

May 19, 2024

Community Presbyterian Church  
open hearted, open minded



Welcome to worship this morning!

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*How Can I Keep from Singing*  
arr. by Craig Courtney

CPC Choir

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come! Let us speak plainly and boldly of our faith.

**The Spirit of God descends upon us,  
and Christ's promise to us is fulfilled.**

The expression of the Spirit's power  
in our community is a wonder to behold.

**We each have a different voice,  
yet we witness God's joy together! Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

How can this be, wonder-working God?

You bring the gift of the Spirit to be with us.

Our Comforter, our Advocate.

Our Counselor, our Wisdom.

These are but a few of the names we give  
as the Spirit speaks to our hearts.

We give you thanks

for the unending gifts of the Spirit.

How can this be,

that we have what we need when we need it?

You, O God, are one and all things to us,

and we raise our Hallelujahs. **Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN GTG 288

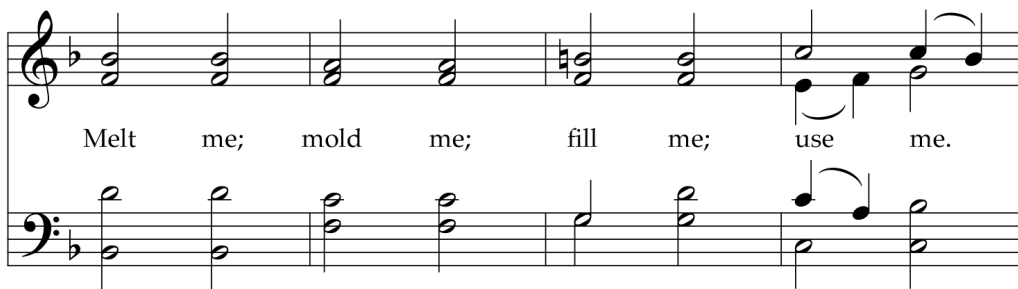
## Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Spirit of the Living God'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: 'Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.'



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.



Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

People of God,

although we would like for our story to sound like Pentecost —

a story where everyone from every nation is heard,

the Spirit is visible, and people are united —

we know that our story sounds very different, painfully different.

Thus, we come to the portion in the service

where we confess our sins, where we practice truth-telling,

acknowledging that we desperately need God's Spirit in our lives.

Let us confess our sins together, to the God of the early church and the God of the here and now. Let us pray:

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty God, you showed up in dazzling light and in a still, small voice.

**You showed up as a tiny baby lying in a manger.**

**You showed up on a long dusty walk to Emmaus.**

You keep showing up in the most mysterious ways,  
so we should have known you might show up like a powerful wind,  
bringing with you the reminder of warmth,  
and the ability for us to hear one another.

**We should have known, and yet we didn't.**

**We don't. We doubt.**

Like the disciples on the way to Emmaus, we can't see you.

Like the weary people of Bethlehem, we don't make room for you.

**And like members of the early church community,  
we look for excuses to explain your presence away.**

Loving God, forgive our weak hearts,  
because from the beginning you have been here, revealing yourself to us.

**And from the beginning, we have struggled to see that.**

Despite our bad track record, we come to you today,  
asking that once more you might give us a second chance;  
we ask that once more you might pour your Spirit out on us.

**For we are in desperate need of you**

**and the mysterious ways you keep showing up. Amen.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

People of God, hear this good news: Despite our failings, God is here, and God has poured out God's spirit on all flesh. We are united, we are made clean, and we are free to dream new dreams for this broken world.

**Thanks be to God!**

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Friends, join me in a meditative prayer for illumination.

I invite you to bow your heads and open your non-dominant hand, palm side up.

Trace the shape of the wind on your palm in honor of the way the Spirit can move in us.

Now, trace a flame on your palm, remembering how God can show up in mysterious ways, remembering how the presence of God warms and purifies us.

Now, clasp your hands, lacing your fingers together, remembering the way in which Scripture calls us into unity with one another.

With clear minds and focused hearts, I pray that we may hear the words of Scripture today, and be receptive to the way in which God speaks to us through this good word. In God's holy name we pray. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.  
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,  
and they shall prophesy.  
And I will show portents in the heaven above

and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.  
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

RESPONSIVE READING                      Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.

**There is the sea, great and wide;  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.**

There go the ships  
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

**These all look to you**

**to give them their food in due season;  
when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.**

When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.

**When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the ground.**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works—  
who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the Lord.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

**Praise the Lord!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*I Thank You, Lord*  
by Joseph M. Martin

CPC Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

This we declare by the Word of the Lord, who died and rose again,  
and is coming in glory to reign forever.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Carla

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Today we will join our offering with thousands of other Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations around the country as we receive this year's Pentecost Offering. This offering supports the youth and young adult ministries of the Church, and we are able to retain a portion of this offering for our own ministries with youth and young people. Thank you for all the ways that you give!

*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.*

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 66

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain



Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my



heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the



Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*



1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's

2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the



mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me, it looked so

bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this



fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine. *to Refrain*

track. It runs to heav - en and then right back.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.20*

**God the Holy Spirit  
fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life.  
The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church  
as the community in which people are reconciled  
to God and to one another.  
The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness  
as they forgive one another  
and to enjoy the peace of God  
as they make peace among themselves.  
In spite of their sin,  
the Spirit gives people power  
to become representatives of Jesus Christ  
and his gospel of reconciliation to all.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you have given us absolutely everything we have.

You gave us sunsets and speckled eggs, tiny newborn hands and silver moons,  
so that we could know what beauty looks like.

You gave us major keys and harmonies, forgiveness and poetry,  
so that we could know what love sounds like.

You gave us hands to build, fire to warm, water to clean and food to fill,  
so that we could know what peace feels like.

And you gave us hearts to give, minds to hope, hands to serve and mouths to pray,  
so that we know what your Kingdom loves like.

So today we pray that you might be able to use these humble gifts  
to bring your kingdom here,  
so that more may know what beauty looks like,  
what love sounds like and what peace feels like,  
saying all the while, "thank you, thank you, thank you."

For you have given us everything we have.  
Gratefully we pray. **Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Mother and Father in heaven, holy be your name.  
Impose your reign that we may do your will, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today this one day's bread.  
Forgive our wrongs as we forgive those who do wrong against us.  
Save us from our temptations and keep us from doing evil,  
For the Realm, the power, and the glory are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen.**

## SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

\*CLOSING HYMN GTG      This Little Light of Mine  
*We will pass the Light of the Holy Spirit,  
similar to passing the Light of Christ on Christmas Eve.  
Watch and listen for further instructions.*

**This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, to show my love.**

**2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine....**

**3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine....**

**4 When I see my neighbor comin', I'm gonna let it shine...**

**5 Give Love & Grace to everyone, I'm gonna let it shine....**

## \*BLESSING AND CHARGE

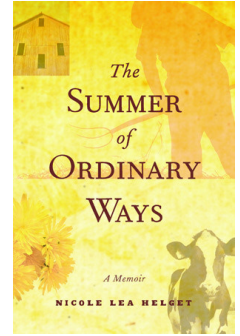
Now may you go from this service of worship with refreshed faith from that same Pentecost wind, warmed with hope from that same Pentecost flame, and reminded you are loved in language you understand, just as it was spoken by those same Pentecost tongues. And may the God who gives, Jesus, the one given, and the Spirit who gives us to one another go with you. **Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

# BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The Book Discussion Group will meet TODAY, Sunday, May 19th, following worship. They will discuss *The Summer of Ordinary Ways: a Memoir* by Nicole Lea Helget.



## *Today, Sunday, May 19th, is Music Appreciation Sunday!*

The musicians at Community Presbyterian Church bless the congregation and the worship services with their musical contributions. Recently, we welcomed Jennifer Taylor to CPC to lead this area. CPC looks forward to more wonderful music!

| <b>CPC Choir Members</b> | <b>Years</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Ivy Pillers              | 25           |
| Bruce Felger             | 21           |
| Carole Kinion Copeland   | 12           |
| Mark Neville             | 13           |
| Sue Chipman              | 7            |
| Nellie Brovold           | 3            |

| <b>Pianist at CPC</b> | <b>Years</b> |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Glenna Muir           | 8            |



# *Thank you*

# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

**Sunday, May 19 Pentecost**  
**Music Appreciation Sunday**  
**9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online**  
**10:40 am Book Discussion Group**  
 2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

**Monday, May 20**  
 9:30 am Mission Prayer Group  
 12:00 pm Items due for the newsletter  
 (both June and July)  
 6:00 pm Building Use: Med City Tai Chi

**Tuesday, May 21**  
 12:00 pm Items for the Bulletin are Due  
 7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

**Wednesday, May 22**  
 Children's Place last day of school  
 9:00 am Prayer Group

**Thursday, May 23**  
 5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

**Sunday, May 26**  
**9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online**  
 2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios



Judy Leal  
 Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,  
 especially daughters Jenny & Elissa  
 Connie Holst  
 Vera Atkinson, Karen and Pastor  
 Carla and their family  
 Ron Murray  
 Dick Massaro  
 Nellie Brovold's mother, Jacqueline  
 Roland Ronningen and his parents  
 Mary Alice Richardson

*To be added to the prayer list, please  
 contact the pastor: [pastor@cpcrochester.org](mailto:pastor@cpcrochester.org).  
 org or the office: 507-280-9291 or via  
 email: [office@cpcrochester.org](mailto:office@cpcrochester.org). Emergency  
 Pastoral Support: Pastor Carla Nelson:  
 507-254-1254*

## Church Staff

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Bridge Pastor  | Rev. Carla Nelson |
| Music Director | Jennifer Taylor   |
| Pianist        | Glenna Muir       |
| Custodian      | Nancy Sanford     |
| Office Manager | Stephanie Pasch   |

## Serving in Worship Today

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Liturgist     | Mark Neville   |
| Special Music | CPC Choir      |
| IT Support    | Louis Bouchard |