



## Music Appreciation

**Sunday, May 17, 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

*Make a Joyful Noise*  
by John Helgen

CPC Choir

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the righteous be joyful!

**Sing to God; sing praises to God's name;  
lift up a song to the one who rides upon the clouds.**

Listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

**Ascribe power to God, whose power is in the skies.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of seekers and dreamers, speak to us now as we wait for your promised word. Protect your people, we pray. The road ahead may be long, but fill us with determination and courage. Teach us to be your body with faith and love, that we might serve one another as companions on the way, through Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN GTG 246

Christ is Alive!

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant  
3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Too often in the season of Eastertide, we are quick to roll the stone back over the entrance to the tomb. Our hallelujahs are robust and loud on Easter Sunday, but a few weeks in, we begin to mistrust the promises of the resurrection. Nonetheless, God stands always ready to restore us to wholeness. With the confidence of God's beloved, let us confess our sins, knowing that the God who hears us, loves us, and will forgive and renew us. Let us confess together — first in unison and then in silence.

**Eternal God, you have loved us from generation to generation.**

**You have shown your faithfulness more often than we can recall.**

**The Bible tells us of your steadfast mercy. You even pray for us.**

**Yet we live holding on to past hurts; we are not open to your new creation.**

**We prefer the safety of what we know to the excitement of discipleship.**

**Forgive us, we pray, and make us again as you would have us be.**

**We make all of our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.**

*A moment of silence for personal reflection...*

We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.

**Yes, everything is for your sake,  
so that grace, as it extends to more and more people  
may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.**

Believe the promise of the gospel:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of all of our hearts, be acceptable, even pleasing in your sight, O Lord, our strength and redeemer. **Amen.**

### RESPONSIVE READING                      Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Let God rise up; let his enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate him flee before him.

**As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;  
as wax melts before the fire,  
let the wicked perish before God.**

But let the righteous be joyful;  
let them exult before God;  
let them be jubilant with joy.

**Sing to God; sing praises to his name;  
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—  
his name is the Lord— be exultant before him.**

Father of orphans and protector of widows  
is God in his holy habitation.

**God gives the desolate a home to live in;  
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,  
but the rebellious live in a parched land.**

O God, when you went out before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,  
**the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain  
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;  
you restored your heritage when it languished;  
**your flock found a dwelling in it;**  
**in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.**

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
**sing praises to the Lord,**  
**O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;**  
**listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel  
and whose power is in the skies.

**Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel;**  
**he gives power and strength to his people.**

**Blessed be God!**

SCRIPTURE READING

I Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

*We Are Called*  
by David Hass

CPC Choir

GOSPEL READING

John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is

eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Present*

Rev. Jan Wiersma

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

\*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 740      Lead Me, Guide Me

*Refrain*





I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me



o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your



face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

**In a broken and fearful world**

**the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

#### INVITATION TO OFFERING

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods yet refuses to help a sister or brother in need? Remembering God's great love for the world, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

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

Great God, to you we give our thanks; your steadfast love endures forever. With gratitude we bring our gifts to you. Bless us and our gifts, that our lives and our resources may be a source of healing and hope, of joy and justice in our world. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / JOYS AND CONCERNS

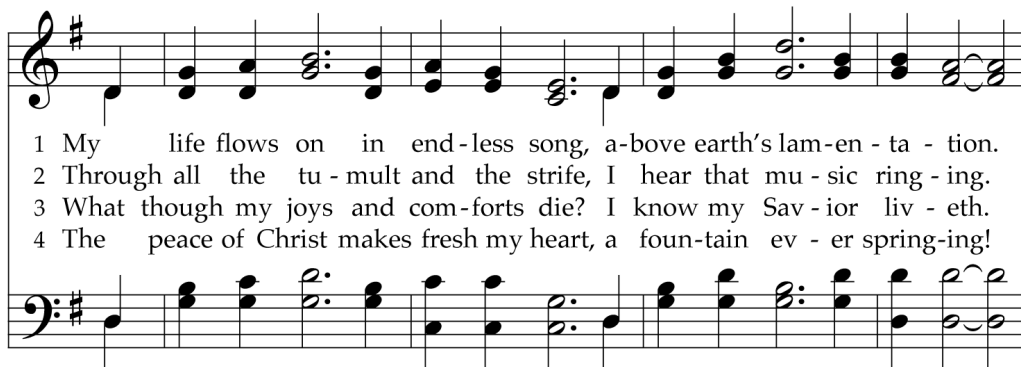
THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 821

My Life Flows On



1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.  
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

**\*BLESSING AND CHARGE**

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

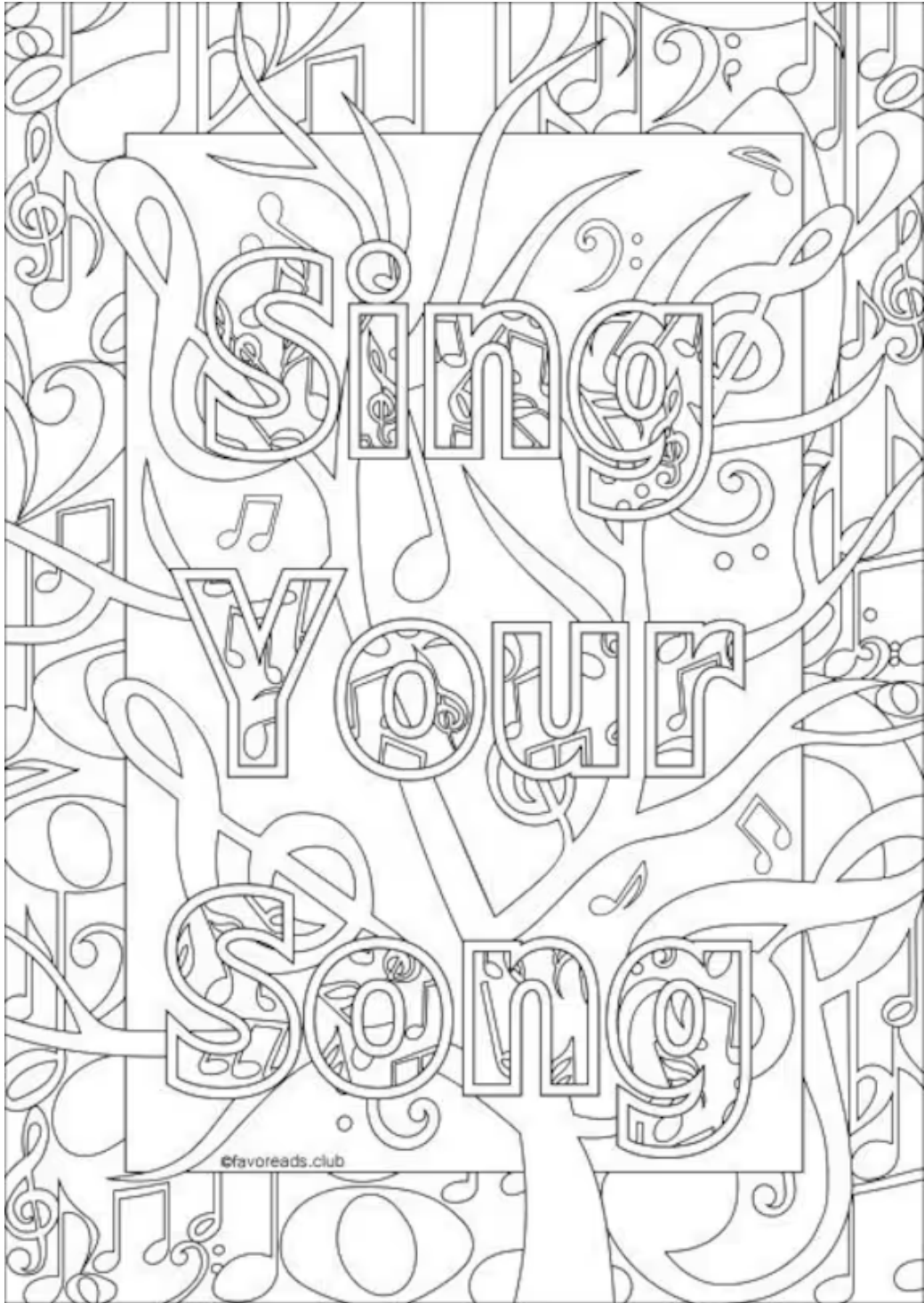
Now go forth in Jesus' name,  
 remembering his new commandment  
 to love one another, just as he has loved us.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Parts of the liturgy written by  
 Baron Mullis and provided for  
 free distribution.

Additional parts were from  
[\*Call to Worship.\*](#)





Today, is Music Appreciation Sunday! The musicians at Community Presbyterian Church bless the congregation and the worship services with their musical contributions.

### **CPC Choir Members**

Ivy Pillers, Bruce Felger, Carole Kinion Copeland, Mark Neville, Nellie Brovold, Amanda Ross, Sue Chipman

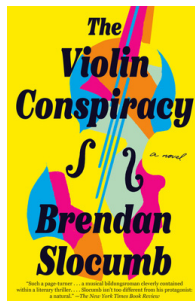
### **Jubellation Handbell Choir**

Bruce Felger, Dave Copeland, Carole Kinion Copeland, Ivy Pillars, Amanda Ross, Nellie Brovold, Jennifer Taylor

Music Director: Jennifer Taylor, Pianist: Tianyao Xie

*Thank you for another great year of music!*

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



The June Newsletter will be a combined June and July Newsletter.

If you have items for the months of June and/or July, the deadline is May 20th at noon.



**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 17 Music Appreciation Sunday**

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

**10:40 am Book Discussion Group**

Tuesday, May 19

9:00 am Bulletin Items Due

9:30 am PW Bible Study

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

Wednesday, May 20

8:00 am Prayer Group

12:00 pm June/July Newsletter Items Due

Thursday, May 21

9:00 am Session Packet Items Due

Friday, May 22

10:30 am Bible Study for Beginners

**Sunday, May 24**

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



**Monday, May 25  
is Memorial Day.  
The office will be  
closed on May  
25 and Tuesday,  
May 26.**



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler and family

Amy Ward and family

Sherrie Wilson

Vera Atkinson

Jennifer Taylor

Kristy Giere

Sue Chipman

Shannon Cisewski

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

### Serving in Worship Today

Guest Preacher

Rev. Jan Wiersma

Liturgist

Roy Pillers

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