

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

Sunday, November 9, 2025

Welcome to worship this morning!

Bulletin Cues:

Bold indicates congregational response,

* indicates please stand, if able

An offering plate is placed near the door to the church to receive your offerings. It is available before worship, during the hymn of the day and shortly following the service.



WELCOME AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

We will break forth into joyous song, and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord;

Make a joyful noise with trumpet and the sound of the horn.

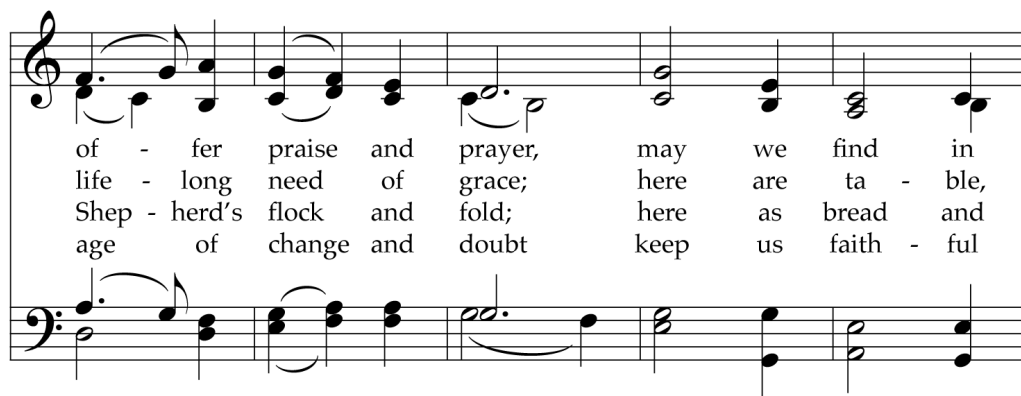
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

The floods clap their hands and the hills sing out together;

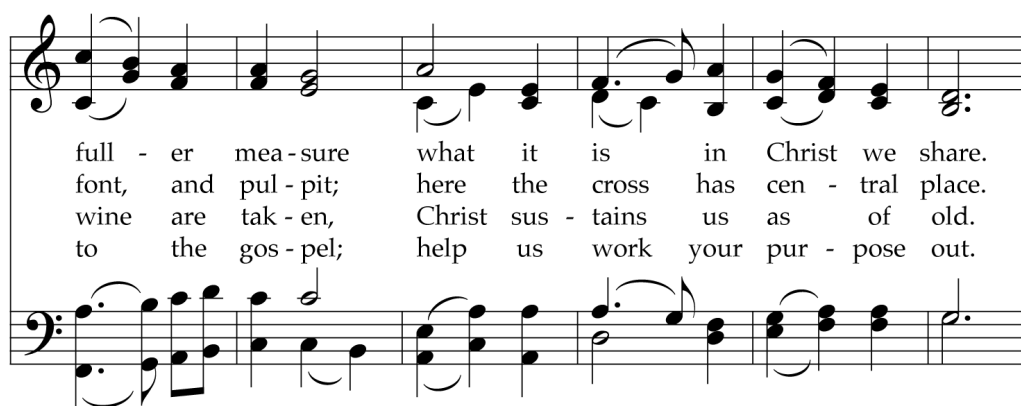
Let us join in the joyful song of creation.



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an



of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful



full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
 wine are tak - en; Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Though we are prone to wander, the spirit of God abides among us.

Trusting in God's persistent love and mercy, let us confess our sin.

Gracious God, we confess that we are too easily influenced by peddlers of despair and alarm, too quick to sink into numbness and apathy, too tired to imagine another way. Our hopes have crumbled, and our hearts are faint. Breathe new life into us, we pray. Help us to be mindful of your promises, your faithfulness, and your presence as we face the challenges of our lives. Restore our vision and give us courage to live in your truth. Amen.

God's ways are just, and God's kindness is constant. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. Beloved, God draws near to us with compassion and forgives our sins.

Thanks be to God, we are a forgiven people. Amen.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wisdom, open your word to your people today, and open the hearts of your people to your Word. Let us receive the truth that your Spirit is speaking to the church, trusting that it will nourish and strengthen us. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Job 19:23-27a

"O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!

For I know that my vindicator lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,
whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 17:1-9

Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.

If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;

my mouth does not transgress.

As for what others do, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.

My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped.

I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words.

**Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.**

Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings,

from the wicked who despoil me, my deadly enemies who surround me.

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 20:27-38

There came to Jesus some Sadducees, those who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the wife and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers, the first took a wife, and died without children; and the

second and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterward the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefor, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.”

And Jesus said to them, “The daughters and sons of this age marry to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die any more, because they are equal to angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Sovereign the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now God is not God of the dead, but of the living; for all live to God.”

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

SERMON

Commentary

Read by Mark Neville

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 822 When We Are Living

1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em-brace,
those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

Both in our liv - ing, and in our dy - ing,
When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
but when we help them, or when we feed them,



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Selections from the Barmen Declaration

“I am the Way and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through me.”

Jesus Christ, as he is attested to us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God whom we have to hear, and whom we have to trust and obey in life and in death. We reject the false doctrine that the Church could and should recognize as a source of its proclamation, beyond and besides this one Word of God, yet other events, powers, historic figures and truths as God’s revelation.

“Jesus Christ has been made wisdom and righteousness and sanctification and redemption for us by God.”

As Jesus Christ is God’s comforting pronouncement of the forgiveness of all our sins, so, with equal seriousness, he is also God’s vigorous announcement of his claim upon our whole life. Through him there comes to us joyful liberation from the godless ties of this world for free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine that there could be areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ but to other lords, areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.

“Let us, however, speak the truth in love, and in every respect grow into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body is joined together.”

The Christian Church is the community of brethren in which, in Word and Sacrament, through the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ acts in the present as Lord. With both its faith and its obedience, with both its message and its order, it has to testify in the midst of the sinful world, as the Church of pardoned sinners, that it belongs to him alone and lives and may live by his comfort and under his direction alone, in expectation of his appearing. We reject the false doctrine that the Church could have permission to hand over the form of its message and of its order to whatever it itself might wish or to the vicissitudes of the prevailing ideological and political convictions of the day.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Hear God’s word from Haggai 2:6-9: “For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land, and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations will come, and I will fill this house

with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts, and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.” Trusting in God’s abundant provision, let us offer our gifts with generosity.

DOXOLOGY GTG 647

Give Thanks

**Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because we’re given Jesus Christ, the Son
And now let the weak say, “We are strong”; let the poor say, “We are rich
because of what the Lord has done for us!”
Give thanks.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, may the resources that are gathered here be a blessing to the world you so love. Guard our paths and do not let our feet slip; keep us as the apple of your eye. Give us wisdom and humility as we seek to be faithful stewards of all your good gifts. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / JOYS AND CONCERNS

Loving God, we breathe in your goodness. In the quiet of this moment, we rest in your presence. As our bodies still, our hearts turn to you in gratitude. Every part of us, every one of us, every bit of who we are is precious to you, our Beloved Creator.

We acknowledge that this space contains both joy and distress, pain and contentment, burden and ease. Your grace is wide enough to cover the fullness of our needs, our dreams, and our experiences, varied as they are. For that, we give you thanks. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up the ones who are laid low in sorrow and grief, O Lord. May your peace provide an anchor in the chaos. May community gather near to them, reminding them that they are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up the ones who are suffering under oppression and state-sanctioned violence. Hear their cries for help and rescue, we pray. May we, too, hear their cries and choose not turn away from their pain. Show us how we can do our part to bring about the justice and righteousness of your peaceable kingdom. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up the ones whose hearts are full of joy today. What a gift to bear witness to the fruits of your Spirit ripening around us: love between dear friends, the joy of a child’s laughter, peace being rebuilt where violence was once the norm. We give you thanks for these signs of your goodness and grace. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your Church, that we may be one in spirit and in truth. May we see the face of Christ in the faces of our siblings, cherishing the diversity and variety of gifts each one brings. Shape and refine us, that we might walk together in your ways. God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

Finally, we lift up all of these prayers to you, O God, knowing that you listen with love and care. We join our voices together in praying the prayer you taught us,

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 756

O God of Every Nation

next page

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Beloved, God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose, God called you through our gospel so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, siblings in Christ, stand firm and hold fast to this good news.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, together with the Holy Spirit and God our Father, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

VETERANS & ARMISTICE DAY REMEMBRANCE

The Armistice of 1918 ended the horrendous slaughter of World War I, called THE WAR TO END ALL WARS. When the Armistice was signed, exuberant JOY broke out around the world. For many years bells rang 11 times at that 11th hour of the 11th day on the 11th month. With a moment of silence, we remember the soldiers and civilians killed in warfare in every country, and we commit to work and pray for peace until this assault on the Will of the Creator of us all, is finally over. Today, we listen to the bell being rung 11 times in recognition of that day.



1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en those who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand.
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



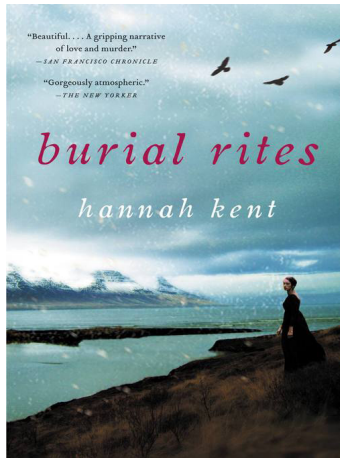
Where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.



The **book discussion group** will meet on November 16 after worship to discuss the book *Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent. "Set against Iceland's stark landscape, Hannah Kent brings to vivid life the story of Agnes, who, charged with the brutal murder of her former master, is sent to an isolated farm to await execution." This suspenseful, interesting novel looks interesting! All are welcome to read the book and join in the discussion on November 16!



In the interest of cleaning up the CPC library, the VHS tapes are being removed. If you are interested in any of them, please feel free to take one or more home. They are located below the coat rack. In addition to children's videos, there are also adult videos (example: books of the Bible).



"In Flanders Fields"

by Col. John McCrae,

In Flanders Fields The poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch, be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us, who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, November 9 - Veteran's Remembrance

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

2:30 pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios

Monday, November 10

9:30 am Mission Prayer Group

Tuesday, November 11

12:00 pm Bulletin Items Due

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

Wednesday, November 12

8:00 am NO Prayer Group

6:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal

Thursday, November 13

5:30 pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios

Friday, November 14

6:30 pm Library, Great Room Use: SE MN
ASD Social Group

Sunday, November 16

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

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

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

Serving in Worship Today

Speaker	Mark Neville
Liturgist	Jane Burgstaler
IT Support	Louis Bouchard & Bruce Felger

Church Staff

Music Director	Jennifer Taylor
Pianist	Tianyao Xie
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch