

Community Presbyterian Church
open hearted, open minded



February 11, 2024

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

It is God who gathers us here.

**It is not our denomination that gathers us,
or our church staff or family, or our political parties.**

It is God who gathers us here.

**We find ourselves on the mountain this Transfiguration Day,
witnessing a last flash of glory before a forty-day journey.**

It is not about us; it is all about Jesus Christ.

**From the river Jordan to this place,
it is all about Jesus Christ.**

From Ash Wednesday toward Easter, it is all about Jesus Christ.

Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN GTG 409

God is Here

verses 1, 2, 4

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we

var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not

of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God is vaster than the night sky, brighter than the sun, and wilder than a tornado. Yet, God loves us enough to come to us in ways that we see and understand, including Jesus Christ. Let us open our hearts to God, confessing the ways that we have fallen short of God's call to love our neighbor and love the Lord. We can do so knowing that our Creator, who is both the Lion of Judah and the sacrificial lamb, listens.

Almighty God, when we encounter beauty and love and wonder in the world, so often we seek to control it, to contain it. Forgive us for all the ways we seek to pull things under our power, for the ways we fashion the world and put ourselves first. We are selfish, God. We push aside your command to love in order to seek comfort. Heavenly parent, we take this opportunity to acknowledge our lies and our denial, laying bare our hearts and minds before you now.

“Stand up, take your mat and walk.” Jesus says to the crippled man he has healed. We, too, are healed. Transformed by Christ's redemption, let us get up and walk together.

Thanks be to God.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Our God is the God who appeared to Moses on Mount Sinai and revealed God's self to Elijah in a "sound of sheer silence." This is the same God in our midst today. This is the same God who seeks us, who created us, who loves us. Holy Spirit, move in our hearts and minds that we might hear your message for us today. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing clearly the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus's sake. For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Hymn Sing

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one[a] on earth could brighten them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved;[b] listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

A new teaching, with authority! **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Carla

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

OFFERING

An offering plate is placed near the back of the room to receive your offerings and is available before, during the hymn of the day and shortly following the service.



We are stand - ing on ho - ly ground,
and I know that there are an - gels all a -
round; let us praise Je - sus
now; we are stand - ing in his
pres - ence on ho - ly ground.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God gifted us with free will that we might choose to worship the Almighty in our words, actions and thoughts. Let us make the choice now to honor the Word of God by the offering of our tithes, trusting that our money, freely given, will be a blessing to God and our neighbors.

Almighty, on the mountain top, you instructed Peter, James and John: "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" We are listening, God, and we hear your call to make the world a better place alongside your Holy Spirit. We offer you these gifts and our hearts alongside them. May they be blessed to do your bidding. **Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Mother, our Father, giver of life, Holiness of Presence;
may our hearts always bow to you.**

**Your Realm break forth, your delight blossom among us,
making this earth your heaven.**

Give us each moment our life, our breath.

Free us from being judged, as we free others from our judgments.

**Guide us safely past our desires and attachments,
and rescue us from the power of evil.**

For the world is yours; the only real power is yours;

Creation's splendor is yours, in this present moment, and in eternity. Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at
3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and
Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

Refrain

star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

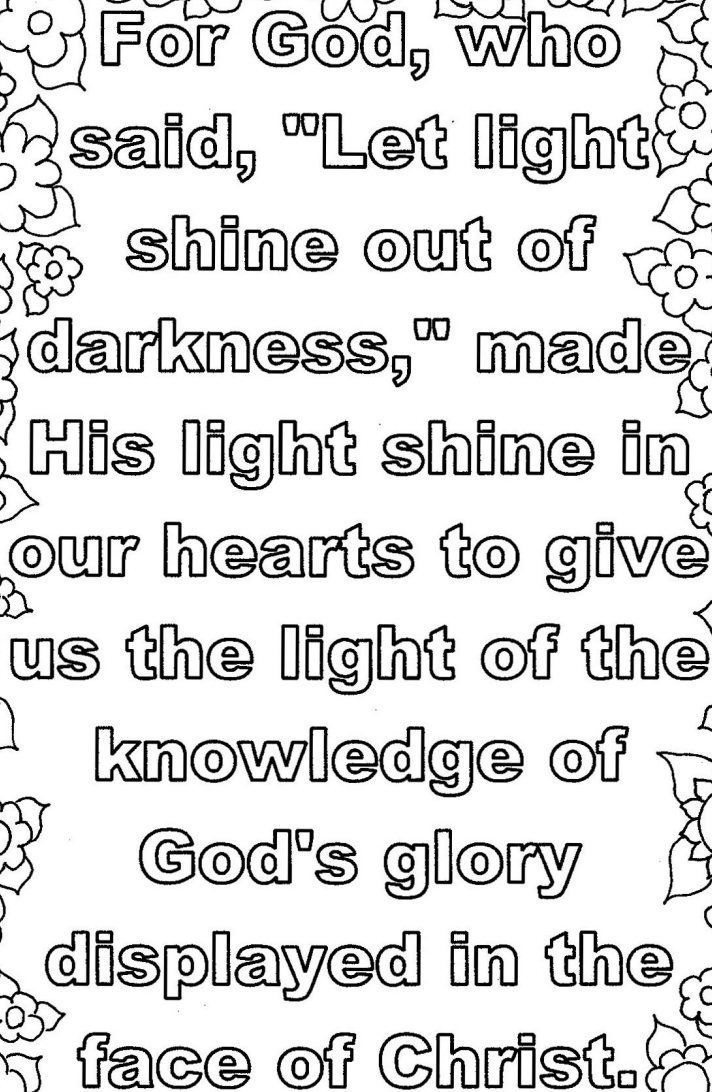
May our eyes be open to the ways the Almighty reveals the divine. It may not be as grand as the Transfiguration, but it is there: in the whiteness of snow, in the love of animals, in the joy of a good meal, in the beating of our hearts. Take time to drink in the wonder of this life, and then go out to share it with others.

In the name of our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, may we know God's blessing and be at peace.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Parts of the liturgy written by Rose Schrott Taylor and provided for free distribution. Additional parts of the liturgy are from *Call to Worship*.

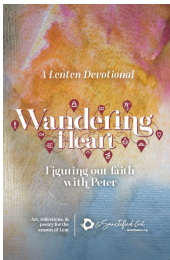


For God, who
said, "Let light
shine out of
darkness," made
His light shine in
our hearts to give
us the light of the
knowledge of
God's glory
displayed in the
face of Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:6

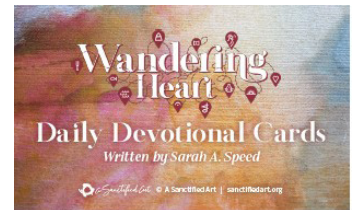


Lent begins this week!
Ash Wednesday is
February 14.
Worship will be at
6:30 pm.



Printed Lenten Devotionals are available today, so everyone can start using it on Ash Wednesday, February 14th.

A pack of Daily Devotional Cards can also be picked up today. These include a question and a prayer for each day. These cards are likely to be used as a resource for the Daily Texts.



Pick a way to receive messages for Daily Texts:

- A) If you have a smartphone, get push notifications. On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/ga2hfb Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.
- B) If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications. Text the message @ga2hfb to the number 81010. If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @ga2hfb to (608)467-4108. Note: you'll be asked if you are a student (s) or a parent (p). Choose either one. The application was designed for schools, but will work for our purposes.

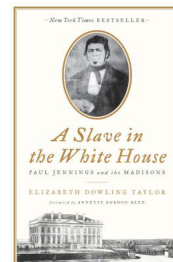
If you received daily texts in the past, you're likely still on the list and you don't need to re-sign up.

* Standard text message rates apply.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The book for February is *A Slave in the White House* by Elizabeth Dowling Taylor. The discussion will be held next Sunday, February 18, following worship.



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Sunday, February 11

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Tuesday, February 13

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

6:30 pm Building & Grounds Committee

7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, February 14

9:00 am No Prayer Group this week

6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship

Thursday, February 15

5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, February 18

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

10:40 am Book Discussion Group

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

Nellie Brovold's mother, Jacqueline

Glenna Muir

Roland Ronningen and his parents

Building Partners:

Children's Place Preschool

Labranza de Dios

To be added to the prayer list,

please contact the pastor: pastor@cpcrochester.org or

the office: 507-280-9291 or via email: office@cpcrochester.org.

Emergency Pastoral Support: Pastor Carla Nelson: 507-254-1254

Church Staff

Bridge Pastor

Pianist

Custodian

Office Manager

Rev. Carla Nelson

Glenna Muir

Nancy Sanford

Stephanie Pasch

Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist

IT Support

Margie Petersen

Louis Bouchard