

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

October 6, 2024

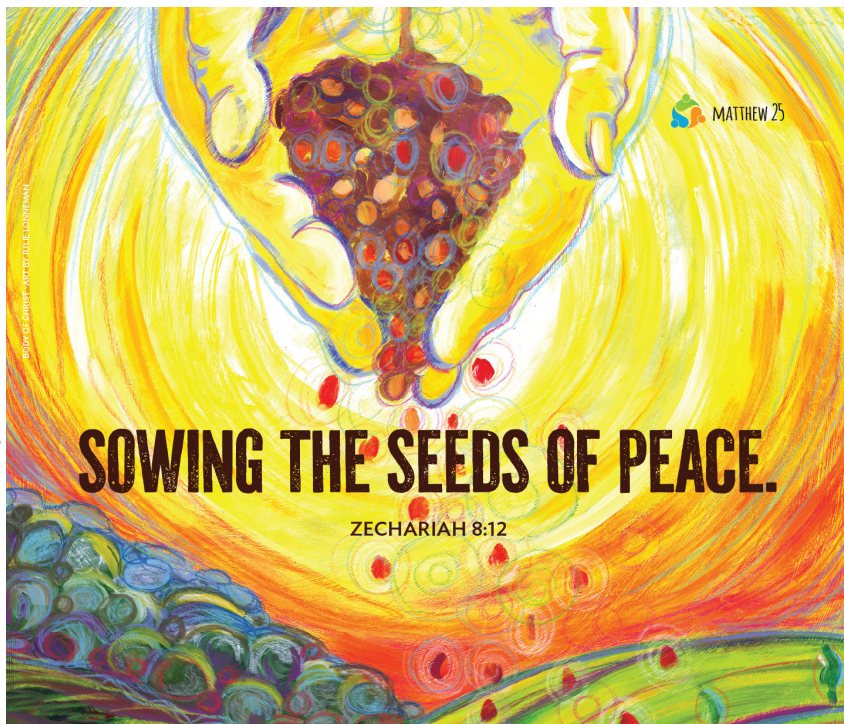
Welcome to
worship this morning!

Bulletin Cues:

Bold indicates
congregational

response,

* indicates please stand,
if able



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather from the west to the east,
from the south to the north,
to celebrate the God of peace
who accompanies us in our acts of peace.
This God of peace accompanies us
in each and every circumstance around us.

We praise God's name! Amen!

OPENING PRAYER:

“A Non-Traditional Blessing” by Sister Ruth Fox

Our God who is Our Creator God Our Heavenly Father

Bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships.

Bless us with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people.

Bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war.

Bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world.

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN GTG 340

This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Faced with God's goodness we recognize our failings.

In the knowledge of God's mercy,

we dare tell the truth about ourselves and our world.

In the confidence of God's children let us confess our sins.

**Gracious Lord, creator of this universe,
 in your generosity you have given us
 a world of abundance and diversity,
 yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.**

**We confess that we have defaced your creation
and poisoned our environment
through our consumerist behavior and for personal gain.
In Christ, you made us brothers and sisters
and intended for us to be united,
and yet we have built walls to separate us
from those who are different from us.
You gave us wisdom and creativity
and we have used those to trick each other
and to develop weapons of destruction and death.
You gave us laws to order our lives
and we have abused them
to take revenge and punish our enemies.
We love war rather than strive for peace.
We ignore the poor and the weak
and honored the rich and powerful.
In all this we have not lived according to your will.
Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements
and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise.
In your mercy, forgive us our sins.**

God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ,
through whom our sins were forgiven.
May he help us to continue
to sow seeds of peace to those who are near and far. **Amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, grant us openness and give us understanding of what each one of us needs to receive through Holy Scripture. When we are facing a difficult choice between the easy and the right decision, help us to choose the narrow path. We also pray for all who are about to set on an adventurous journey of faith anywhere in the world. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Job 1:1; 2:1-10

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and the accuser also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to the accuser,

“Where have you come from?” The accuser answered the Lord, “From going to and fro on the earth and from walking up and down on it.” The Lord said to the accuser, “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.” Then the accuser answered the Lord, “Skin for skin! All that the man has he will give for his life. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.” The Lord said to the accuser, “Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.”

So the accuser went out from the presence of the Lord and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, “Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God and die.” But he said to her, “You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive good from God and not receive evil?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 26:1-12

Vindicate me, O Lord,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

**Prove me, O Lord, and try me;
test my heart and mind.**

For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

**I do not sit with the worthless,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

I hate the company of evildoers
and will not sit with the wicked.

**I wash my hands in innocence
and go around your altar, O Lord,**
singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

**O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

Do not sweep me away with sinners
nor my life with the bloodthirsty,

**those in whose hands are evil devices
and whose right hands are full of bribes.**

But as for me, I walk in my integrity;
redeem me and be gracious to me.

**My foot stands on level ground;
in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:2-16

Some, testing him, asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Tim Gerarden

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Video: *Sowing the Seeds of Peace*

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 20

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

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PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for you have chosen the poverty of the world to make your people rich in faith. Help us to put our faith into practice through the offering of our lives— giving food to the hungry, clothes to the naked, and shelter to the poor; all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, your Word made flesh. 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

This is the table to which Jesus invites us!

Let us participate joyfully!

God-planted seeds now germinate
A tree of life, an orchard bearing fruit
Such is nature, abundant life budding,
And Jesus sets the table, invites us to dine.

Water into wine, land where bread is born,
A people on the path of perfect communion.

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.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:
You created us to love one another
and to care for the world you had made.
How majestic is your name in all the earth!
Therefore we praise you, joining the song
of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

SANCTUS GTG 552 Holy, Holy, Holy

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior:

Jesus came to fulfill your law and teach your faithful love.

He welcomed little children, and blessed them, saying:

The kingdom of God belongs to you.

The words of institution are included here.

Remembering your goodness and grace,

we offer ourselves to you with gratitude

as we share this joyful feast.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us

and upon this bread and cup;

make us one in the body and blood

of Jesus Christ our Lord.

As you have spoken to us through Jesus Christ, your Son,

let our lips proclaim your name to our sisters and brothers,

so that all may know your saving grace.

Through the Lord Jesus Christ,

in the unity of the Spirit,

we bless you, God of glory,

now and forever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

paraphrased by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

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.

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.

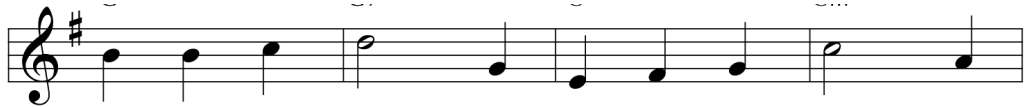
HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION GTG 508 Come to the Table



*1 Come to the ta - ble, all you who praise God.
2 Come eat this bread now, my bro - ken bod - y.
3 All is now read - y, like the first ta - ble.



Laid in a sta - ble, God's gift of love:
My vow re - mem - ber: I am your Lord.
Pray for the Spir - it; lift up your hearts.



Je - sus our Sav - ior poured out his life's blood.
Drink of this wine, the cup of sal - va - tion,
Christ has a - ris - en, our Lord and Sav - ior.



Our sins for - giv - en, God's gift of love.
for you are mine, and I am your Lord.
With great thanks - giv - ing, lift up your hearts.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe, for you have satisfied our souls with this feast of your grace. Keep us faithful in your service until your realm of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 463

How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign,
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

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***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

The Lord bless you and keep you,
 the Lord make his face shine upon you
 and be gracious to you,
 the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace,
 as you go out and sow your own seeds of peace.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
 and the love of God,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
 be with you all from now and forevermore. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

Sunday, October 6

Peace and Global Witness Offering to be collected, World Communion Sunday

9:30 am Worship with Communion - Onsite and Online

2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Monday, October 7

9:30 am Mission Prayer Group

Tuesday, October 8

12:00 pm Items for the Bulletin are due

7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, October 9

9:00 am NO Prayer Group

7:00 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 10

5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, October 13

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

Dick Massaro

Nellie Brovold's mother, Jacqueline

Frank Jones

Sage Hall

Sue Chipman's friend, DeBe Bramley

Rev. Jan Wiersma

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

Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist	Bruce Felger
Special Music	
IT Support	Louis Bouchard