

January 26, 2025

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We praise you, God, for the diversity of your body.

By God's Spirit, we are one.

From diverse backgrounds and diverse places,

by God's Spirit, we are one.

From diverse cultures and diverse generations,

by God's Spirit, we are one.

From diverse questions and diverse dreams,

by God's Spirit, we are one.

We celebrate our diversity. We celebrate our unity.

By God's Spirit, we are one. Hallelujah!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of jubilee, in Jesus Christ you are always bringing good news to the poor and liberty for the captives. You grant sight for the blind and freedom for the oppressed. You declare the year of holy favor. Help us this day as we, your people, gather, to hold this vision of jubilee. Teach us this day to both receive and embody the fullness of your Spirit's vision.

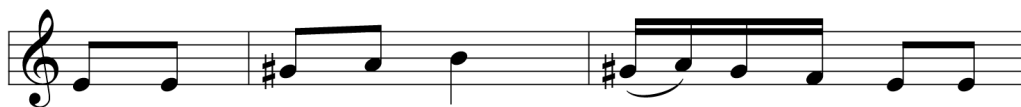
Amen.

OPENING HYMN GTG 453

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People



1 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple; o - pen your
2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage, they who have



ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O
ears, now let them hear; they who would learn the



roy - al priest - hood; God has come to you.
way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.

Refrain



God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Turning to God and following the light of Christ, let us in faith confess our sin and the sins of the world.

**Holy God, we confess
that we have wandered from your light.
We follow paths of self-indulgence,
instead of focusing on our need of you.
We passively accept
the suffering of the world,
expecting others to stand up and work
for the change we would like to see.
Lord, in your strength,
renew us and compel us by your invitation
that we may work to pursue
your justice and mercy for all people,
sharing your light in ways great and small.**

May the God of mercy, the Lord of strength, forgive you all your sins; and may the Holy Spirit keep you in new life. **Amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand, and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord, and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

SPECIAL MUSIC

There's Something About That Name
Arranged by Stan Pethel

CPC Choir

*Jesus, Jesus Jesus; There's just something about that name!
Master, Savior, Jesus, Like the fragrance after the rain.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Let all heaven and earth proclaim.
Kings and kingdoms shall all pass away,
but there's something about that name!*

*His name is Wonderful,
His name is Wonderful,
His Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord.
He is the mighty King,
Master of ev'rything,
His name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord.*

*He's the great Shepherd
Jesus the Rock of all ages,
Almighty God is He.
Bow down before Him,
love and adore Him,
His name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord.*

*Jesus, Jesus,
There's just something about that name, Jesus.*

GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:14–21

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Powerful and full of majesty is the voice of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Doug Walters

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO OFFERING


There is only one Lord and God, from whom all things come and for whom we live.
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

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 772 Live Into Hope



1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of



gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the
and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our



first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work, the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. Let the gifts of our lives bear witness to your goodness and mercy, your faithfulness and justice, and your steadfast love for all. **Amen.**

ORDINATION OF CAROLE KINION COPELAND

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joining our hearts and minds in prayer, let us call on the name of the Lord, saying: O God of grace, **bless us with peace.**

We pray for the church . . .

Teach us to be one body in Christ our Lord,
with all the members working together
and striving for the greater gift of love.

O God of grace, **bless us with peace.**

We pray for the world . . .

Bring good news, release, and freedom
to the poor, captives, and oppressed.
Give new hope and vision to all.

O God of grace, **bless us with peace.**

We pray for loved ones . . .

Give us gifts of healing and compassion
to help those who are hurting
and honor those who suffer shame.

O God of grace, **bless us with peace.**

We pray for this community . . .

Let us work together to serve you.
Help us to use the gifts of your Spirit
for the good of the people in this place.

We invite you to name your prayers for this community.

O God of grace, **bless us with peace.**

Mighty God, strengthen your people so that we may live in the world as those you have chosen and called. Be with us as we pray the prayer that you taught...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 744

Arise! Your Light Is Come!

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

May the blessing of the Lord our God, the grace of Jesus Christ,
and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever. **Alleluia!**

In the name of Jesus, bring good news to the poor. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Community Presbyterian Church
Rochester, Minnesota

Original Pen and Ink Drawing 1928H. Cecile Kinim Capeland

Sunday, January 26

- 8:45 am CPC Choir Rehearsal
9:30 am **Worship - Onsite and Online**
10:40 am **Annual Meeting**
2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Tuesday, January 28

- 12:00 pm Items for the Bulletin are due
6:30 pm Session (in person)
7:00 pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network

Wednesday, January 29

- 9:00 am Prayer Group
6:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 30

- 5:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, February 2

- 8:45 am CPC Choir Rehearsal
9:30 am **Worship with Communion**
- Onsite and Online
2:30 pm Building Usage: Labranza de Dios



Judy Leal
Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughters Jenny & Elissa
Nellie Brovold's mother, Jacqueline
Sage Hall
Jennifer Hall
The family & friends of Connie Holst

To be added to the prayer list, please contact the office: 507-280-9291 or via email: office@cpcrochester.org.

Serving in Worship Today

Guest Preacher	Rev. Doug Walters
Guest Pianist	Kristy Giere
Liturgist	Margie Petersen
Special Music	CPC Choir
IT Support	Louis Bouchard

Church Staff

Music Director	Jennifer Taylor
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

The Annual Meeting for Community Presbyterian Church is TODAY, following worship. Plan to stay as we look back on 2024 and look ahead to 2025!



Community Presbyterian Church is looking for a part-time pianist! Do you know somebody who may be interested? The job description is available on our website - see the link below or on Indeed.com.



For more information, go to <https://www.cpcrochester.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Pianist-JOB-Description.pdf>

