

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



July 23, 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

We come. We wait.

We long. We hope.

We suffer. We pray.


We rejoice. We sing.

We know we are children of God.

We wait for Christ to set all things right.

*OPENING HYMN GTG 360

Christ is Coming!



1 Christ is com - ing! Let cre - a - tion from its groans and
2 Earth can now but tell the sto - ry of your bit - ter
3 With that bless - ed hope be - fore us, flutes are tuned and



la - bor cease; let the glo - rious proc - la - ma - tion
cross and pain; we shall yet be - hold your glo - ry,
harps are strung; let the might - y ad - vent cho - rus



hope re - store and faith in - crease: Christ is com - ing!
Lord, when you re - turn to reign: Christ is com - ing!
on - ward roll from tongue to tongue: Christ is com - ing!



Christ is com - ing! Come, O bless - ed Prince of peace.
Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the strain.
Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the song.

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.

**Ever-present God,
there is no place where you are not with us.
You see us at our worst and at our best.
There is much we would hide from you -
the ways we harm your creation,
the ways we mistreat others,
the ways we turn away when we should turn toward.
Even as you know us, forgive us.
Guide our thoughts, our words, our actions,
that you may delight in us as we delight in you.**

Beloved, hear the good news:
God knows us and forgives us
and leads us in the way of everlasting life.

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.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

SERMON

Shall Christian Nationalists win?

Rev. Paul Brandeis Rauschenbusch


RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 321


The Church's One Foundation




1 The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord.
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der this world sees her op-pressed,
 5 Yet she on earth has un-ion with God, the Three in One,



She is his new cre-a-tion by wa-ter and the word.
 by schis-ms rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won:



From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho-ly bride.
 yet saints their watch are keep-ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 O hap-py ones and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we,



With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.
 like them, the meek and low-ly, may live e-ter-nal-ly.

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 839

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

O what a foretaste of glory divine!

**Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

refrain: **This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above,
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (refrain)**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. (refrain)**

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

House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul graciously shared their sermon from the 3rd Sunday after Easter with us. It happened at the conclusion of The Didier Seminar 2023, a weekend event that they hosted April 21-23, 2023.

President and CEO of Interfaith Alliance, **Rev. Paul Raushenbush** served as Senior Vice President at Auburn Seminary, Executive Editor of HuffPost Religion, and Associate Dean of Religious Life and The Chapel at Princeton University. Most recently, he was Senior Advisor for Public Affairs and Innovation at Interfaith America.



An ordained Baptist minister, Rev. Raushenbush has been a leader in the interfaith movement to protect freedom and preserve democracy. He comes from a dual line of pioneers in the very work he has been called to do. As the great-grandson of the first Jewish Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis and great grandson of Baptist theologian Walter Rauschenbusch, a key figure in the Social Gospel movement, Rev. Paul Raushenbush's commitment to interfaith advocacy comes in part from his own interfaith background.

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Sunday, July 23

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Monday, July 24

10:00 am Mission Prayer Group

Tuesday, July 25

Office Closed

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

6:30 pm Session Meeting

7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, July 26

6:30 am Prayer Group at CPC

Thursday, July 27

5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, July 30

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

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 #



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

*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*

Church Staff

Pianist

Custodian

Office Manager

Glenna Muir

Nancy Sanford

Stephanie Pasch

Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist

IT Support

Peggy McCarty

Louis Bouchard