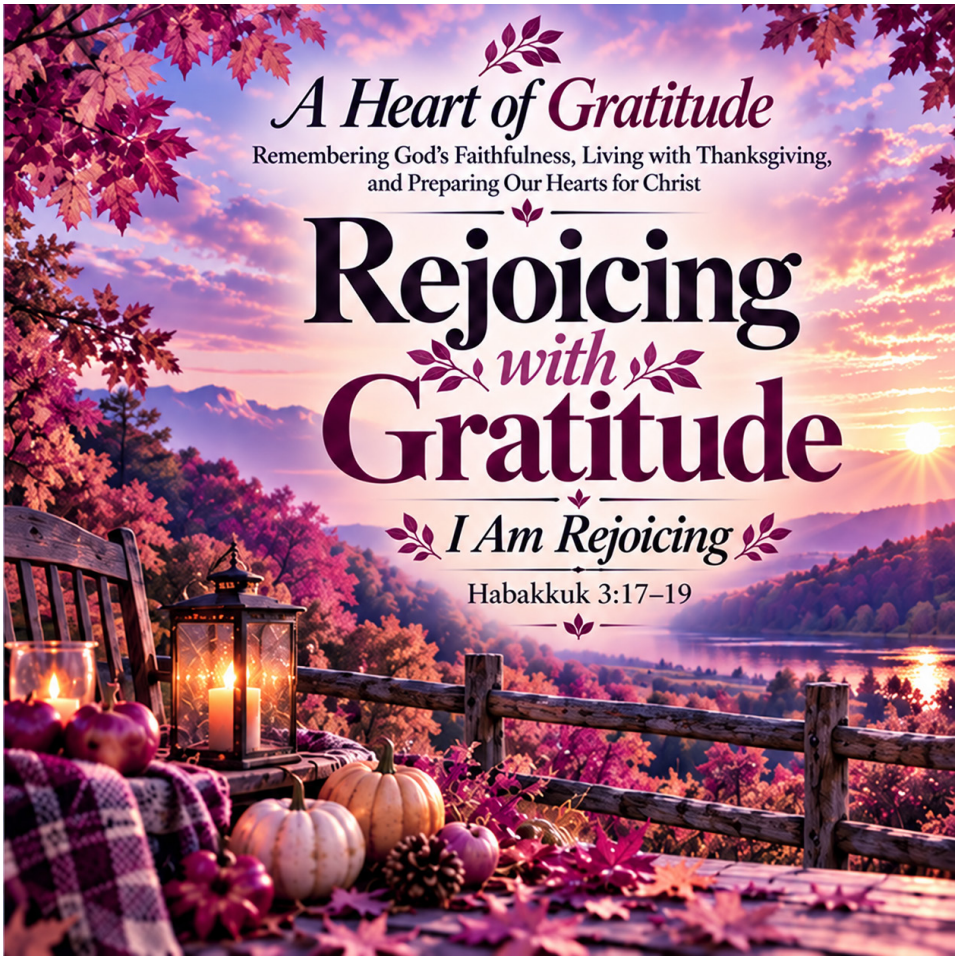
Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



November 22, 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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Though the fig tree does not blossom and the fields yield no food,

Yet we will rejoice in the Lord.

Though life is uncertain and our resources seem small,

God our Savior remains our strength.

Our hope rests not in perfect circumstances but in God's steadfast faithfulness.

We will praise God in abundance and in need.

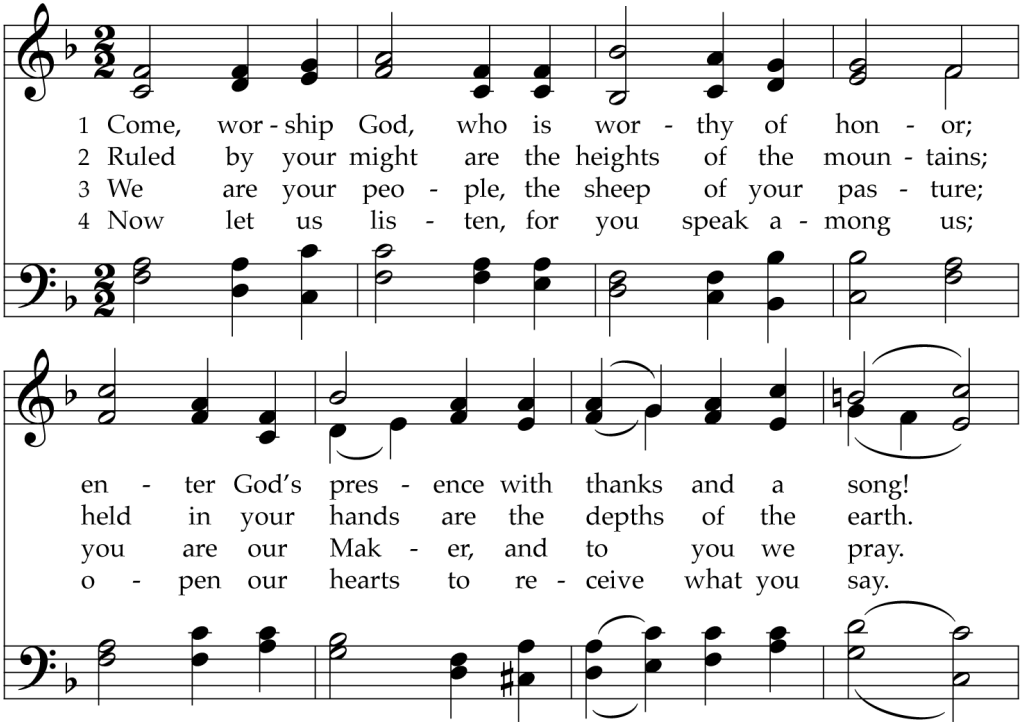
Let us say together:
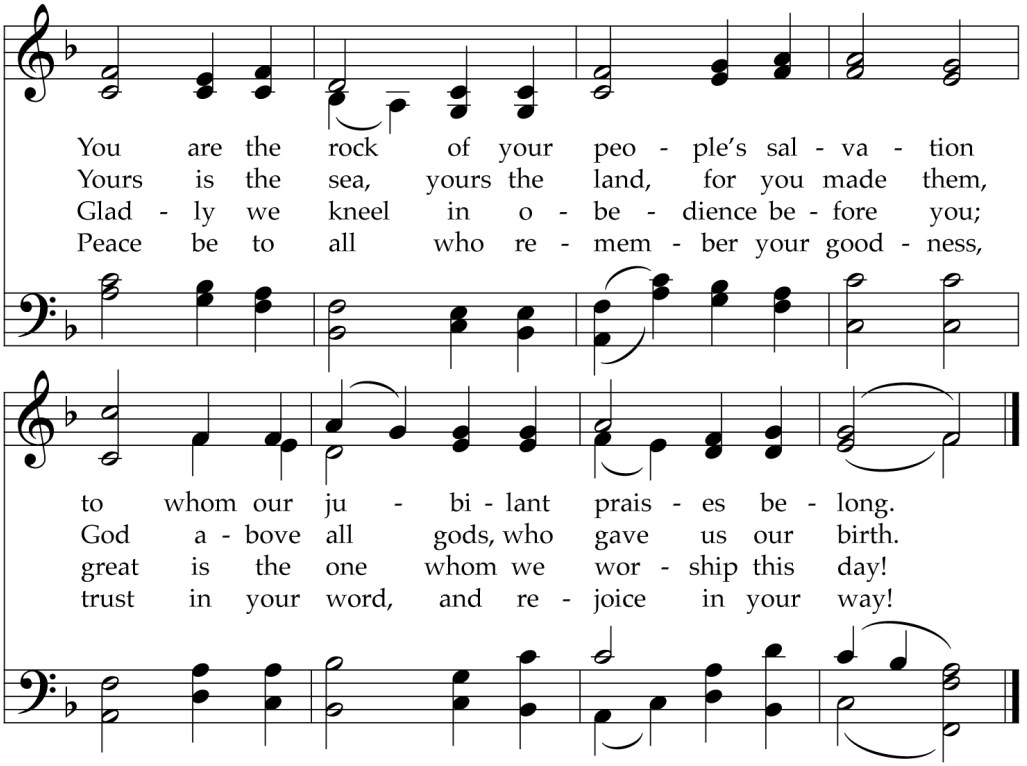
I AM REJOICING WITH GRATITUDE. Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful God, when the fields are full, you are good; when the harvest is uncertain, you remain good. We praise you for your steadfast presence through seasons of plenty and seasons of loss. Plant deep joy within us, not a denial of hardship but trust in your sustaining love. Prepare our grateful hearts to welcome the hope of Christ in Advent. **Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN GTG 386 *Come, Worship God*





Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

CONFESSION AND PARDON

We proclaim trust in God, but difficult days can leave us anxious or bitter.

We come honestly before the One whose mercy never fails.
Steadfast God,
we confess that we sometimes equate your goodness with our success
and your presence with easy circumstances.
When blessings seem scarce, we lose sight of your faithfulness;
when blessings are plentiful, we forget our dependence on you.
Forgive us for judging others' struggles and for hiding our own.
Teach us a gratitude spacious enough for both joy and lament.
Be our strength and renew our hope. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ's grace holds us in seasons of plenty and seasons of need. God's mercy will not fail.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and renewed. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
God of hope, open our hearts to Habakkuk's courageous prayer. When life is difficult, help us hear your promise without silencing our sorrow. Deepen our joy in you and prepare us for Advent. **Amen.**

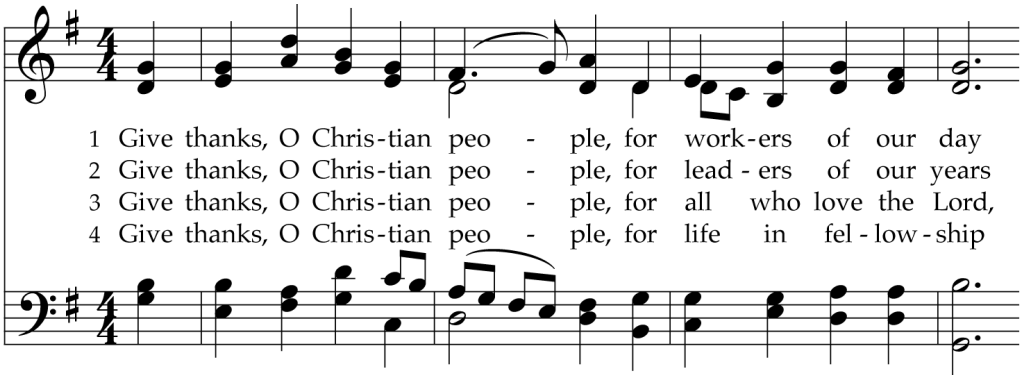
SPECIAL MUSIC *We Will Give Thanks* CPC Choir
by Mark Patterson
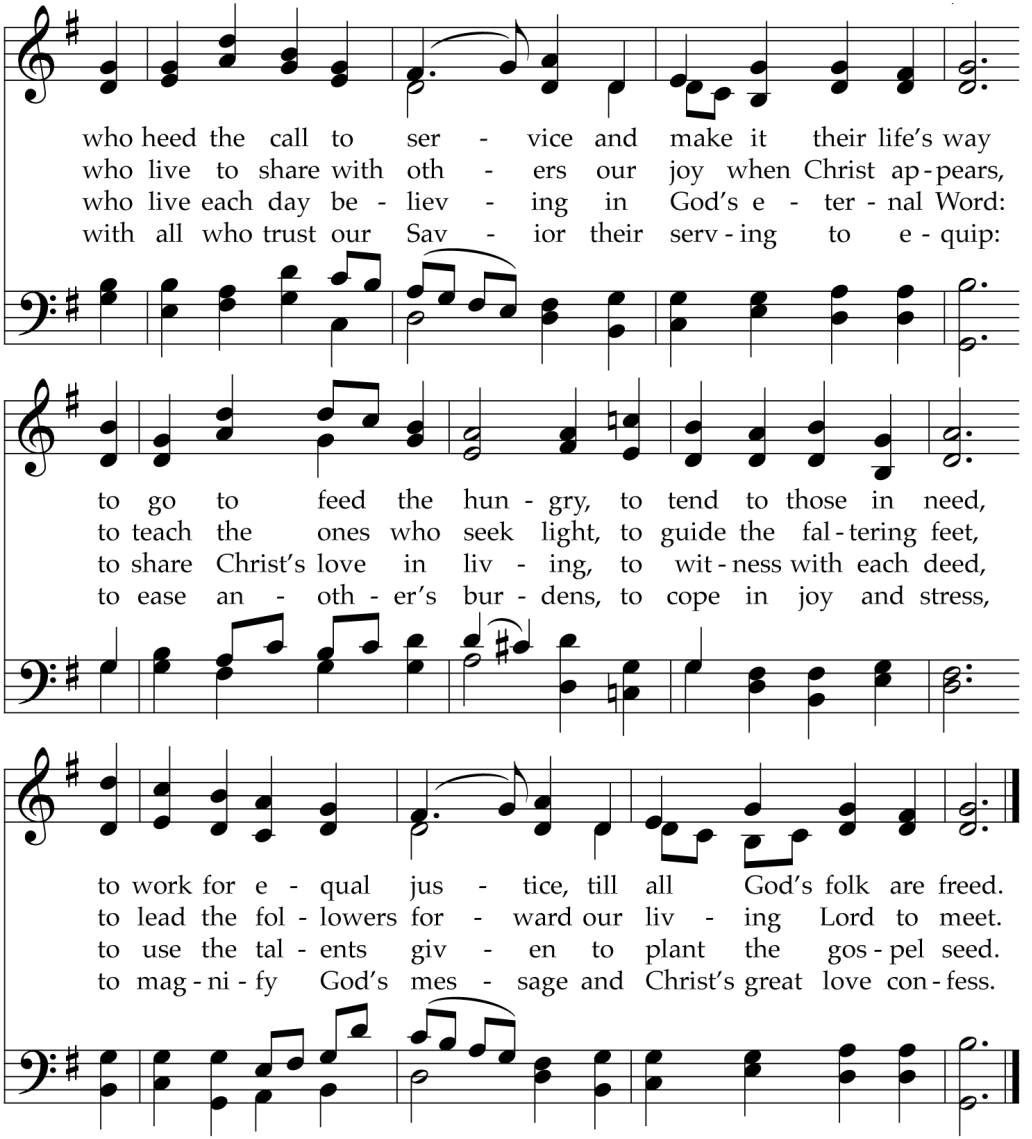
SCRIPTURE READING Habakkuk 3:17–19
Trust and Joy in the Midst of Trouble
Though the fig tree does not blossom
and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails
and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold
and there is no herd in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.
God, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer
and makes me tread upon the heights.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *I Am Rejoicing with Gratitude* Pastor Paul

*HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 644 *Give Thanks, O Christian People*





This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

TEXT: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1984
MUSIC: Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN
7.6.7.6.D

Text © 1986 Fresh Winds of the Spirit *by Lavon Bayler (admin. The Pilgrim Press)*

Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

INVITATION TO CONGREGATIONAL JOYS AND CONCERNS
Whether this season brings celebration or difficulty, we come honestly before God. Let us share our joys and concerns. After each sharing: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING
Whether our days bring abundance or uncertainty, God remains faithful. Trusting the Lord as our strength, let us offer our gifts and lives with joy.

DOXOLOGY GTG 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen
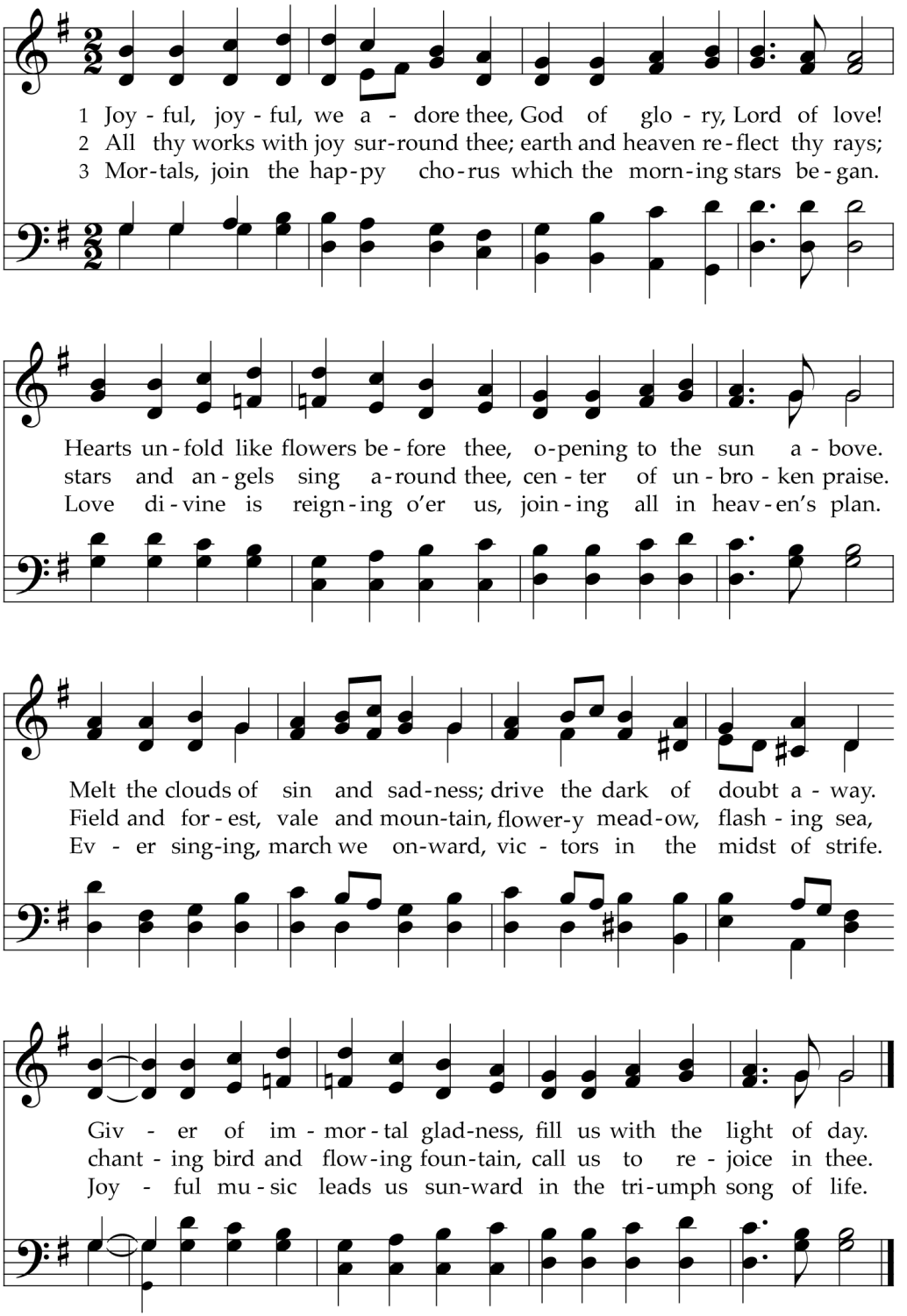
PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Faithful God, receive these gifts and our willing commitments. Give us courage to trust you through uncertain seasons. Use our gifts to nurture hope, serve neighbors, and bear witness to Christ. **Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN GTG 611 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

*BENEDICTION
Go in joy that rests in God's faithfulness.
In abundance and in scarcity, trust the Lord as your strength.
I AM REJOICING WITH GRATITUDE.

As Advent draws near, may the God of hope fill you with peace, the risen Christ sustain you, and the Holy Spirit guide your steps. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE



Printed with Permission CCLI #2748883

2026 Thank Offering OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

"Little children, *let us love* not in word or speech but *in deed and truth*."

—1 John 3:18*

About the Thank Offering

The Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women began in 1888 through the vision of Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio. She urged women to give one dollar over and above their usual contribution to mission as a "thank offering to her Lord." Since then, people in the U.S. and around the world have benefitted from grants given through the generosity of Presbyterian Women.

Today we continue to answer Eliza's call through support of the PW Thank Offering. When we come together to offer gifts across communities of faithful disciples, we make a much greater impact than we can as individuals.

For more information on all the 2026 Thank Offering recipients, read the Fall issue of *Horizons* magazine or go to presbyterianwomen.org/thank.

* New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved worldwide. Used by permission.

Presbyterian Women
in the PC(USA), Inc.
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202
presbyterianwomen.org

2026 *Thank Offering* of Presbyterian Women



Madame Mary Amonde and Chaplain Isaac Nyamori

Nyanza Area African Inland Church
Basic Needs, Simple Solutions, U.S. fiscal sponsor
GOD'S GREEN RESOURCEFUL EARTH MINISTRY:
GROWING GARDENS, FEEDING MINDS
basicandsimple.org
$40,000

Ten years ago, First Presbyterian Church in Jeffersonville, Indiana, and the Nyanza Area Africa Inland Church formed a partnership to build a tree nursery in Kenya. Tens of thousands of trees have since literally sprouted, taking root in schoolyards and churchyards, urban landscapes and farmlands. And figuratively, church leaders have planted seeds among parishioners and neighbors as they expand a ministry called God's Green Resourceful Earth.

In 2024, a new idea took root. Thousands of schoolchildren were going hungry. Why not feed them all while nurturing their love of nature and skill in gardening? A pilot program called "Growing Gardens, Feeding Minds" opened at Renja Primary School, feeding daily nutritious lunches, prepared with produce from the garden and locally sourced foods, to 650 students.

Renja's principal, Madame Mary Amonde, pointed out that daily lunches help children to stay in school to learn. For children who are HIV positive, she emphasized, the food is life-saving medicine. Within a few months, Renja students' well-being was documented by significant increases in standardized test scores.

The Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering grant will help this project flourish and expand. Through your giving you help grow gardens and feed minds, bodies and communities.

PWR26480

HIAWATHA HOMES FOUNDATION

FESTIVAL OF TREES

A CELEBRATION OF GIVING

BENEFITING HIAWATHA HOMES FOUNDATION

WITH PRESENTING SPONSOR

khg KAHLER HOSPITALITY GROUP

Serving you with all our heart.

Festival of Trees: Where Tradition Meets Purpose

Opening Night Gala: November 24, 2026
General Admission: November 27 - 29, 2026
Friday, November 27 | 10 AM - 7 PM
Saturday, November 28 | 10 AM - 6 PM
Sunday, November 29 | 10 AM - 2 PM

The Kahler Grand Hotel
20 2nd Ave SW, Rochester, MN 55902

Now in its 41st year, Festival of Trees brings our community together to celebrate the season and support Hiawatha Homes by creating opportunities, connection, and care for people with disabilities.

For more information go to: https://www.hiawathahomes.org/festival-of-trees

Special Events at the Festival:
Online Silent Auction, Tuesday, November 24 - Saturday, November 28, DiverseAbility Day, Saturday, November 28 | 10 am - 2 pm, Festival After Dark (21+) | Saturday, November 28 | 7 pm - 10 pm, Sensory Friendly Hour, Sunday, November 29 | 10 am - 11 am, Auction Item Pickup, Sunday, November 29 | 10 am - 6 pm

Special
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Congregational Meeting
TODAY
following worship
For the purpose of electing elders and deacons.
Plan to stay!



designed by freepik
image from: https://www.magnific.com/



Greening of the Church
Sunday, November 29th
after worship!

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded



Sunday, November 22 PW Thank Offering
11:00 am Worship - Onsite and Online
12:00 pm Congregational Meeting

This week:

Tuesday, November 24
9:00 am Bulletin Items Due
9:30 am PW "Extra" Bible Study
https://meet.google.com/wpx-tsra-ppg
Or dial: (US) +1 316-416-2584
PIN: 239 113 939#

6:00 pm Session Meeting
7:00 pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Net.

Wednesday, November 25
8:00 am Prayer Group
6:30 pm CPC Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving
Office Closed

Sunday, November 29 Advent 1
11:00 am Worship - Onsite and Online
12:00 pm Greening of the Church

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Judy Leal
Jane and Ed Burgstaler 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.

In Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Paul Banchasawan
Liturgist	Mark Neville
Special Music	CPC Choir
IT Support	Louis Bouchard & Bruce Felger

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Paul Banchasawan
Music Director	Jennifer Taylor
Pianist	Tianyao Xie
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch