

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

October 1, 2023

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

Bathrooms are located down the hall, past the kitchen, around the corner to the left. A family bathroom is located across from the kitchen on the right hand side of the hallway (next to the Kidz Klub).

 PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



WELCOME AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

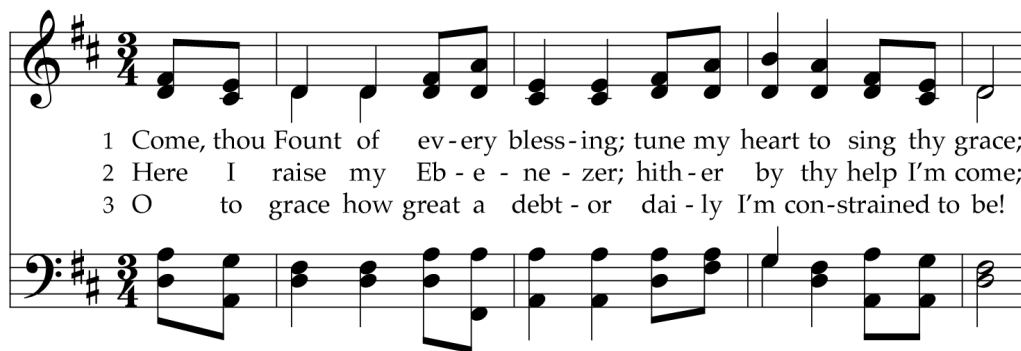
The Church's One Foundation
by Samuel S. Wesley, Arr. by Cindy Berry

Marlys Kool

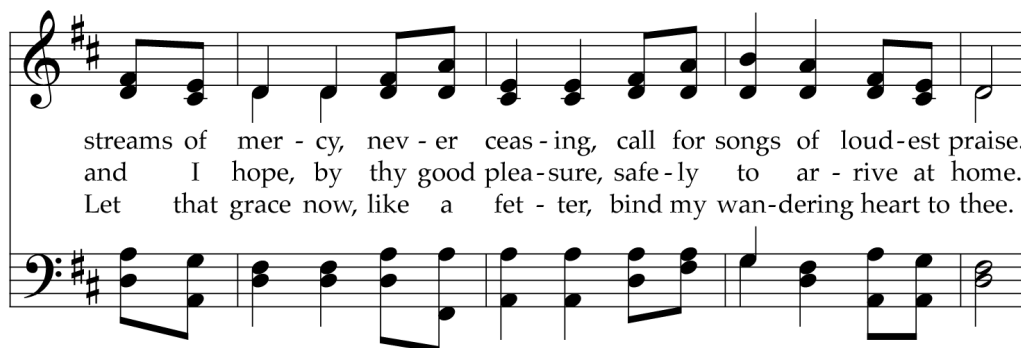
*CALL TO WORSHIP

People will come from east and west,
from north and south,
and will eat in the kingdom of God.

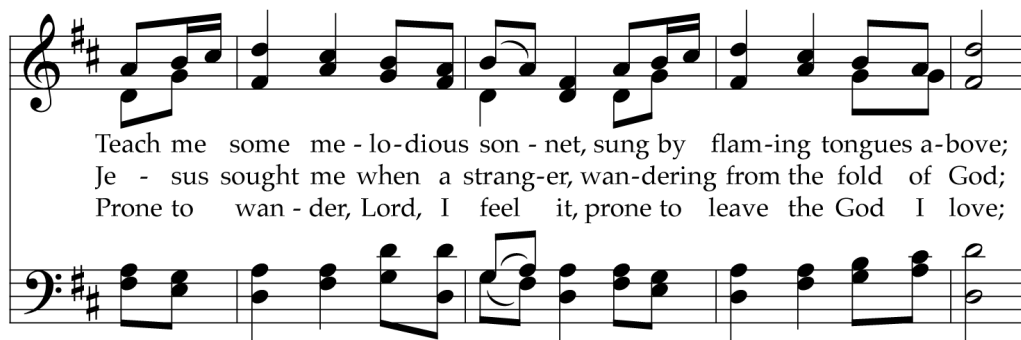
Thanks be to God for welcoming us to the table.
Let us worship God!



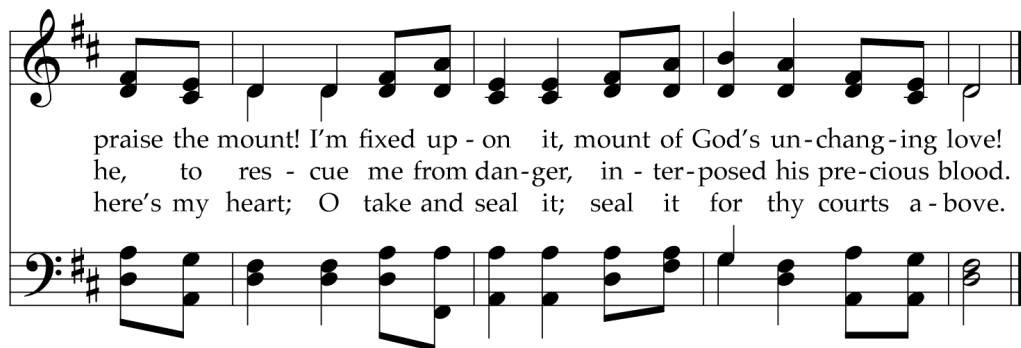
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Sin is our stumbling block. Repentance clears the way to hear and receive God's truth. Let us confess our sins together.

Gracious God, we are indebted to you and your generosity. But we fail to live as good stewards of all you have given us. We confiscate and consume far more than our fair share. We neglect the poor and trap people in poverty, claiming that debt forgiveness is unfair. God, liberate us from our spiritual and moral bondage. Free our world for jubilee. Reorder our priorities so all your nations and peoples may thrive. Amen.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bless us, O God, with ears to hear your truth, vision to discern your path, and feet ready to move into action, responding to your call. Inspire us as we hear your Word read and proclaimed. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 2:1-13

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21: 23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of

John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Question Authority

Rev. Tim Gerarden

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE


*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 293

Loving Spirit

verses 1-3



1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be,
2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAVERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,
hear our prayer.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE AND GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is truly right and our great joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe... Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

SANCTUS GTG 595

Holy, Holy, Holy

sing twice



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - does you!

My heart knows how to say to you: you are ho - ly, Lord!

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 GTG 523 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart *refrain*

Refrain



Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, thank you for welcoming us at this table and feeding us with Christ's presence. Now send us with the power of your Spirit into all the places of our world that need the good news of your redeeming love. Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 623 I've Got Peace like a River *next page*

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Filled and fed by the bounty of God's table,
the Spirit sends us into the world to live, and love, and serve as Christ's disciples.
As we go, may God bless us with faith, hope, peace and love.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

All the Way My Savior Leads Me
Music by Robert Lowry, Arr. by Cindy Berry

Marlys Kool

Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution.

623 I've Got Peace like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my

soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected today. Twenty-Five Percent of the offering will be shared locally. CPC has chosen the SE MN Interfaith Immigrant Legal Defense as our recipient this year.

Today, after worship, Mike Resman and Phil Wheeler will speak at our adult forum! So, grab a cup of coffee and stay to hear about the important work that they are doing!

Southeastern Minnesota Interfaith Immigrant Legal Defense (SMIILD) is a non-profit organization in the state of Minnesota. Their mission is to ensure the availability of immigration legal services for those who live or work in Southeastern Minnesota.

The fiscal sponsor that helped them to get started was the Diversity Council. They are now operating with the Rochester Area Foundation (RAF) as their fiscal sponsor.

They believe in the sanctity of the family and the inherent worth of every individual. They are working to ensure that the ideals of the United States apply to everyone residing in this community. These include the presumption of innocence, the right to legal counsel, equal treatment under the law, the right to be released on bail, and the right to humane treatment by government agents.

They are working to accomplish this by

1. Learning of and responding to the needs of our local immigrant communities.
2. Helping to ensure legal representation and justice for persons involved in the immigration court system. They have entered into a fourth year of a contract with Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota and The Advocates for Human Rights to accomplish this goal.

SMIILD is made up of members of faith communities and organizations that have endorsed the proposal for an Immigrant Legal Defense Fund or faith communities that have designated themselves as sanctuary or sanctuary support.

In addition to the 25% of the Peace and Global Witness offering, donations can be made:

- By check to CPC, memo SMIILD
- Online: SMIILD website at <https://www.smiild.org/>



Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

Sunday, October 1

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

10:30 am **Adult Forum: SMILD**

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Tuesday, October 3

9:30 am PW Bible Study

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

6:30 pm Christian Education Committee

7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, October 4

6:30 am Prayer Group at CPC

Thursday, October 5

5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, October 8

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

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*

Church Staff

Pianist
Custodian
Office Manager

Glenna Muir
Nancy Sanford
Stephanie Pasch

Serving in Worship Today

Guest Preacher
Liturgist
Guest Pianist
IT Support

Rev. Tim Gerarden
Sue Chipman
Marlys Kool
Louis Bouchard