



# Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

“

This is my beloved Son,  
with whom I am well pleased;

*listen to Him.*

Matthew 17 : 1 - 9

**Sunday, February 15, 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

*based on Psalm 112*

On glory's mountaintops of wonder and delight, we wait:

**For God's amazing grace to transform our shadowed lives.**

In the valleys of everyday life, where noise overwhelms us, we wait:

**Willing to waste time simply being in God's presence.**

In the devouring fires of fear, in the mist of misguided living, we wait,

**For the One who comes in majesty, to lead us down the paths of humility.**

Let us worship our God!

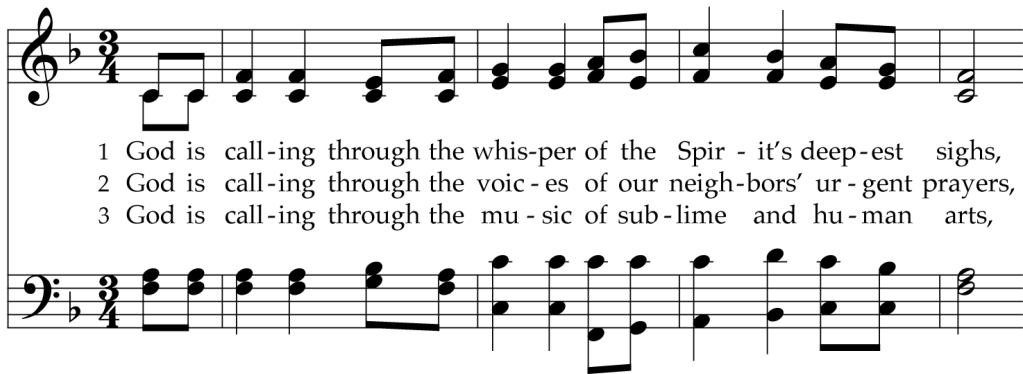
### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Radiant God, we come to you on the mountaintop to experience your glory. You come to us in the valleys. We meet you in gladness in a place where heaven and earth collide. May our worship of you encourage us on the journey and make us aspire to reflect your kin-dom in the world. Transform us and keep us near to you. Amen.

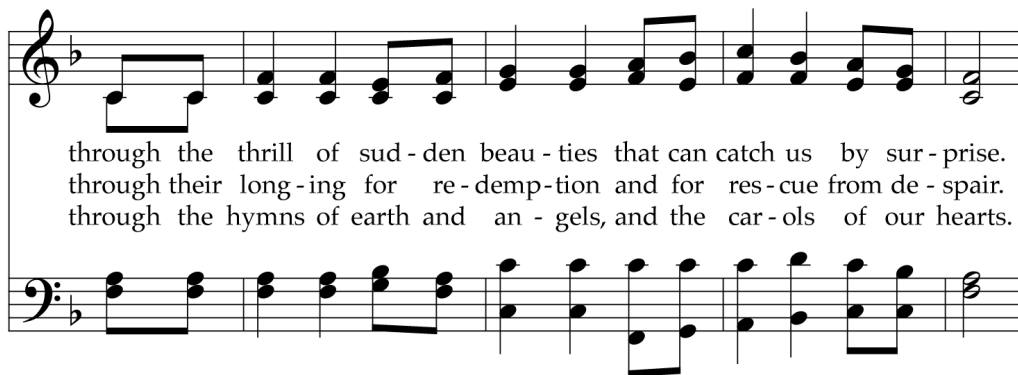
*Written by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.*

### OPENING HYMN GTG 410

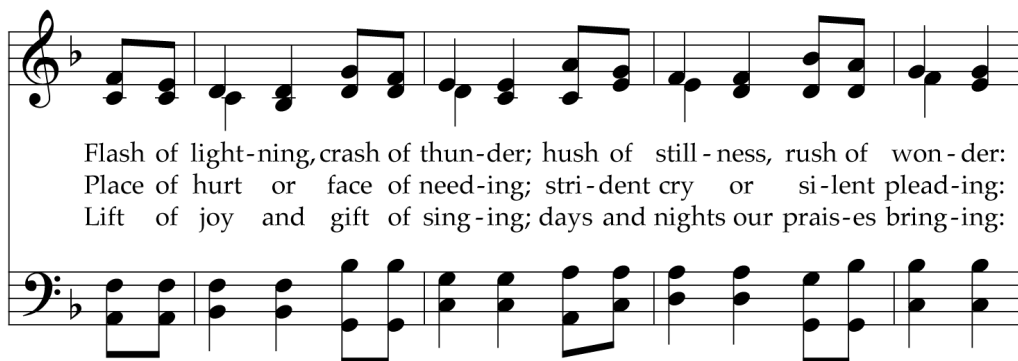
Calling through the Whispers



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,  
2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,  
3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud - den beau - ties that can catch us by sur - prise.  
 through their long - ing for re - demp - tion and for res - cue from de - spair.  
 through the hymns of earth and an - gels, and the car - ols of our hearts.



Flash of light - ning, crash of thun - der; hush of still - ness, rush of won - der:  
 Place of hurt or face of need - ing; stri - dent cry or si - lent plead - ing:  
 Lift of joy and gift of sing - ing; days and nights our prais - es bring - ing:



God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?  
 God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?  
 God is call - ing—and we hear! God is call - ing—and we hear!

## CONFESSION AND PARDON

Our sins are not to be hidden from God. Rather, we bring them into the Light and lay them on the Table, trusting in the One who shaped us for goodness and will transform our brokenness into wholeness. Please let us join together as we pray, saying,

God of mountaintops, the din of the world can harden our hearts to your Word. We escape in watching news, reality TV, silly sitcoms, and anxiety producing movies yet we sometimes show fear in bearing witness to your presence in our lives. Our faith is placed in those who entertain and misinform us, our trust is given to those who misplace it and values it so little.

Forgive us, Revealer of Mystery. You offer mercy to us, that we might hear your call to discipleship. You whisper our names, that we might know how loved we are. Caught by the surprise of your never-ending love for us, how can we not follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, onto the mountaintops of worship and into the valleys of sacrifice and service.

**One:** On mountaintops and in the valleys, in our homes and in our hearts, God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves.

**All:** By God's mercy, we are forgiven.

**By God's mercy, we are made whole.**

**By God's mercy, we are equipped to serve others.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us to hear your Word that we may truly understand; that in understanding, we may believe; and in believing, we may follow your way in all faithfulness, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. **Amen.**

### RESPONSIVE READING

Exodus 24:12-18

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there;

**I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction."**

So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God.

**To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you.**

**Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."**

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

**The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai,  
and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day  
he called to Moses out of the cloud.**

Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites.

**Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain.**

**Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light.

Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”

When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

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

SERMON

*Do Not Be Afraid*

Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins

### **RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 192

Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the  
2 Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the  
3 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the  
shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; by the blood I may  
fac - es dis - play your like - ness; ev - er chang - ing from



World, shine up - on us; set us free by the truth you now  
en - ter your bright-ness. Search me; try me; con - sume all my  
glo - ry to glo - ry, mir - rored here may our lives tell your



bring us. Shine on me; shine on me.  
dark - ness. Shine on me; shine on me.  
sto - ry. Shine on me; shine on me.

*Refrain*



Shine, Je - sus, shine; fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.



### INVITATION TO OFFERING

All that we know, and all that we have, comes from God. In gratitude for all that God has given us, let us give back to God what was God's to begin with in the form of our tithes and offerings.

### 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. Give thanks.**

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

To you we pray, God of Love, Spirit of Compassion that moves throughout the earth: in thanksgiving we pray, for we have received the fullness of your grace; in humility we pray, for we know we have not always responded to your grace by giving of our fullness to those who are in need. In hope we also pray that you may continue to use us wherever the need rises before us. From your fullness we have received; from your fullness we turn now to share in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celtic Version, <https://www.earthandsoul.org/prayers>*

**Holy One beyond all names**

**Eternal Wellspring**

**May love rise again in us today**

**With food for every table**

Shelter for every family  
 And reverence for every life.  
 Forgive us our failings in love  
 And free us from all falseness  
 That the light of our souls may shine  
 And the strength of our spirits endure  
 For Earth and all its people  
 This day, tonight, and forever. Amen

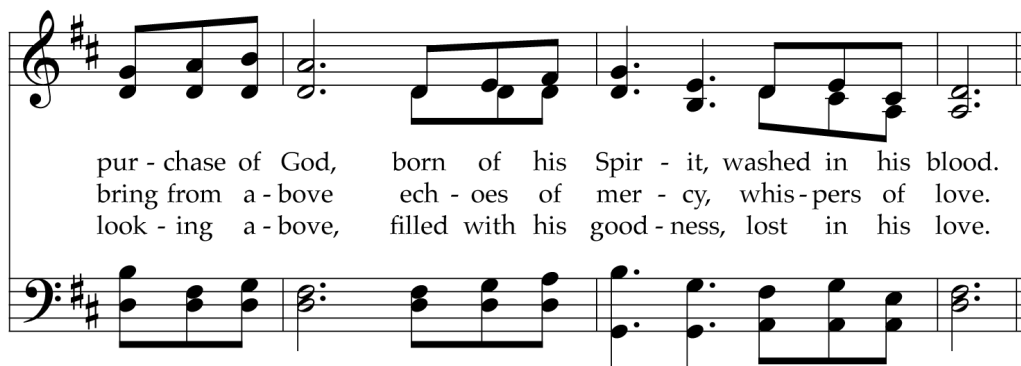
## SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

\*CLOSING HYMN GTG 839. Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a  
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of  
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,  
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,  
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,



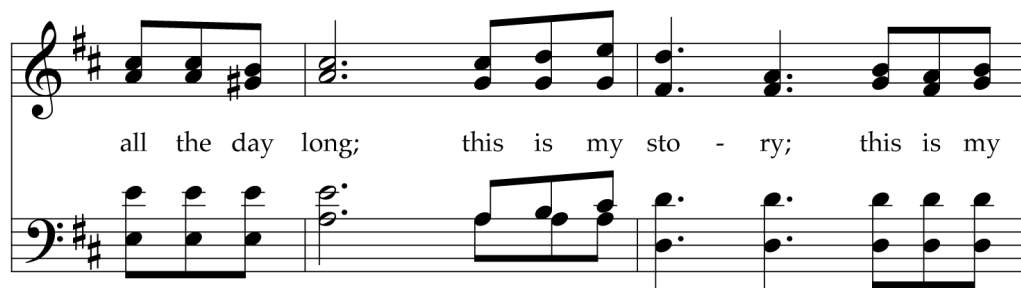


pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*



This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior



all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my



song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

## \*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Go into this week  
radiant with the holiness of God  
transfigured by the glory of Jesus Christ  
glowing with the exuberance of the Holy Spirit

Go into this week  
trusting in the holiness of God  
transfigured by the knowledge that fear will never prevail over you.  
shining with the exuberance of the Holy Spirit

Go in peace - love and care for one another in Christ's name;  
- and the mercy of God uphold you  
- the Compassion of Christ Jesus guide you  
- and the wisdom and strength of the Holy Spirit sustain you  
now and forevermore. Amen

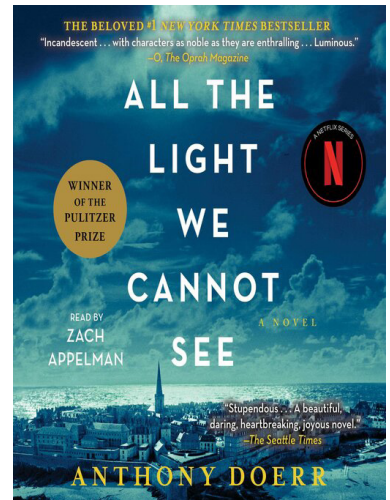
## POSTLUDE

# BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The book discussion group will read *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr for the February meeting. The Book Discussion Group will meet TODAY, following worship.

**All are welcome to join in the discussion!**



This Lent, we will be using this resource from Church Anew: ***Unbound: Longing for Wholeness***. From the Church Anew's website: "What if the opposite of being bound is being whole? Our world is filled with things that hold us captive. These things that bind us prevent us from living the whole, abundant life that God has promised us. Through the stories of regular people encountering Jesus, and being drawn to the wholeness that Jesus provides, we can learn about our own longings and be drawn into wholeness."

Instead of a traditional devotional or the daily texts, we will delve into contemplative practices. The resource will be available on Ash Wednesday!

**Ash Wednesday is February 18. We will begin our Lenten journey together with a Wednesday evening service at 7 pm.**

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open hearted, open minded



*Welcome to  
CPC!*

**Sunday, February 15**

**9:30 am    Worship -Onsite and Online**

**10:40 am    Book Discussion Group**

**Monday, February 16**

Office Closed - Presidents Day

9:30 am    Mission Prayer Group

**Tuesday, February 17**

9:00 am    Bulletin Items Due

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

**Wednesday, February 18**

8:00 am    NO Prayer Group

**7:00 pm    Ash Wednesday Worship -**

**Friday, February 20**

12:00 pm    Newsletter Items Due

**Sunday, February 22**

**9:30 am    Worship -Onsite and Online**



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

Jennifer Taylor

*To be added to the prayer list, please  
contact the office: 507-280-9291 or via  
email: [office@cpcrochester.org](mailto:office@cpcrochester.org).*

## **Serving in Worship Today**

Guest Preacher

Rev. Denise

Dunbar-Perkins

Liturgist

Sue Chipman

IT Support

Louis Bouchard

& Bruce Felger

## **Church Staff**

Music Director

Jennifer Taylor

Pianist

Tianyao Xie

Custodian

Nancy Sanford

Office Manager

Stephanie Pasch