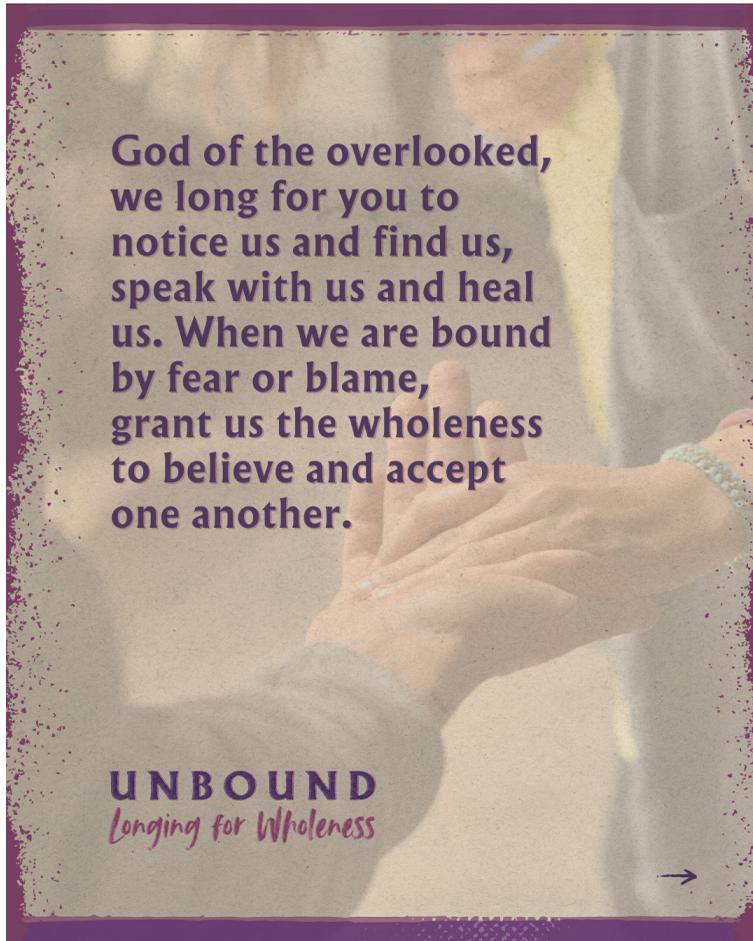


Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, March 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

We are children of light,
rejoicing in everything good and right and true.

We worship the Lord who heals, liberates, and raises us from the dead.

**In the dream of the beloved community of God,
we are awake, and we stand in the light of Christ.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the overlooked, we long for you to notice us and find us, speak with us and heal us. When we are bound by fear or blame, grant us the wholeness to believe and accept one another. Lead us from assigning sin and fault, to asking where we each have seen God. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN GTG 738

O Master Let Me Walk With Thee

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee
2 Help me the slow of heart to move
3 Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray

in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;
by some clear, win - ning word of love;
in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,
far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way;

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the
 teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and
 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in
 in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with

strain of toil, the fret of care.
 guide them in the home - ward way.
 trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Confident of God's character, let us confess our sins together so that we might receive healing and peace.

**Almighty and merciful God, we continue to want more,
 blind to the blessings we already possess.**

We want everything now, blind to the value of patience and hard work.

**We take so much delight in our own accomplishments that
 we are blind to people in need.**

Forgive us!

Cleanse us of our entitlement, anxiousness and pride.

**Help us see the world with your eyes
 so that we can be people of gratitude, courage and compassion,
 because of what we see in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

“The days are surely coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel. I will put my law within them; I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be my people. I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.”

We believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and our sins are remembered no more.

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy, magnificent God, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, allow us to see you clearly in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 5:8–14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Lord’s My Shepherd
by Bob Chilcott

CPC Choir

GOSPEL READING John 9:1–41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

We proclaim Christ crucified— the wisdom and power of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

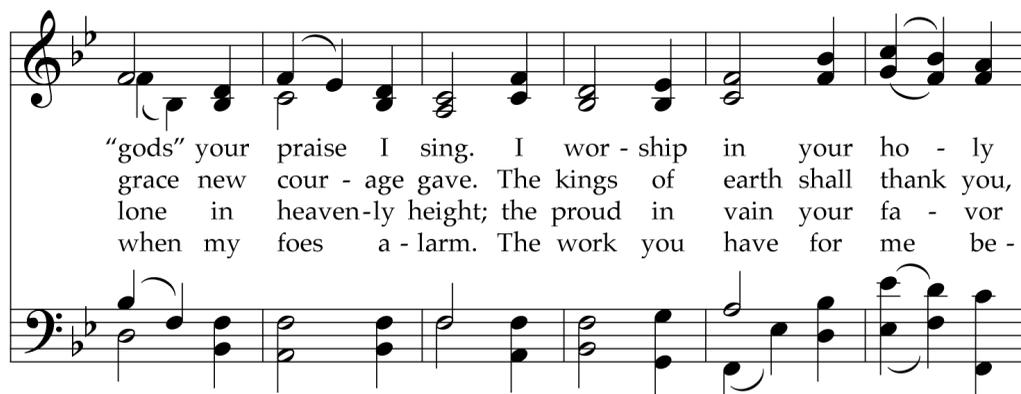
Rev. Julie Beck

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

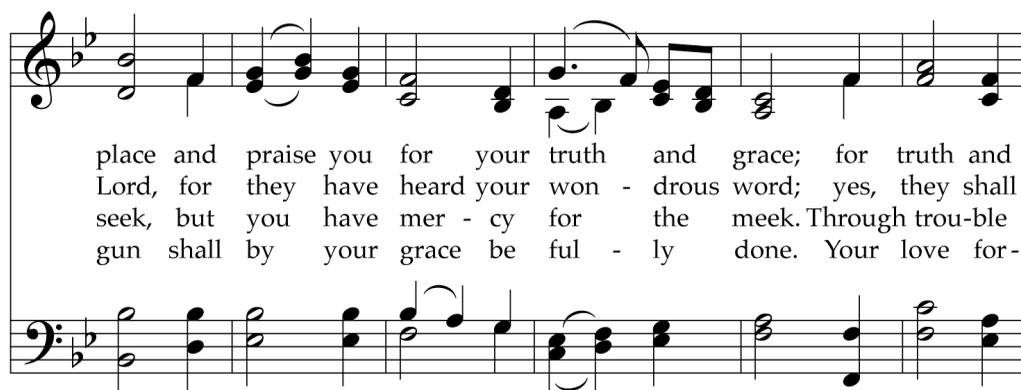
*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 334 With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring



1 With grate - ful heart my thanks I bring; be - fore the
2 I cried to you, and you did save; your word of
3 O Lord, en - throned in glo - ry bright, you reign a -
4 You will stretch forth your might - y arm to save me



"gods" your praise I sing. I wor - ship in your ho - ly
grace new cour - age gave. The kings of earth shall thank you,
lone in heaven - ly height; the proud in vain your fa - vor
when my foes a - larm. The work you have for me be -



place and praise you for your truth and grace; for truth and
Lord, for they have heard your won - drous word; yes, they shall
seek, but you have mer - cy for the meek. Through trou - ble
gun shall by your grace be ful - ly done. Your love for -

grace to - geth - er shine in your most ho - ly Word di - vine.
 come with songs of praise for great and glo - rious are your ways.
 though my path - way be, you will re - vive and strength - en me.
 ev - er will en - dure: your mer - cy, Lord, is ev - er sure.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Psalm 23

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
 he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
 He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.**

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
 I fear no evil, for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
 you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

God gives and gives and gives to bless, help, heal, and save us. What can we give in return? In the beloved words of Isaac Watts: "Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small. Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."

DOXOLOGY GTG 606 Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

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

Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

What language can we borrow to thank you, dearest Friend? Accept the gifts we give today to be for your glory and the good of your people, because of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / JOYS AND CONCERNS

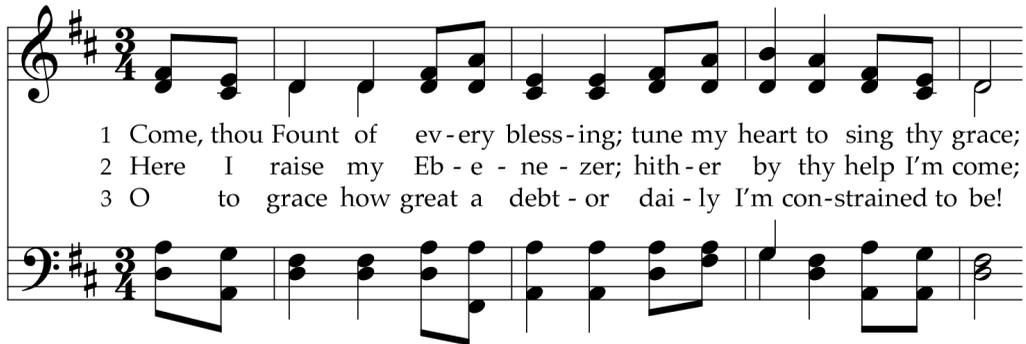
THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 475

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

May God who seeks you by night and by day, in death and in life,
 open your senses to the mystery of God's grace,
 enfold you through water and Spirit in Christ's love,
 and give you confidence in the Spirit's power to unbind and grant new life.
 May the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Mother of us all,
 bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Go in peace forgiven, whole and free.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, March 15

9:00 am Quarterly Deacons Meeting

9:30 am Worship -Onsite and Online

Monday, March 16

9:30 am Mission Prayer Group

6:00 pm Great Room Use: Med City Tai Chi

Tuesday, March 17

9:00 am Bulletin Items Due

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

Wednesday, March 18

8:00 am Prayer Group

6:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal

Friday, March 20

12:00 pm Newsletter Items Due

Sunday, March 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

Kristy Giere

*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. Julie Beck

Liturgist

Sue Chipman

Special Music

CPC Choir

IT Support

Louis Bouchard

& Bruce Felger

Church Staff

Music Director

Jennifer Taylor

Pianist

Tianyao Xie

Custodian

Nancy Sanford

Office Manager

Stephanie Pasch



In Isaiah 58, the prophet exclaims, “Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in” (Isaiah 58:12). As the people of Israel returned from the cloud of exile and struggled to rebuild their lives, Isaiah questioned their efforts: [Are you not called] “to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them?” (Isaiah 58:7).

When we give to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), we are combining our efforts with thousands of churches across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to repair peoples’ lives — people who are hurting, oppressed, lost or on the margins of society. The exact people about whom Isaiah is speaking of. The people we are called to connect with every day, but especially in the light of the Good News of the resurrection.

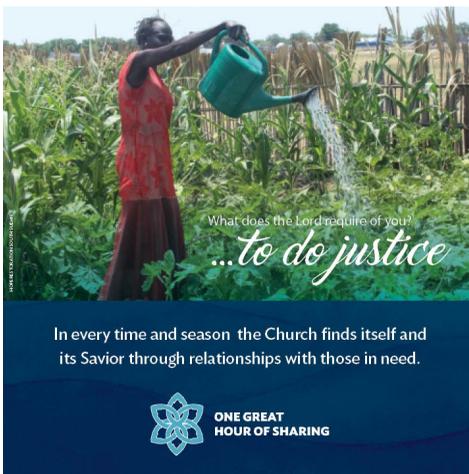
Visit the OGHS website (pcusa.org/oghsmap). Find a partner on the map and see how your gifts are used by the ministries these offerings support all over the world and offer prayers for those who will receive support through this offering. Small changes which, when added together here and around the globe, make huge differences in the lives of our siblings in need.



WE ARE THERE

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for justice, resilience, and sustainability.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.



Community Presbyterian Church will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on April 5, Easter Sunday.

2026 PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL

*A Christian Witness for
Peace with Justice*

MARCH 29 SOLDIER'S FIELD



*12:30 pm Processions from
Christ United Methodist &
St. John the Evangelist*

1:00 - 2:00 pm Music & Speakers

Love Your Neighbors

Heal the Sick Feed the Hungry

Welcome the Stranger

www.palmsunday2026.com

The procession will go down Broadway and cross into the Soldier's Field Park via the bridge. The group will then gather at the West shelter for the program.

There will be a food collection both at CUMC and at Soldier's Field. If churches want to take a collection of food at your church, have one person load it into their car and either bring it to CUMC or the park.