

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

April 21, 2024 10:30 a.m.

Order of Worship

Prelude

**indicates to stand as you are able.

Lord Most High with Praise Him! Praise Him! Psalm 91:1: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. arr. C. Tornquist

"From the ends of the earth, from the depths of the sea, from the heights of the heavens, Your name be praised. From the hearts of the weak, from the shouts of the strong, from the lips of all people, this song we raise, Lord. Throughout the endless ages, You will be crowned with praises, Lord Most High. Exalted in every nation, Sovereign of all creation, Lord Most High, be magnified." (words and music by D. Harris/Gary Sadler, 1996; Integrity's Hosanna! Music)

Psalm 103:1: Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

"Praise Him, praise Him Jesus our blessed Redeemer; sing O earth His wonderful love proclaim. Hail Him, hail Him, highest archangels in glory; strength and honor give to His holy name. Like a Shepherd, Jesus will guard His children; in His arms He carries them all day long. Praise Him, praise Him, tell of His excellent greatness. Praise Him, praise Him, ever in joyful song!" (words by F. Crosby; 1869; music composed by C. Allen, 1869; public domain) (this piano solo: Integrity's Hosanna! Music/Integrity Media, Inc., 1989)

Introit

Surely the Presence of the Lord Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His mighty power and His grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings I see glory on each face; Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace (L: Leader; P: People)

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

**Call to Worship

Liz Perraud

Allison Miller

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God.

P: It is God who made us; we belong to God. We are his people and the sheep of his own pasture. L: Holy Spirit, ready our hearts to hear our Shepherd's voice. Encourage us to declare the Risen One and how he saves us.

P: Creator, Risen Savior, and Encourager, we come together to worship you.

****Silent Prayer of Confession**

****Common Prayer of Confession**

One: God, you are Creator, Risen Savior, Encourager.

- All: You formed us from the earth and breathed life into our bodies. You guide us along paths of right-living, and offer us your very life. You call us together and breathe your Spirit through us.
- One: You have made us in your image. Now remind us that still, we are *not* God. We confess—we have forgotten.
- All: We have forgotten that it is your kingdom, not ours. We have forgotten to listen for your voice,

so often drowned out by our noise.

We have forgotten that you call all creation to joyous life and relationship, not to outdoing ourselves in rule-following.

Forgive us, O God, and turn us again to your way.

- One: You, Lord, are Healer, making wholeness where once there was brokenness. You offer a way of life that carries hope for all the world!
- All: But we turn our eyes from a dying creation, ignoring your call to care. We admit that we choose what is easy,

at the expense of the people and the planet you have created.

We confess that we want green pastures and still waters for ourselves, but we are party to systems in which some waste away ----while we simply waste.

When our doors are shut, so only those in the know may enter,

- when our hearts are firmly locked against anything new,
- when our habits are closed and therefore leave others out,

Forgive us, O God, and turn us again to your way.

- One: We pray "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done" and yet we admit, O Lord, that we are very attached to our own wills.
- All: Forgive us, O God, and turn us again to your way. Fill us with your steadfast love, and lead us into your abundant life. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, this is the Good News of the Gospel...

P: ...in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

**Response -240

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks verse 3

Moment with Children

Liz Perraud

*Please note that any children who come forward for the moment with children will likely be seen on the worship livestream on Facebook

Children ages preschool—third grade dismissed to Sunday Experience Please see announcements for instructions.

Word in Music

Lord Most High with Immortal, Invisible Psalm 97: 9: For you, Lord, are the Most High over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

arr. H. Sorenson

(Lord Most High words and music by D. Harris/G. Sadler, 1996; Integrity's Hosanna! Music) (Immortal, Invisible words by W.C. Smith, 1867; music (St. Denio) is a Welsh folk tune, 1839; public domain)

(this choral arrangement Integrity's Hosanna! Music, 2015)

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures

Psalm 23

- One: The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
- All: He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters; he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.
- One: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil. For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
- All: Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Acts 4:1-22

While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees confronted them. They were incensed that the apostles were teaching the people and announcing that the resurrection of the dead was happening because of Jesus. They seized Peter and John and put them in prison until the next day. (It was already evening.) Many who heard the word became believers, and their number grew to about five thousand. The next day the leaders, elders, and legal experts gathered in Jerusalem, along with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and others from the high priest's family. They had Peter and John brought before them and asked, "By what power or in what name did you do this?" Then Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, answered, "Leaders of the people and elders, are we being examined today because something good was done for a sick person, a good deed that healed him? If so, then you and all the people of Israel need to know that this man stands healthy before you because of the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene—whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is the stone you builders rejected; he has become the cornerstone! Salvation can be found in no one else. Throughout the whole world, no other name has been given among humans through which we must be saved."

The council was caught by surprise by the confidence with which Peter and John spoke. After all, they understood that these apostles were uneducated and inexperienced. They also recognized that they had been followers of Jesus. However, since the healed man was standing with Peter and John before their own eyes, they had no rebuttal. After ordering them to wait outside, the council members began to confer with each other. "What should we do with these men? Everyone living in Jerusalem is aware of the sign performed through them. It's obvious to everyone and we can't deny it. To keep it from spreading further among the people, we need to warn them not to speak to anyone in this name." When they called Peter and John back, they demanded that they stop all speaking and teaching in the name of Jesus.

Peter and John responded, "It's up to you to determine whether it's right before God to obey you rather than God. As for us, we can't stop speaking about what we have seen and heard." They threatened them further, then released them. Because of public support for Peter and John, they couldn't find a way to punish them. Everyone was praising God for what had happened, because the man who had experienced this sign of healing was over 40 years old.

L: The Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.** Good Trouble

**Hymn - 231

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Invitation to Offering

There are numerous ways to give to the work of CMPC. Offering plates will be passed through the pews during the offertory for checks or cash to be left today. Cards with a QR code that will direct you to our online giving page are located in the pew racks. Donations can always be mailed to the church at any time using the address on the back page of the bulletin. Thank you for your support!

Offertory

Our God with Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise Psalm 113: 4-6: The Lord is exalted over all the nations, His glory above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?

"Water You turned into wine, opened the eyes of the blind; there's no one like You, none like You. Our God is greater, our God is stronger, God You are higher than any other. Our God is healer, awesome in power our God our God."

And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us; and if our God is with us, then what could stand against; and if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us, and if our God is with us, then what could stand against. Our God is greater, our God is stronger, God You are higher than any other. Our God is healer, awesome in power our God our God."

(words and music by M. Redman/J. Myrin/C. Tomlin/H, Reeves; 2010; admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) (Atlas Mountain Songs; Rising Springs Music; Thankyou Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs, 2010)

"Immortal, invisible, God only wise; in light inaccessible hid from our eyes; most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise."

(Immortal, Invisible citing above) (this piano solo: Shout! Publishing, 2010)

**Doxology - 708

We Give Thee but Thine Own We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Prayers of Thanksgiving with The Lord's Prayer (using "debts")

****Hymn** - 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

**Benediction

Postlude

Gigue arr. C. Simone Ezekiel 34: 31: You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Sovereign Lord.

(by G.F. Telemann, 1733; public domain) (this organ solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 1985) arr. C. Tornquist

Thank you to John Kim and Allen Exner for providing audio support this week! Thank you to Kevin Wilson for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

Welcome!

Rev. Janna VanderWoude served as a clinical social worker with adolescents, primarily in school settings, and as Director of Youth Ministries at First of Westminster before returning to school for her MDiv. She is a graduate of Calvin College, University of Maryland School of Social Work and Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond. She was ordained into Baltimore Presbytery in 2017 and served as pastor at Northminster Presbyterian in Reisterstown until its closure at the end of 2022. She and her husband John have three adult children now scattered along the upper east coast, as well as two grandchildren who provide great delight. Janna is presently considering new ministry opportunities and doing her level best to listen to God about what comes next.

Pastoral Transition

For an udpate on the pastoral transition, the Personnel Committee is continuing to work hard on our options. We have had conversations with pastors and churches in the area and outside of Howard County for their advice and guidance. We continue to have the support from the Presbytery of Baltimore and the preachers who have already served and have agreed to serve again. As we continue to proceed in this transition and decide the best way moving forward, please trust in the leadership of CMPC. We will always prioritze the best interests of CMPC throughout this process.

Red Cross Blood Drive - URGENT NEED!

The Red Cross will be at CMPC for a blood drive on April 29th from 12:30 - 6:00 pm. Please sign up here! Your blood can save lives! Race to give blood and get a coupon for free haircut by email, thanks to Sport Clips Haircuts! Plus, a chance to win a VIP NASCAR experience to the 2024 NASCAR Cup Series & Xfinity Races at Darlington Raceway. PLUS: Receive a FREE \$10 e-gift card!



Church Office Hours

The church office is open Monday - Friday from 1:00 - 5:00pm. If you need to enter the building and do not have a key, please visit the church when the office is open.

Spring Clean Up

May 4th, 8:30 - 1:00pm There will be jobs for all ages both inside and outside of the church., rain or shine. For more information, please contact Tito Baca at pm@cmpcusa.org

CMPC Annual Musical Treats & Sweets: Times They are a Changin'

Sunday evening, June 9 (6-8:00pm) will be our annual "Musical Treats & Sweets," a wonderful evening of musical performances, silent auction, and free treats. This is a fundraiser to benefit the GenOn Youth Summit attendance (for our community and a community in-need). The theme this year is "Times They are a Changin". If you would like to perform, contact Lindsey Kim (lindseyathorne@yahoo.com) (she can help you with an accompanist if needed). If you have a sweet treat or specialty item for the auction, contact Tom and Meg Engle (dpgroove@hotmail.com) or something for the snack table contact Debbie O'Neal (oneal04@aol.com). If you have a hosted event for the auction, contact Ashlyn Sowell (ashlynsowell@yahoo.com).

Mission Committee Thank you Luncheon

The Mission and Local Outreach Committee is planning to hold a lunch after worship on on May 5 to recognize those who have volunteered for the Cold Weather Shelter and have supported the Grassroots Route One Day Resource Center with meals on the fourth Monday of every month. We are inviting all volunteers and their families to join in the celebration of both hands-on missions that demonstrate the commitment of our members to serve those in need. Please contact Kathleen Smith office@cmpcusa.org to confirm your participation.



VBS Help Needed

If you are unable to help the week of the event but would like to creatively support VBS, we are looking for people that would be willing to serve on a VBS Decorating Committee headed by Cordelia Lamb. Cordelia will supply crafting projects that include cutting, gluing and prepping from home for the big VBS week. If you are able to service in this way please email Laura Jean Graybeal (vbs@cmpcusa.org).

Quarterly Stewardship & Finance Update

The end of March marked the end of the first quarter (25%) of the year and we are pleased to report that we have received 31% of the income needed to meet our budget. The primary reason that our income surpassed our budgeted expenses is because some members generously paid their entire annual pledges during the first quarter. A sincere "Thank you" to those who have already met their full year's pledge commitment and to those who are regularly giving toward their pledge.

While we are in this time of pastoral transition, our shared ministry continues, as do our expenses. Although our income exceeded our budgeted expense during the first quarter, our remaining annual pledges are not projected to cover all our budgeted expenses. Therefore, it is vitally important that everyone continues to give towards their pledge and, if you are able, to give a bit more than your pledge so that we may continue to address our deficit budget. Thank you!

Food Collection

CMPC's CARE Group program provides members with a contact person in the church. CARE Group leaders reach out to their assigned families a few times a year to see if there are any needs or concerns. Last year's visioning report identified food insecurity in our county as an area of importance to our congregation. With this in mind, our CARE Group ministry will be collecting some requested items for the Oakland Mills High School Food Pantry which distributes items once a month, to families in need. The Food Pantry currently serves between 70 and 80 families and is supported primarily through donations. The next distribution date is Wednesday, May 29, 2024. We will be collecting the following 5 items:

- -Boxed cereal
- -Boxed pasta
- -Rice
- -Baby wipes
- -Diapers

(Please ensure that donated goods are in sealed packages and have not expired.)

Collections bins will be placed downstairs, inside the door from the parking lot, and upstairs in the narthex, outside of the sanctuary. **Donations will be accepted May 5th-May 19th**. Items will be delivered to OMHS that following week.

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Pettit, Markita Garner or Sandi Chapasko. Thank you in advance for your support!

Invite a Friend to Church!

Did You Know....CMPC has "Invite a Friend to Church" cards? They are intended to provide all the information a possible visitor might need to check out CMPC; including our mission, address, how to contact us in person or online! My favorite part is the picture of our church and our invitation to visit.

These cards are available at the new welcome center, in the narthex and at the church office. Please take one and use them to invite a friend to CMPC! We know that Jesus will show us opportunities that will grow his kingdom.

Online Bible Study

Let's discuss Jesus' parables Monday nights on Zoom. Beginning June 2nd, we will use the 'Shared Inquiry Method' to examine the parables. What was Jesus saying to the people of His time and what is He saying to us today? Contact Kathy Koch for the zoom link (kathrynkoch79@gmail.com).

Fellowship Events

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring the following activities!

- 4/28 Fellowship Hour
- 5/12 Mother's Day carnations passed out to mothers in attendance
- 5/19 Chili cookoff Fellowship Hall
- 6/2 Fellowship Hour
- 6/16 Father's Day chocolate bars passed out to fathers in attendance
- 6/23 Kona Ice Truck for Fellowship Hour



Psalm 95, often called *Venite* from its first word in Latin, has long served as an opening canticle in the worship of Western Christianity. John Calvin found here two reasons to praise God: for sustaining the created world and for adopting the church into a gracious relationship.



This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.



Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE



*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

