

Community Presbyterian Church  
open hearted, open minded



**May 5, 2024**

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to join with all the earth in praise:

**to sing a new song to the Lord,  
who has done marvelous things,  
who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.**

We praise the Lord with joyful noises joining the symphony of the earth:

**the roar of the ocean,  
the call of the birds,  
the wind across the hills,  
people in every corner of the globe.**

On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,  
**we greet you with joy, our living God!**

## OPENING HYMN GTG 311

Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather



1 Here, O Lord, your ser - vants gath - er, hand we link with hand;  
2 Man - y are the tongues we speak, scat - tered are the lands;  
3 Na - ture's se - crets o - pen wide, chang - es nev - er cease;  
4 Grant, O God, an age re - newed, filled with death - less love;



look - ing toward our Sav - ior's cross, joined in love we stand.  
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's de - mands.  
where, O where, can wea - ry souls find the source of peace?  
help us as we work and pray; send us from a - bove



As we seek the realm of God, we u - nite to pray:  
While in dark - ness hope ap - pears, call - ing age and youth:  
Un - to all those sore dis - tressed, torn by end - less strife:  
truth and cour - age, faith and power need - ed in our strife:



Je - sus, Sav - ior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.  
Je - sus, teach - er, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.  
Je - sus, heal - er, bring your balm, for you are the Life.  
Je - sus, Sav - ior, be our Way; be our Truth, our Life.

### CALL TO CONFESSION

There is nothing that can separate us from God's love. Therefore, let's confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and help us transform our lives.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Tender God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us, that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. How can a faith like that conquer the world? Nourish us again, to blossom with whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with joy. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the Good News! The only one who could judge us calls us friends.

**Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.**

By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.

**Thanks be to God!**

### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, help us to hear familiar words with fresh ears, and to take your Holy Word to us seriously, as guide and pattern for our lives. **Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:44–48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these

people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

**His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.**

The Lord has made known his victory;

he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

**He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.**

**All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

**Let the sea roar and all that fills it,  
the world and those who live in it.**

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy  
at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

**He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*If We Truly Believe*

CPC Choir

By Don Besig

GOSPEL READING

John 15:9–17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose

you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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 Julie

### 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.*

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 137      He Came Down

He came down that we may have love; he

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may

have love; hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

*Additional stanzas:*

- ... that we may have light
- ... that we may have peace
- ... that we may have joy

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God, we bring you our offerings today, and ask that you bless them.**

**Bless the money in the plates that it might be saved, stewarded and spent in ways that honor you. Bless the tasks we will undertake this week that we might be coworkers in your coming kingdom. Bless the hours of our week – 167 until we meet again – that our lives may be our offering to you. Bless us to be blessings in this world. Amen.**

## JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS 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

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

**It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.**

Loving God, at your table Christ prepares a place for us.

**We come to your table, grateful for our belonging.**

In your house there are many rooms.

**In your house we have many roommates,**

**siblings who are also God's beloved people.**

We come as one with all creation as we sing together.

## SANCTUS GTG 595

Holy, Holy, Holy

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

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





1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,  
 Words of com - fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.  
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
 mes - sengers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.





\* BENEDICTION

The blessing of the holy, triune God, who was and is and is to come - first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega - be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**

Go in peace to love the Lord your God with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself.

**Amen. Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

*Liturgy written by Carol Prickett and provided for free distribution.*



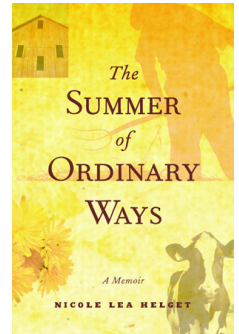
**Our Annual Spring Fling is set for TODAY!  
Sunday, May 5th, 12:00 - 4:00 pm.**

We will be doing spring cleaning and small fix-it jobs around the church. Many hand make light work! Please bring cleaning supplies and tools for washing windows and other indoor projects. Labranza de Dios, our building partners, will be joining us for the spring fling and providing a meal! Don't miss this important joint event!

**BOOK DISCUSSION  
GROUP**



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



**Sunday Volunteers**

Each week, we need a liturgist and fellowship volunteers. Both are important ways to serve and make Community Presbyterian Church feel like the warm and welcoming community that it is! Sign up in the narthex or by emailing Stephanie ([office@cpcrochester.org](mailto:office@cpcrochester.org)) to help out in these ways!





**PENTECOST**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

*Let us pray –*

*God of Every Age,  
may we return thanks to you  
by enlivening a world  
where our children know  
they are safe,  
have what they need to thrive,  
and are left with a world  
that is more like your reign of  
justice, love and peace.  
In Christ's name, Amen.*

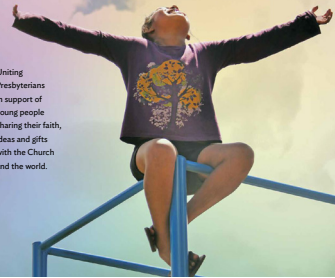


PENTECOST  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

**“I am coming to you.”**

—JOHN 14:18b

Uniting  
Presbyterians  
in support of  
young people  
sharing their faith,  
ideas and gifts  
with the Church  
and the world.



**The Pentecost Special Offering will be collected on Sunday, May 19th.**

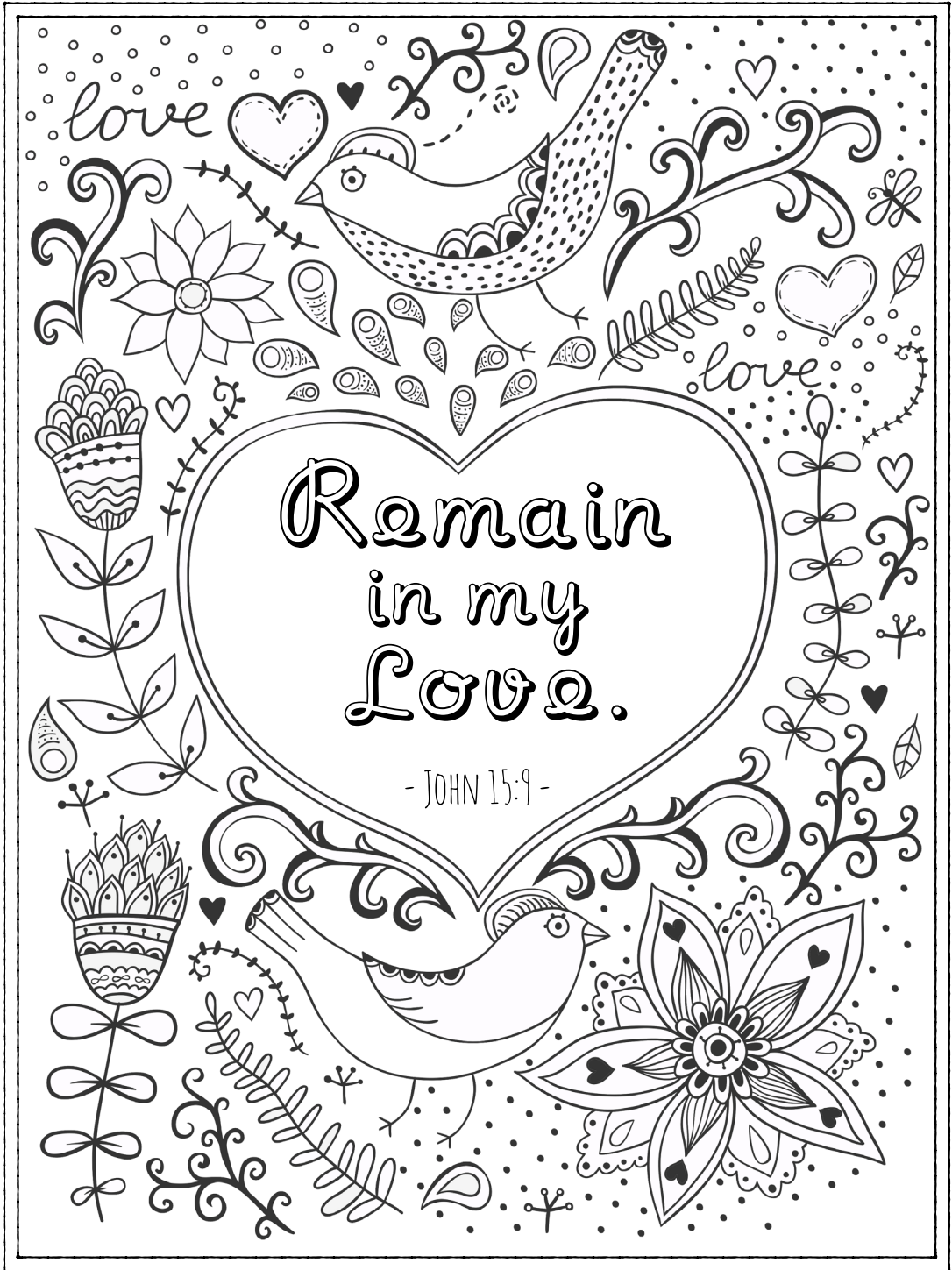
Pentecost is one of the most significant holidays on the church calendar. It is the day churches celebrate the birthday of the church, and it is an opportunity to recommit to the church's mission and ministry right here in Rochester and around the globe! It's a joyous occasion where the Holy Spirit is invited to guide the church toward God's reign through the work together as a faith community.



**Also on May 19th,  
Music Appreciation Sunday!**

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

Be sure to attend worship on Sunday, May 19th, when we recognize the contribution our musicians make to CPC!



# Community Presbyterian Church

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## Sunday, May 5

- 9:30 am **Worship with Communion**  
- **Onsite and Online**
- 2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

## Monday, May 6

- 9:30 am Mission Prayer Group
- 6:00 pm Building Use: Med City Tai Chi

## Tuesday, May 7

- 12:00 pm Items for the Bulletin are Due
- 7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

## Wednesday, May 8

- 9:00 am Prayer Group
- 7:30 pm CPC Choir

## Thursday, May 9

- 5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

## Sunday, May 12

- 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's daughter, Teresa  
Shannon Cisewski  
Ron Murray  
Dick Massaro and family  
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@cpchester.org](mailto:pastor@cpchester.org).  
org or the office: 507-280-9291 or via  
email: [office@cpchester.org](mailto:office@cpchester.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

Guest Preacher	Rev. Julie Beck
Liturgist	Bruce Felger
Special Music	CPC Choir
IT Support	Louis Bouchard