

Community Presbyterian Church
open hearted, open minded

If we really want to
love
we must learn
how to
forgive.

~ Mother Theresa

Sunday, May 10, 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 gather to celebrate the God of wonder and majesty!

Awesome God, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

We gather to celebrate Jesus Christ, who was dead and buried, and now risen indeed!

Jesus, renew our hope in your great power and love.

We gather to celebrate the Holy Spirit, our promised comforter and guide!

Come Holy Spirit! Fill us with your presence and peace.

We gather to celebrate the ancient hope of Christians:

God is with us and will never let us go.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful God, through all the ages, you have kept your promises. You have freed us from the powers of scarcity and death for abundant new life. Stay with us as we wait and watch for your Spirit with excitement and hope, that we may experience your love and share it with our lives, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN GTG 12

Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God does not reject our prayers. God does not withdraw love from us. Even when we fail to love others and struggle to love ourselves, God's love is steadfast.

Let us lift our prayers to God.

Holy One,

We love you imperfectly:

we do not always keep your commandments.

We love each other imperfectly:

**we hurt those you call us to love
 through our actions and our inaction.**

We love ourselves imperfectly:

**we struggle to believe that we are truly your children,
 made in your image.**

Forgive us.

**By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful
 that we might live as Christ has shown us,
 reflecting your love and grace.**

Because Christ lives, we also live. Not because of anything we have done, not because of our belief or faithfulness: we live because Christ lives.

This is the Christ who forgives us.

This is the God who is in us.

This is the Spirit who is with us.

Alleluia! Praise be to God!

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 66: 8-20

Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,
who has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;
you let people ride over our heads;

**we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will pay you my vows, those that my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

**I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.

**I cried aloud to him,
and he was extolled with my tongue.**

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.

**But truly God has listened;
he has heard the words of my prayer.**

Blessed be God,

**who has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.**

SCRIPTURE READING

I Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Irish Blessing by Linda Spevacek

CPC Choir

GOSPEL READING

John 14:15-21

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 366 Love Divine, All Love Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22

**New life in Christ takes shape in a community
 in which people know
 that God loves and accepts them
 in spite of what they are.
 They therefore accept themselves
 and love others,
 knowing that no one has any ground
 on which to stand,
 except God's grace.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

In great gratitude to God that we are never left to our own devices, let us give joyfully and generously for God's work in the world.

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

O Lord our maker, defender, redeemer and friend, accept and multiply the gifts we give today to be for your glory and for the good of your people. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and 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 317

In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your
4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 race may be. All chil - dren of the
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

May the love of the holy triune God—
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—
 abide with you forever. **Alleluia!**

Now go forth in Jesus' name,
 remembering his new commandment
 to love one another, just as he has loved us. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

POSTLUDE

We Are Family!

2026 spring concert



*Resounding Voices celebrates
the full potential of people
living with dementia.*



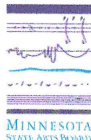
Saturday, May 16, 3:00 pm

Calvary Evangelical Free Church
(5500 25th Ave NW, Rochester)

Tickets: \$10/Adults • Free/18 & under
available at the door

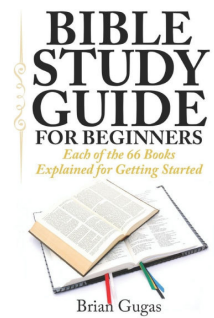


This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



resoundingvoices.org
507-218-8376

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

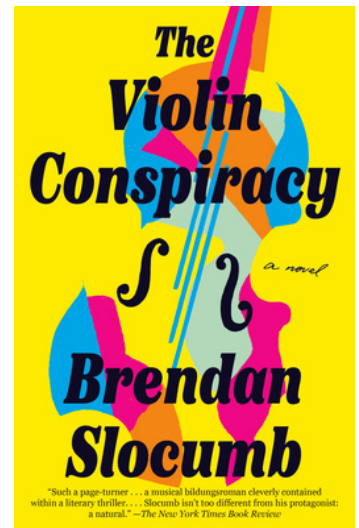


BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The next selection for the book discussion group is *The Violin Conspiracy: A Novel* (Good Morning America Book Club) by Brendan Slocumb. *The Violin Conspiracy* is a mystery novel about Ray McMillian, a Black classical musician whose family heirloom violin is revealed to be a priceless Stradivarius, only to be stolen right before the prestigious Tchaikovsky Competition. The book follows Ray's quest to recover the instrument while navigating racism in the classical music world, uncovering a conspiracy involving his family's history with slavery, and proving his talent. It was a Good Morning America Book Club pick and blends suspense with themes of identity, family, and the legacy of racism.

The Book Discussion Group will meet after worship on Sunday May 17. Read the book and join in the discussion!



The Annual Spring Fling is scheduled for Sunday, May 31 from noon to 4 pm.

Tentatively the agenda will include (weather permitting): cleaning windows inside and out, kitchen deep clean, moving some file cabinets, trimming foliage near the mailboxes to expose the handicapped parking signs, tightening hardware on the great room chairs, cleanup of our area in the middle storage room, and re-install speed bumps.

**Come dressed for work!
Many hands make light work!**



Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, May 10

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

Monday, May 11

9:30 am Women's Prayer Group

Tuesday, May 12

9:00 am Bulletin Items Due

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

Wednesday, May 13

8:00 am NO Prayer Group

6:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 17

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

10:40 am Book Discussion Group



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler and family

Amy Ward and family

Sherrie Wilson

Vera Atkinson

Jennifer Taylor

Kristy Giere

Copeland's family member, Sacha

Sue Chipman

Shannon Cisewski

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

Serving in Worship Today

Guest Preacher	Rev. Christopher Miller
Liturgist	Bruce Felger
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