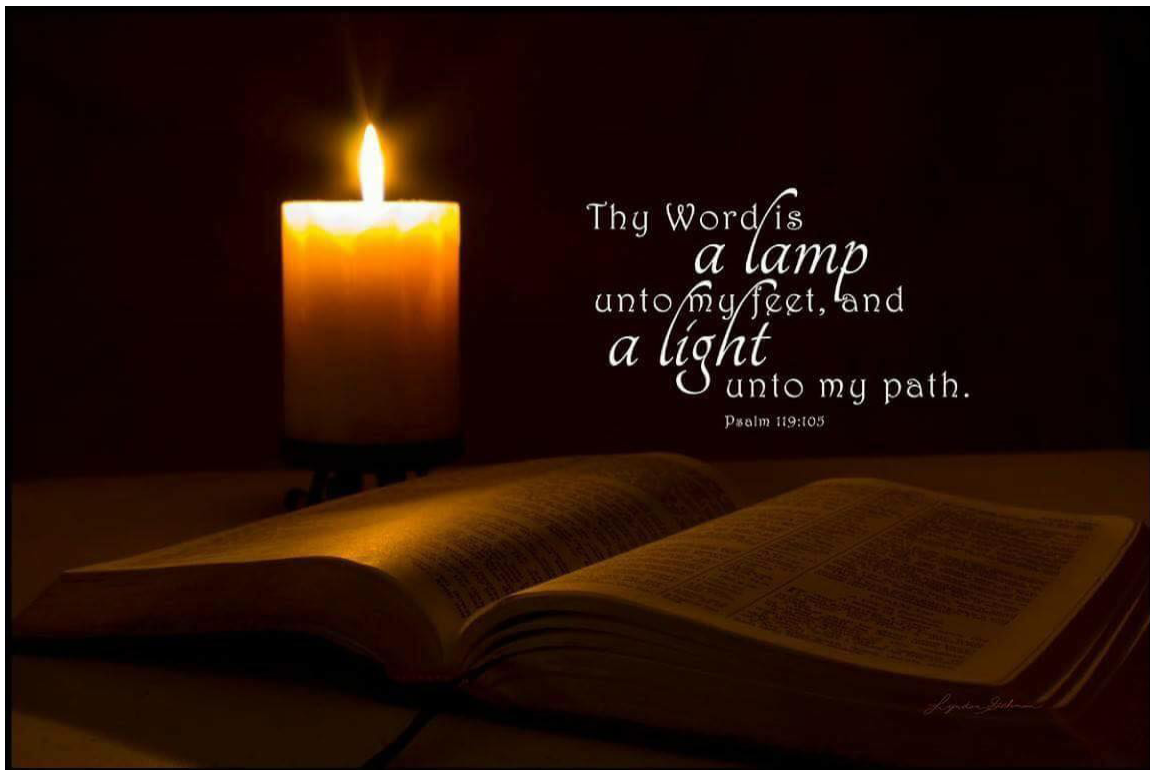


July 16, 2023

Community Presbyterian Church
open hearted, open minded



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us offer our praise to God,
for we come to learn God's ways:

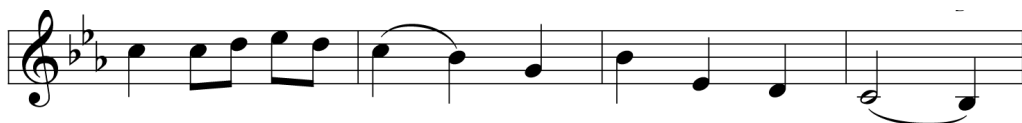
**O God, your word is a lamp to our feet,
a light to our path;
we lift our heart to you
as we seek to worship, adore, and follow you.**



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Knowing that God is compassionate to all, let us confess our sins.

O God, we are quick to say,

“We didn’t know.”

“We didn’t mean to.”

“We didn’t expect that to happen.”

But, we have not tended the soil of our lives.

**We let it stay shallow and rocky
by not learning from the experience of others.
We let it be riddled with thorns
by succumbing to our own prejudices.
Life-giving God,
Help us to tend our soil.
Open us to being challenged,
enable us to learn,
so that your word will take root
and bear good fruit in our lives.**

There is no condemnation for us:
God has forgiven us that we might live according to the Spirit.
**The Spirit of God dwells within us.
Thanks be to God!**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let the fire of your Spirit open our hearts and minds to your word, O God. Help us to hear your voice and follow your paths all the days of our lives. **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 119:105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.

**I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your ordinances.**

I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.
The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.

**Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.**

**I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:1-11

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!"

"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the

one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Jerry Locula

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 458 Thy Word Is a Lamp unto my Feet

Refrain



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my



path. Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a



light un-to my path. When I feel a-fraid, and I



think I've lost my way, still you're there right be - side me.



Noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.



Please be near me to the end.

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,
hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy 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 lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 15

All Creatures of our God and King

Unison

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice
2 O broth - er wind with clouds and rain, you nur - ture gifts
3 O broth - er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad -
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain

Harmony

and with us sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
of fruit and grain. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
ows of the night. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
or sor - row grieve, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

O broth - er sun with gold - en beam, O sis - ter moon
O sis - ter wa - ter, flow - ing clear, make mu - sic for
Dear moth - er earth, who day by day un - folds such bless -
Christ bears your bur - dens and your fears; so, e - ven in

Harmony

with sil - ver gleam, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 your Lord to hear. Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ings on our way, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 the midst of tears, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Friends, there is work to be done. Jesus still sends us out into the world, to love and serve as the body of Christ. You don't need to pack a bag or bring a change of clothes; God will provide all we need.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us go into the world with God's liberating Word on our lips, until all are free, and all creation reconciled as one beloved community. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

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).

Church Staff		Serving in Worship Today	
Pianist	Glenna Muir	Guest Preacher	Jerry Locula
Custodian	Nancy Sanford	Liturgist	Sue Chipman
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch	IT Support	Louis Bouchard

Community Presbyterian Church

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Sunday, July 16

9:30 am Worship - **Outdoors and Online**
Bring your lawn chair!

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Monday - Friday, 8:00-4:00 pm

Building Usage: Med City Driving School

Tuesday, July 18

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, July 19

6:30 am Prayer Group at CPC

Thursday, July 20

5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, July 23

9:30 am Worship - **Onsite and Online**

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios



Judy Leal
Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughter Jenny
Connie Holst
Vera Atkinson's daughter, Teresa
Shannon Cisewski
Ron Murray
Dick and Nancy Massaro
The Hall Family
Larse and June Pillers

Online Worship:

Sundays 9:30 – 10:30am

<https://meet.google.com/vao-wjef-cbe>

+1 575-305-4527 PIN: 652 821 468 #

*To be added to the prayer list,
please contact the office via email:
office@cpcrochester.org.*

*Emergency Pastoral Support:
Rev. Carla Nelson: 507-254-1254*