

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, April 26, 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.

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, April 26

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

Monday, April 27

9:00 am Session Packet Items Due

Tuesday, April 28

9:00 am Bulletin Items Due

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

7:30 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday, April 29

8:00 am Prayer Group

6:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 3

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



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler and family

Amy Ward and family

Sherrie Wilson

Vera Atkinson

Jennifer Taylor

Kristy Giere

Copeland's family members

Beth and Sasha

Sue Chipman

*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	Ivy Pillers
Liturgist	Mark Neville
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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have been through much, but the Lord has been with us,
and so we find peace and give thanks.

The Lord is our shepherd; we have everything we need.

Through shadow and light,
through death and birth, through grief and joy, we have never been alone.
We rest in that truth.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives,
and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God our Shepherd, you are our safe place, our shelter, our ground, our breath. We turn to you in hope and trust, knowing we have come this far by faith, and you will guide us all the way. Mold our daily patterns for your purposes so that we may live as one heart and mind with you and our neighbors, rejoicing together and praising your holy name, through Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN GTG 408

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know him in his full - ness and be - lieve; you're the

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to walk with Je - sus all the way."

Refrain

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav - en - ly Dove, stay right here

with us, fill - ing us with your love; and for these bless - ings we

lift our hearts in praise; with - out a doubt we'll know that we have

been re - vived when we shall leave this place.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me" (*John 10:14*). In confession, we trust God to know us fully: the good and the bad, the faithful and the sinful. But we also know God's faithfulness, God's mercy, and God's power to redeem us and lead us into new life. Trusting in this promise, let us confess our sins together.

**Gracious God, from before the foundation of the world,
you called us by name and pledged your steadfast love.
But like ornery sheep, we stray from the fold.
You offer to lead us, but we prefer to lead ourselves.
Christ laid down his life, yet we refuse to lay down our phones, our plans, our pride.**

**Forgive us, O God.
Call us back to the open gate of Christ's redeeming love
that we may enter your Beloved Community and find restoration for our souls,
reconciliation with our enemies and the glory of abiding with you forevermore.
Amen.**

The proof God's amazing love is this: while we were yet sinners, Christ came to us; Christ died for us; and Christ rose from the dead so that the gates of hell and heaven may be thrown open wide and all of creation renewed. So believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new, abundant life.

Alleluia! Amen!

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(adapted from Howard Thurman,

"Give Me the Listening Ear" Meditations of the Heart)

O God, give us the listening ear. Give us the listening ear that will not shrink from a word that corrects and admonishes; a word that challenges us to deeper consecration and higher resolve; a word that lays bare the needs that make our days uneasy; a word that seizes upon everything decent in our nature and channels it into paths of healing in the lives of others. Give us, O Lord, the listening ear. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

I Peter 2:19-25

For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Lord's My Shepherd
by Bob Chilcott

CPC Choir

GOSPEL READING

John 10:1-10

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Man, This Is The Life
Sermon by Rev. Wayne Kinion

read by Ivy Pillers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 300 We Are One In the Spirit

We Are One in the Spirit



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Second Helvetic Confession)

**In all crises and trials of our life we call upon God alone,
and do so by the mediation of our only mediator and intercessor, Jesus Christ.**

For we have been explicitly commanded:

“Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me”.

Moreover, we have a most generous promise from the Lord who said:

“If you ask anything of the Father, he will give it to you”,

and: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest”.

And since it is written:

“How are men to call upon him in whom they have not believed?”,

and since we do believe in God alone, we assuredly call upon God alone,

and we do so through Christ alone. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Our savior, as the Good Shepherd, leads us to what nourishes, comforts and secures our living. When we reflect upon all that God provides, we see that our cup indeed runs over. In gratitude and in faith, may we practice Christlike generosity to support the living body of Christ that is this church. With joy and thanksgiving, let us offer what is precious to us to God.

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

Shepherding God, you lead us, guard us, prepare us and preserve us. We have responded by giving back to you what has come from your hand. Bless these gifts, and multiply them in the life of your church, so that the gates of salvation may be flung wide, and all your Beloved Community may know the love and the peace that is ours in Christ Jesus. **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 542

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -
 wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -
 per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -

fold you:
vide you:
round you:
fore you:
God be with you till we meet a - gain.

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Christ has called you by name to gather here for worship; now he sends you out as sheep among wolves, to do the courageous, faith-filled work of seeking common ground, and building up God's Beloved Community here on earth. May you possess all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden in Christ, the empowering Spirit of courage to persevere in the face of resistance, and the undying hope promised in Christ's resurrection that we shall all, in the end, come to dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Now may the Lord bless you and keep you; May God make God's face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. May the Lord lift up the light of their countenance upon those whom you love, both this day and forevermore.

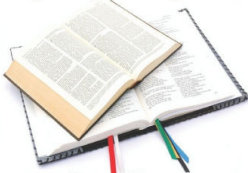
Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Liturgy written
by Rev. Dr. Aaron Shepherd
and provided for free distribution.

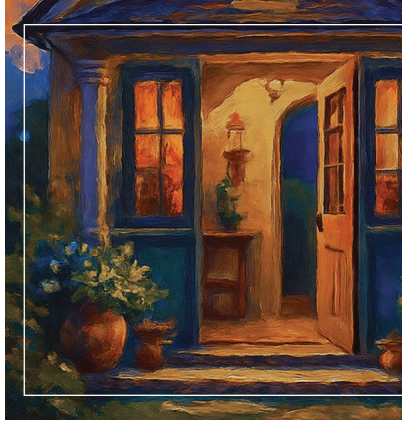
BIBLE STUDY GUIDE FOR BEGINNERS

*Each of the 66 Books
Explained for Getting Started*



Brian Gugas

Peggy McCarty will offer a Bible study (Cliff notes version) on all but one Friday in May. The first will be at 10:30 am until 11:30 or so on May 1, then on May 8, 22 and 29. The book will be *Bible Study Guide for Beginners* by Brian Gugas. Hope to see everyone there!



This Being Human

*featuring Choral Arts Treble & Ensemble Singers
in collaboration with community wellness organizations*

May 2 & 3

Christ United Methodist Church

choralartsensemble.org



This Being Human

featuring The Choral Arts Treble and Ensemble Singers
in collaboration with community wellness organizations

Saturday, May 2, 7:00 pm, Sunday, May 3, 3:00 pm

Christ United Methodist Church

pre-concert talk starting 45 minutes before showtime

For more information or to buy tickets go to
<https://www.choralartsensemble.org/>

Special screening package for \$129 for our members includes:

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Call to schedule an appointment
near you! **800-324-9458**
and use code: **HABC001**

LIFE LINE  SCREENING®
The Power of Prevention

This event will happen at
CPC on Tuesday, May 5!

