

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, June 28, 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.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound* arranged Whitsett

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Be Thou My Vision* arranged Frankenpohl

CALL TO WORSHIP *Ps. 122 (adapt.)*

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Our feet are standing within your gates, Milwaukee.

Pray for the peace of this city.

May they prosper who love you.

Pray for the peace of every place.

May there be wholeness for all.

For the sake of all God’s people I will say, “Peace be with you.”

For the sake of the house of the Lord I will seek your good.

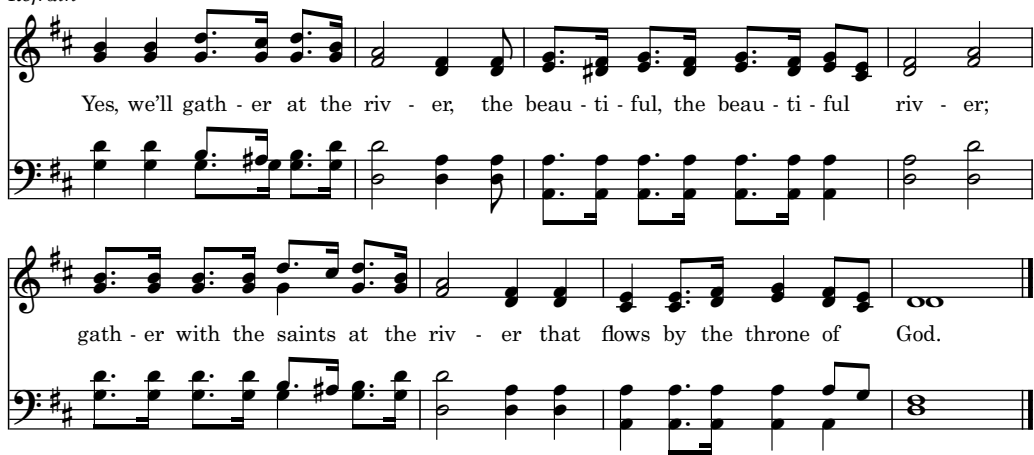
OPENING HYMN *Shall We Gather at the River*
A hymn for the 227th General Assembly (2026)

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
2 Root - ed deep be - side the riv - er, see the an - cient tree of life:
3 All the saints are at the riv - er, strug - gles o - ver - come at last:
4 Come, be - lov - ed, to the riv - er, where the Lord has made a way:

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
leaves of hope from God the giv - er for the heal - ing of our strife.
now at rest, re - turn - ing nev - er to the e - vils of the past.
here the Sav - ior will de - liv - er through the night to end - less day.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef staff. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a supporting bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. The score includes a key signature change to G major and a time signature change to 4/4. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the treble clef.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;
gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

The Spirit and the church say, "Come."
Let everyone come to the water of life.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Rev. 22:17

Silence for personal examination

**Holy One, have mercy on us.
You created us in your own image,
but we hurt and dishonor one another.
You planted us in a garden of good things
but we exploit and abuse the earth.
You gave us your word to guide us,
but we sin and fall short of your glory.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Clothe us in your righteousness,
fill us with the fruit of your Spirit,
and send us forth in your service,
that we may be a source of healing
in this world you love so much;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

There is a river that flows from the throne of God—
the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, washing away our sin.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit as the Scripture is read and proclaimed, that we may delight in your teaching and follow you faithfully, now and always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

**I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to my servant David:

**'I will establish your descendants forever
and build your throne for all generations.'**"

Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance;

**they exult in your name all day long
and extol your righteousness.**

For you are the glory of their strength;
by your favor our horn is exalted.

**For our shield belongs to the Lord,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

His Grace Will Carry You

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 10:40-42

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The New Creation

read by Mark Neville

Sermon by Rev. Kenneth Kovacs, Catonsville Presbyterian Church, Catonsville, MD

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

PC(USA) Book of Confessions (adapt.)

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Heidelberg Catechism

**That I am not my own, but belong—
body and soul, in life and in death—
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

What is the chief end of human life?

Westminster Catechism

Our chief end is to glorify and enjoy God forever.

Jesus Christ, attested for us in Holy Scripture,

Barmen Declaration

is the one Word of God

we must hear, trust, and obey

in life and in death.

**The church's commission,
upon which its freedom is founded,
consists in delivering the message
of the free grace of God to all people.**

The church confesses its faith
when it bears a present witness
to God's grace in Jesus Christ.

Confession of 1967

**God's reconciling work in Jesus Christ
is the heart of the gospel in any age.**

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

Confession of Belhar

**We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ.**

In life and in death we belong to God.

A Brief Statement of Faith

**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 Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 226

There In God's Garden

1 There in God's gar - den stands the tree of Wis - dom,
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "There In God's Garden". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff, with line numbers 1 through 4. The lyrics are: "1 There in God's gar - den stands the tree of Wis - dom, 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, 'Our Sav - ior!' 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage; 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;".

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - fering;
 our greed has starved it; our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

tree of all knowl - edge, tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness; give me all your

pas - sion, tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row; I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending;
 this, my resurrection;
 into your hands,
 Lord, I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heaven is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it; take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / JOYS AND CONCERNS

O Lord our God, you have called us to be a holy temple and a priestly people, persevering in prayer for the world.

We open our hearts to you this day, saying:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church throughout the world, for ecumenical and interreligious partners, and for those who struggle with faith, or do not believe... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for justice and peace on earth... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this nation, the United States, as it approaches the 250th anniversary of its Declaration of Independence... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the city of Milwaukee and all the places we call home... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the needs and concerns of this community of faith, and all those whom we love... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord our God, your mercy extends like the branches of a great tree, offering shelter and salvation to all. Let us be leaves of healing, growing in faith and faithfulness and spreading the good news of your love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

With the confidence of the children of God,
let us pray as Christ taught:

**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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We are the body of Christ, filled with the Holy Spirit and called to offer works of mercy, forms of assistance, and gifts of healing in Jesus' name. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

DOXOLOGY GTG 710

We Are an Offering

**We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.**

**Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;
Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.**

**All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.**

**We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering;**

We are an offering.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have planted us on holy ground. Like a tree planted by living waters, you cause us to grow and flourish, bearing good fruit through your Spirit. Use the offering of our lives to bring healing and wholeness in this place, and in every place; all in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 307

God of Grace and God of Glory

next page

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Heb. 12:1-2; Rev. 22:20

Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with all the saints.

2 Cor. 13:13; Rev. 22:21

Amen.

POSTLUDE

The Winner Takes It All

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

**Be here on Sunday, July 5th,
to welcome Pastor Paul!**

Sunday, July 5th, after our 11:00 am worship service, there will be a potluck luncheon to welcome Pastor Paul on his first Sunday at Community Presbyterian Church!

Sign up in the narthex!



Beginning in July, as we learn how to share our pastor with Plainview CPC, we will be worshipping at 11:00 am each week.



Beginning in July, the church office will only be open on Mondays “as needed.” Regular office hours will continue the same for Tuesday-Thursday.

Here in June, in your address book/list of contacts in your phone and on your computer, please go in and delete the contact information for pastor@cpcrochester.org and pastor@cpcroch.org. You can save it again when Pastor Paul gets things set up with his contact information.



Gathering in the City

The 227th General Assembly (2026)
of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

“Persevering Toward Wholeness”

Today, Sunday, June 28, commissioners and advisory delegates to the 227th General Assembly will fan out across Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to worship with congregations at area PC(USA) churches. In past assemblies, those worship forays, arranged by the Committee on Local Arrangements, have been highlights for many GA-goers.

“The idea is to have some common ideas and resources that can be shared not only in the Milwaukee area,” said Gambrell, Associate for Worship in Presbyterian Life & Witness. “We hope congregations throughout the PC(USA) might use or adapt some of the materials. There is freedom and flexibility in the Presbyterian practice of worship.”

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open hearted, open minded



Sunday, June 28

9:30 am Worship - Onsite and Online

Tuesday, June 30

9:00 am Bulletin Items Due

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

Wednesday, July 1

8:00 am Prayer Group

Sunday, July 5

Pastor Paul Banchasawan's first Sunday at CPC

11:00 am Worship with Communion
- Onsite and Online

12:00 pm Potluck Luncheon



Judy Leal

Jane and Ed Burgstaler and family

Amy Ward and family

Sherrie Wilson

Jennifer Taylor

Kristy Giere

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

Commentary

Mark Neville

Liturgist

Dave Copeland

Guest Pianist

Ruth Monson

Guest Trombonist

Glenn Monson

Special Music

Danielle Libed

IT Support

Louis Bouchard
& Bruce Felger

Church Staff

Music Director

Jennifer Taylor

Pianist

Tianyao Xie

Custodian

Nancy Sanford

Office Manager

Stephanie Pasch