

Everyone who exalts himself
will be humbled, and
he who humbles himself
will be exalted.

Luke 14:11

August 31, 2025

Welcome to worship this morning!

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who delight in God's commandments.

They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright.

Those who love God are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

They are generous, sharing freely what they have received.

It is well with those who live in justice.

Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid.

Let us praise the Lord!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of Hosts, King of Kings, you sit in the place of honor. We pray that we might have a seat near you today, not to boost our egos or build ourselves up, but so that we might draw closer to the hopes you have for us, so that we might gain understanding of the kin-dom you desire. through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*OPENING HYMN GTG 399

God Welcomes All

sing 3 times

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system contains the first line of the hymn, and the second system contains the second line. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words hyphenated across lines. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The final measure of the second system ends with a double bar line.

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

We turn away from God, often not knowing any better. Yet God keeps inviting us and keeps reaching to us in love. In penitence and faith, let us turn towards God and seek forgiveness.

**Merciful God,
in Jesus you show us a way that is humble
and that seeks the good of others.
We confess that we go our own way;
we elevate ourselves
and ignore the needs of others.
Free us from the temptation
to pursue our own pleasure only.
Help us to live in harmony
with all your people,
sharing one world
and eating around one table,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

With abundant grace and mercy that reaches wide,
God gathers us and cleanses us,
making us new, making us whole.
This is good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Proverbs 25:6–7

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Hymn Sing

Hymn GTG 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.


Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?



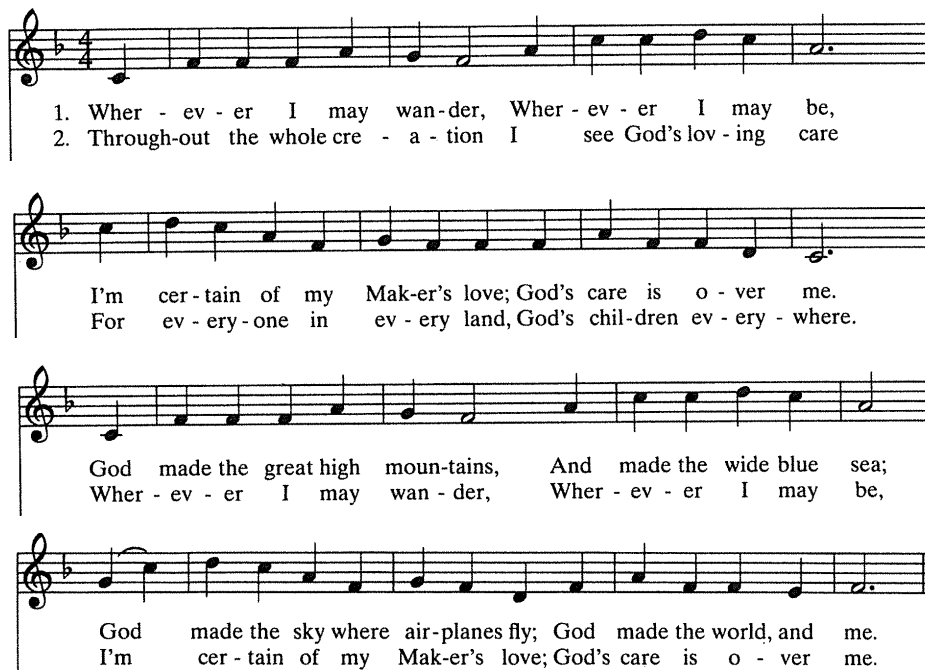
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you
call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you
lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Hymn GTG 451

Open My Eyes That I May See



1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.
Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un - clasp and
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will
set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
will to see. O-pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
will to see. O-pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!



1. Wher - ev - er I may wan - der, Wher - ev - er I may be,
2. Through - out the whole cre - a - tion I see God's lov - ing care

I'm cer - tain of my Mak - er's love; God's care is o - ver me.
For ev - ery - one in ev - ery land, God's chil - dren ev - ery - where.

God made the great high moun - tains, And made the wide blue sea;
Wher - ev - er I may wan - der, Wher - ev - er I may be,

God made the sky where air - planes fly; God made the world, and me.
I'm cer - tain of my Mak - er's love; God's care is o - ver me.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

These words are trustworthy and true. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Sermon by Doug Walters

read by Ivy Pillers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

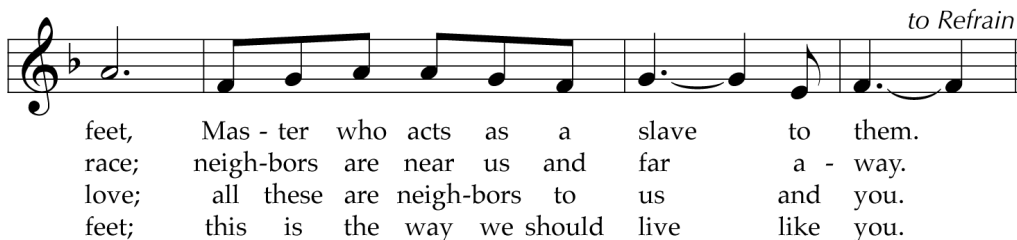
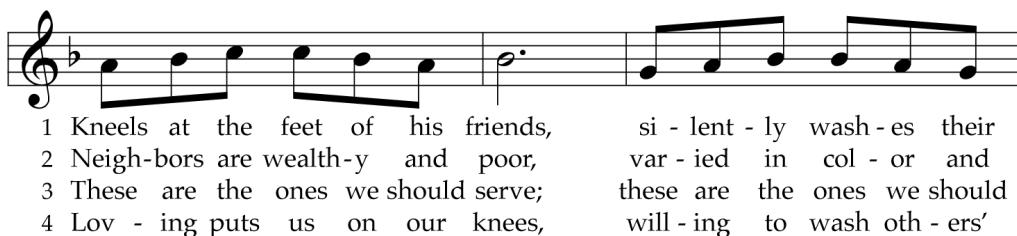
INVITATION TO OFFERING

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. 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 203 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

Refrain



to Refrain

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. **Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in the power of God to deliver us,
let us make our prayers of intercession for all,
saying: God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church . . .

Let our life together be a song of praise and an offering of great thanksgiving,
bearing witness to Jesus Christ our Lord.
God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world . . .

Show your faithfulness and love for nations and leaders that deal generously
and conduct their affairs with justice.
God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community . . .

Help us to love one another, show hospitality to strangers,
and visit those who are in prison.
God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for loved ones . . .

Strengthen those who are weak, deliver those who are in trouble,
and fill the hungry with good things.
God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful and mighty God, as you are one, make us one with you through Jesus Christ,
whom you have sent to redeem us, and in whose holy name we pray. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father and Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your 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 let us not be led into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 372

O For a World

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re-spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re-lieved,
3 We wel-come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
where truth is spo - ken, chil-dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out-casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

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*BLESSING AND CHARGE

The Lord bless and keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore. **Alleluia!**

Psalm 121:8

Proclaim the message, be persistent in prayer, do the work of the gospel,
and carry out the ministry of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*2 Timothy 4:2, 5;
Luke 18:1*

POSTLUDE

Come Worship in the sun and enjoy our Garden of Life!
Sunophobe? Bring your umbrella!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Volunteers to help set up required!

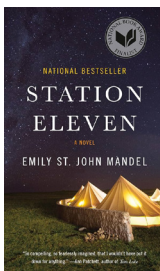


Outdoor Worship on September 7!

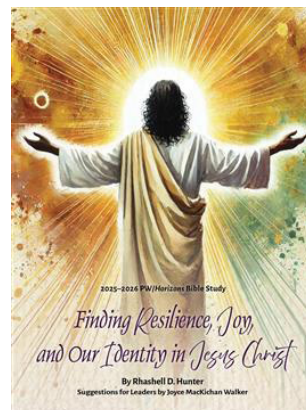
Join CPC as we worship in the garden one last time for 2025! Bring your sunglasses and a lawn chair. We, once again, welcome Brass, Etc! to our worship service. Afterwards, there will be a pancake breakfast! Don't miss this fun Sunday!

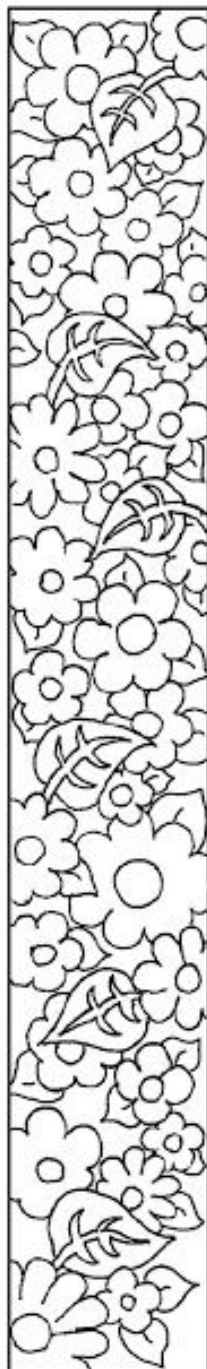


The Book Group will resume on Sunday, September 21. They will read *Station Eleven* by Mandel, Emily St. John. For more information, check out the September Newsletter. Join in reading this interesting book!



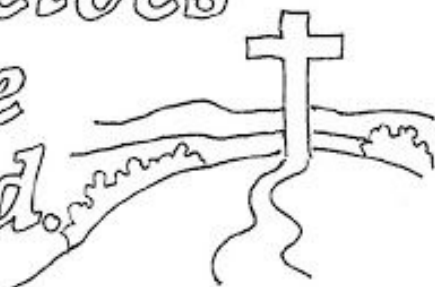
The PW Bible Study will begin on September 23 at 9:30 am. It will meet every other week for 5 get-togethers this fall and then will finish the study next spring. Study guides are here, Gwen will be distributing them. Questions? Talk to Mary Alice.





*For those
who exalt
themselves
will be
humbled,
And those
who humble
themselves
will be
exalted.*

Luke 14:11



Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, August 31

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

2:30 pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios

Monday, September 1 Labor Day

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 2

7:00 pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Net.

Wednesday, September 3

9:00 am Prayer Group

Thursday, September 4

**5:00 pm Worship & Music Committee
at the Pillers home**

5:30 pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, September 7

**9:30 am Worship with Communion
Outdoor and Online
with special guests: Brass, Etc!
Pancake Breakfast following**

2:30 pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler family,
especially daughters Jenny & Elissa
Nellie Brovold's mother, Jacqueline
Jennifer Hall and Sage Hall
Amy Ward and family

Sherrie Wilson

Vera Atkinson

Shannon Cisewski

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

Serving in Worship Today

Speaker	Ivy Pillers
Guest Pianist	Peggy Pillers
Liturgist	Peggy McCarty
Special Music	Hymn Sing
IT Support	Louis Bouchard & Bruce Felger

Church Staff

Music Director	Jennifer Taylor
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch