

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, January 18, 2026

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

God calls us here together — each of us, all of us, our whole selves.

We bring our questions, our longings, our hopes, our dreams and our fears.

Jesus invites us to come and see where God is at work.

Across the street and across the globe, Jesus is present.

Within these walls and within our hearts, God is here.

Let us worship the God who reaches out in love and invites us to come and see!

OPENING HYMN GTG 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *[Refrain]*

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *[Refrain]*

CONFESSİON AND PARDON

Jesus, the Lamb of God, came to redeem and reconcile, to take away the sin of the world. We are invited to tell the truth about the places in need of healing and wholeness. Let us join in the communal act of repentance:

Saving God, we confess that we often have not waited patiently for you.

We have preferred to sing our own song, to go our own way,

and to put our trust in idols, institutions and individual strength rather than trusting you.

We confess that it is easier to bring you sacrifices and offerings, rather than offering our lives to you.

We search for delight in all the wrong places.

We keep quiet about the ways we have experienced your love and presence, and we fail to invite others to come and see you, the source of life and love, at work all around us.

Forgive us, God.

Abide in us until your new song of hope and redemption pours from our lips, and your love is shared in our words and deeds. Amen.

God inclines to us, rescues us and sets us again on solid ground.

God has not withheld mercy from us.

Trust in the steadfast love and faithfulness of God and know that we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, reveal yourself to us once again as we hear your Word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, inspire us to follow where you lead, and to answer your call. **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING

Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away!

**The Lord called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.**

He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

**But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God."**

And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—
he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

**I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”**

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,

**“Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”**

SCRIPTURE READING

I Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called
to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given
you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and
knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among
you— so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus
Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of
our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL READING

John 1:29-42

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man
who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but I
came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John
testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I
myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He
on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy
Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus
walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say
this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them,
“What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher),
“where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where

he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

A new teaching, with authority! **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Commentary from workingpreacher.org

Dave Copeland

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 175 Seek Ye First



1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God.
2 Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
3 You shall not live by bread alone,
and seek, but by its very righteousness, find;
word and all these things shall be added unto you.
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Declaration of Faith*

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.

**But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil
that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives.**

**Hope gives us courage and energy
to contend against all opposition, however invincible it may seem,
for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.**

Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

God doesn't desire our sacrifices or offerings. God's desire is for us to be partners in the redeeming and reconciling work of God on earth. We have been given all we need to fulfill that call, and so we are invited to offer what God has given us in this service. Freely we have received, now freely let us give.

DOXOLOGY GTG 606 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, we are not lacking in any gift, and we give you thanks and praise. Receive the gifts of our hearts and lives, not as vain sacrifice, but as a joyful response for your steadfast love. Use what you have given us to your glory in every place. Transform our gifts to become a beacon of hope, a word of life, and a balm of healing for all of creation. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / JOYS AND CONCERNS

Holy God, we have come here looking for many things. You, who have shaped us and formed us, know our thoughts, desires and needs before they reach our lips. You know what we are looking for, and you know what we need, and yet, you invite us to come and see, to come and share the prayers on our hearts.

We believe that your desire is for the healing of all nations, the reconciliation of all people, and the flourishing of all creation. It is our desire, too. We know that you are present in the places where there is more war than peace, more famine than feast, more death than life. Where we are complicit, forgive us. When we are indifferent, give us your eyes of compassion. If we are ignorant, help us see your truth and know how to live faithfully in

such difficult times. We pray especially for...

We believe that you have made each and every one of us in your image, unique testimonies to your love and creativity. Still, there are so many of your beloved children who are hated, judged, feared and cast out from families, communities and nations. We know that you are with them; make us ready to accompany as we are able.

We pray especially for... [

As many of us remember the life and ministry of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we give thanks for his work and witness, and for the prophets throughout time and in every place who have reminded us of your call and desire for our life together. For all who have given their lives for the sake of your name, working for your justice and reconciliation, we give thanks. We remember Dr. King, and we remember Fannie Lou Hamer. We give thanks for Isaiah, and for the unnamed woman who would not rest until justice was served. We give thanks for those members of our community and leaders far beyond who are seeking justice and dignity for all people.

Especially we pray for...

Nothing in creation is outside of your care, and we offer the prayers that are on our hearts today....

We entrust all of these prayers to you, praying in the name of Jesus as he taught us to pray, saying,

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

next page

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Go and see!

God is at work all around us.

Go and see!

Jesus invites us to follow.

Go and see!

The Holy Spirit sends us out, empowered, renewed, inspired and equipped to do our part.

Let us go and see, in power and in peace, to share God's love with all.

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of our parent God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit are with us, today and always.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE

© Presbyterian Outlook, 2026
Liturgy written by Stephanie Sorge
and provided for free distribution

The Annual Meeting will take place next Sunday, January 25, following worship. It is a great time to look back at the year that's been and to look forward to exciting opportunities in the future! We will remember members that have passed on and we will thank leadership for a job well done. All members and friends are welcome and invited to attend!

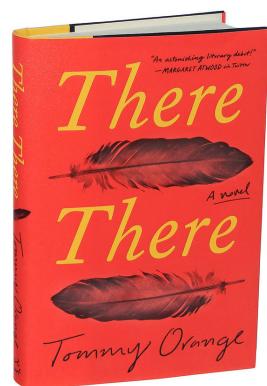
Pick up your copy of the Annual Report today!



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



In January, the Book Discussion Group will read Tommy Orange's acclaimed debut novel, *There, There*, about urban Native American lives converging at a powwow in Oakland, exploring identity, history, and trauma through 12 interconnected characters, a story blending fiction and factual Indigenous history, earning praise for its unique perspective and poignant portrayal of modern Native American experiences.

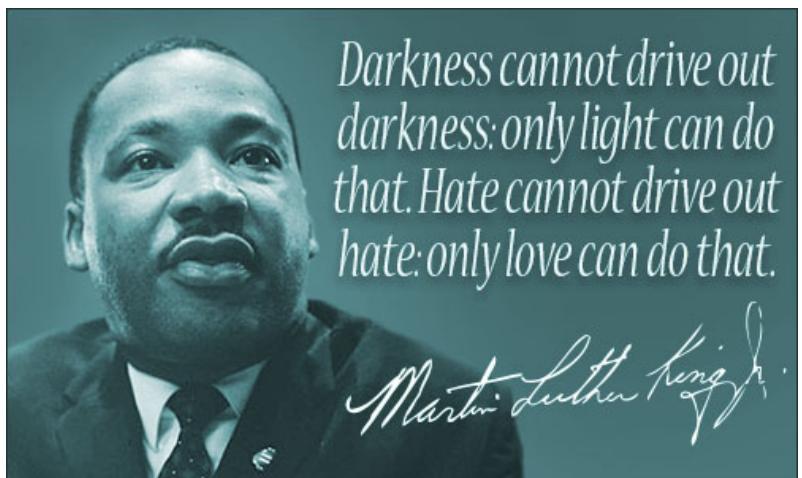


The group will meet today following worship.



Coming up:

The office will be closed
Monday, January 19,
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
and Tuesday, January 20.



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Welcome to
CPC!

Sunday, January 18

9:30 am Worship -Onsite and Online

10:40 am Book Discussion Group

2:30 pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios

Monday, January 19 Office Closed

9:30 am Mission Prayer Group

Tuesday, January 20 Office Closed

9:00 am Bulletin Items Due

12:00 pm Newsletter Items Due

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

7:30 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday, January 21

8:00 am Prayer Group

6:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 22

5:30 pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios

Sunday, January 25

9:30 am Worship -Onsite and Online

10:40 am Annual Meeting

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	Dave Copeland
Liturgist	Peggy McCarty
IT Support	Louis Bouchard & Bruce Felger

Church Staff

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