



# Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

**May 11, 2025 10:30 a.m.**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

## Order of Worship

\*\*indicates to stand as you are able.

### **Prelude**

*I've Got the Joy*

arr. P. Choplin

Romans 15:13: *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

"I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;  
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay."

"I've got the love of Jesus down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;  
I've got the love of Jesus, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay."

"I've got the peace that passeth understanding down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;  
I've got the peace that passeth understanding, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay."

"I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;  
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay."

(words by R. McDaniel, 1914; music (*McDaniel*) by C. Gabriel, 1914; public domain)  
(this piano solo: Lorenz Publishing Co, 2008)

### **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Janna VanderWoude

## **GATHERING**

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

Rev. Janna VanderWoude

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

### **\*\*Call to Worship**

Kathy Koch

One: Wherever we look

**All: God is already at work!**

One: The Spirit is moving

**All: even in people we never expected.**

One: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**All: God is calling us all together into one Body.**

**\*\*Hymn - 19**

*God of Great and God of Small*

## **Call to Confession, followed by Silence for Reflection and Prayer**

### **Common Prayer of Confession**

You are a God who reaches beyond the borders of our traditions,  
gathering all peoples to yourself.

You insist there is no distinction between us,  
but your inclusive love makes us uncomfortable.

We confess we'd like some more say-so in who You bring into our community:

We admit we'd like others to assimilate to our preferences before we offer full acceptance.

When we want to control the terms of other people's relationship with you,

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

When we cannot-- or will not--look for connections between our beloved ways and new needs,

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

When we refuse to listen to the experiences of others who have seen you at work,

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

**You are always creating and re-creating your Body to love, serve, and care for the world,  
so make us willing to allow your Spirit to blow where she will,  
and ready to follow through the doors you open.**

**Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Because we were buried with Christ in these waters, we are also raised to life with him.

Hear the Good News! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

### **\*\*Response in Song-246, v.5**

#### *Christ is Alive*

Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

## **WORD**

### **Moment with Children**

*\*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**

#### *Joy Down in My Heart*

arr. M. McDonald

Psalm 4: 7: *You have filled my heart with great joy!*

(see citing information above)

(this choral arrangement: Lorenz Publishing Company, 2009)

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Kathy Koch

## Scriptures:

### Luke 2:25-32

Liturgist Kathy Koch

<sup>25</sup> A man named Simeon was in Jerusalem. He was righteous and devout. He eagerly anticipated the restoration of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> The Holy Spirit revealed to him that he wouldn't die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> Led by the Spirit, he went into the temple area. Meanwhile, Jesus' parents brought the child to the temple so that they could do what was customary under the Law. <sup>28</sup> Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God. He said,

<sup>29</sup> "Now, master, let your servant go in peace according to your word,

<sup>30</sup> because my eyes have seen your salvation.

<sup>31</sup> You prepared this salvation in the presence of all peoples.

<sup>32</sup> It's a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and a glory for your people Israel."

### Acts 15:1-18

Some people came down from Judea teaching the family of believers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom we've received from Moses, you can't be saved." <sup>2</sup> Paul and Barnabas took sides against these Judeans and argued strongly against their position.

The church at Antioch appointed Paul, Barnabas, and several others from Antioch to go up to Jerusalem to set this question before the apostles and the elders. <sup>3</sup> The church sent this delegation on their way. They traveled through Phoenicia and Samaria, telling stories about the conversion of the Gentiles to everyone. Their reports thrilled the brothers and sisters. <sup>4</sup> When they arrived in Jerusalem, the church, the apostles, and the elders all welcomed them. They gave a full report of what God had accomplished through their activity. <sup>5</sup> Some believers from among the Pharisees stood up and claimed, "The Gentiles must be circumcised. They must be required to keep the Law from Moses."

<sup>6</sup> The apostles and the elders gathered to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup> After much debate, Peter stood and addressed them, "Fellow believers, you know that, early on, God chose me from among you as the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and come to believe. <sup>8</sup> God, who knows people's deepest thoughts and desires, confirmed this by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us. <sup>9</sup> He made no distinction between us and them, but purified their deepest thoughts and desires through faith. <sup>10</sup> Why then are you now challenging God by placing a burden on the shoulders of these disciples that neither we nor our ancestors could bear?

<sup>11</sup> On the contrary, we believe that we and they are saved in the same way, by the grace of the Lord Jesus."

<sup>12</sup> The entire assembly fell quiet as they listened to Barnabas and Paul describe all the signs and wonders God did among the Gentiles through their activity. <sup>13</sup> When Barnabas and Paul also fell silent, James responded, "Fellow believers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup> Simon reported how, in his kindness, God came to the Gentiles in the first place, to raise up from them a people of God. <sup>15</sup> The prophets' words agree with this; as it is written,

<sup>16</sup> *After this I will return,*

*and I will rebuild David's fallen tent;*

*I will rebuild what has been torn down.*

*I will restore it*

<sup>17</sup> *so that the rest of humanity will seek the Lord,  
even all the Gentiles who belong to me.*

*The Lord says this, the one who does these things[a]*

<sup>18</sup> known from earliest times.

L: We are witnesses to these things: Jesus, the Christ, is risen from the dead.

**P: Thanks be to God**

**\*\*Hymn of Response** - 315, v. 1,3,4     *In the Midst of New Dimensions*

**Recognition of 2025 Graduates, with Gratitude and Prayers**

**THANKSGIVING/EUCHARIST**

**\*\*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**

*Easter Flowers*

by L. Ellis

Isaiah 61:11: *For just as the ground produces its crops and a garden yields its produce, so the Sovereign Lord will cause deliverance to grow, and give his people reason to praise him in the sight of all the nations.*

*"Easter flowers are blooming bright, Easter skies pour radiant light; Christ our Lord is risen in might, Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ our Lord is risen in might, Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

(music (*Tenbury*): Frederick A.G. Ouseley, 1800's; Public Domain)  
(this organ solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 1954)

**\*\*Doxology** - 240, v. 4

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give praise to his name

Come let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Savior. (Refrain)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give praise to his name

**Prayers of Thanksgiving with the Lord's Prayer**

**SENDING**

**\*\*Hymn** - 767

*Together we Serve*

**\*\*Blessing and Charge**

**Postlude**

*Gigue*

arr. C. Simone

Psalm 51:10: *Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*

(by G. P. Telemann, 1700's; public domain) (this instrumental organ solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 1984)

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## **Fruit of the Spirit**

The Wednesday night (7:30 pm) Bible Study will begin a study of The Fruit of the Spirit on May 7. This will run through May and June. For the Zoom link, contact Kathy Koch at [kathrynkoch79@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynkoch79@gmail.com).

## **VBS Volunteers**

VBS is looking for creative and hardworking people that would be interested in helping turn Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church into our own True North Alaskan Wilderness for VBS this year! We are looking for people to cut, glue and prep decorations from home as well as decorate in the days before VBS. If you are interested please email Laura Jean Graybeal at [vbs@cmnpcusa.org](mailto:vbs@cmnpcusa.org)

## **Care and Wellness Committee in partnership with Fellowship Committee present: "Caring for the Caregiver"**

Nothing is more important than the loving dedication of a caregiver to a parent, spouse, family member, or friend. Frequently, this 24-hour care is given with little or no support from others. At some point in each of our lives, we will be faced with "being a caregiver" or "supporting a caregiver." Gilchrist Ambassadors will facilitate a one hour discussion on how to be a quality caregiver, handling the stress surrounding the job, setting realistic goals and the importance of staying connected....even caregivers can live every moment to the fullest! This discussion is not to be missed! Please plan to attend and invite your friends who may benefit from this information.

When: Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 12:15pm in Fellowship Hall/Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church, Columbia, MD

Light luncheon will be provided at 11:30.

RSVP to the CMPC office by Sunday, June 1, 2025....[office@cmnpcusa.org](mailto:office@cmnpcusa.org) or call the church administrator at 410-997-8011. If no one answers, leave your name and number of attendees.

We look forward to seeing you!

## **Fellowship Hour**

There will be no Fellowship Hour today. To honor our mothers in attendance at worship, ushers will be passing out carnations to all mothers as they exit the sanctuary following worship.

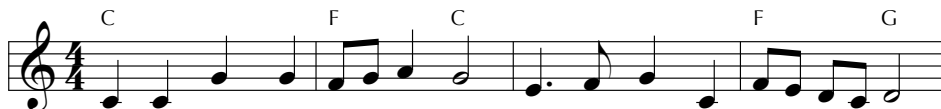
May 18th we will resume Fellowship Hour with a special one ... a strawberry festival! We will have ice cream, strawberries, and treats immediately following worship.

Thank you to John Kim and Neil Danzig for providing audio support this week!

Thank you to        for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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# God of Great and God of Small 19



1 God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,  
 2 God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,  
 3 God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,  
 4 God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,



God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,  
 God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,  
 God of day and dark - est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,  
 God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,

## Refrain



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

Although it uses remarkably simple language, this text affirms a great mystery: beyond all our powers of explanation, God holds together all the opposites that seem to pull us in one direction or another. Yet God is present to them all and also to us; for that we give praise.

## 315 In the Midst of New Dimensions

1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of  
 2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,  
 3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -  
 4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,  
 5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -

chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples  
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?  
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,  
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,  
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

*Refrain*

wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?  
 Who will light the flame of care?  
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,  
 each a love song to be sung.  
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

In this simultaneously-created text and tune, the author-composer was seeking to incorporate imagery from both Native American and Hebrew spiritual traditions. Also included is the mythological phoenix, which had received a Christian interpretation as early as the first century.

## THE CHURCH

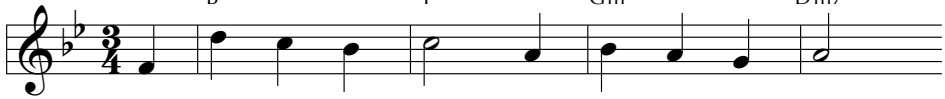
now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves feature a series of chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the music. The piece concludes with a double bar line.



## Together We Serve

767

Capo 3: (G)  
B $\flat$ (D)  
F(Em)  
Gm(Bm7)  
Dm7

1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,  
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,  
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,  
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,

(C)  
E $\flat$ (G)  
B $\flat$ (Am7)  
Cm7(Dsus) (D)  
Fsus F

in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.  
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.  
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.

(G)  
B $\flat$ (D)  
F(C)  
E $\flat$ (Bm)  
Dm

We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,  
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,  
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,

(G)  
B $\flat$ (C)  
E $\flat$ (G)  
B $\flat$ (Am)  
Cm(D7)  
F7(G)  
B $\flat$ 

ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.  
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.  
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.  
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11–16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.



**Mollie Thomas** is graduating from Atholton High School on May 29th. While at Atholton, she has been an active member of the music program, holding leadership positions in the marching band, wind ensemble, and Tri-M music honor society. Outside of school, she has served as a founder and Senior Patrol Leader of CMPC's Scout Troop 75G, worked on local political campaigns, and of course, stayed engaged in her church community. During her time at CMPC, she had the pleasure of serving as a youth deacon, participating in the LOGOS program, and volunteering for Sunday experience and VBS. She wants to thank her church family for creating such a welcoming and supportive environment throughout her childhood, and providing so many great friendships, mentors, and memories.

In August, Mollie will be attending the College of William & Mary in VA, pursuing a double major in International Relations and Data Science.



## *Congratulations to the Class of 2025*



**Kofi Akuoko** is graduating this May from Long Reach High School as part of the Class of 2025. He has been an active member of LOGOS since 2013 and particularly enjoyed his time with FISH. He also enjoys operating the Cameras in the Sanctuary and recently operating the Sounds system as well. Kofi is a passionate soccer player and enjoys both teamwork and sportsmanship. In the Fall, he will attend Penn State to study Biochemistry. Kofi is eager to embrace the challenge of this new chapter of his life and is grateful to his CMPC family for the love and support he has enjoyed over the years.



**Aaron Aquino** will be continuing his education at UNC Charlotte in the Honors program for Mechanical Engineering with a Motor Sports concentration and plans to complete with the 49ers FSAE IC racing team.



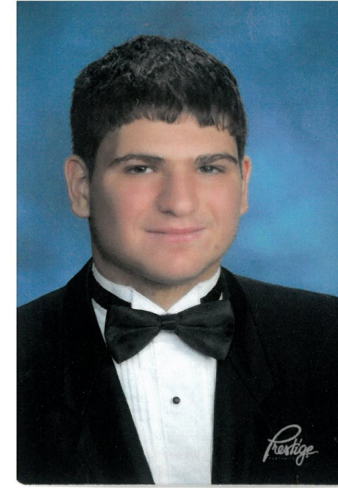
**Toby Aquino** will be graduating Cum Laude from Clemson University with a degree in Criminal Justice. He will be commissioning as a Second Lieutenant into the South Carolina Army National Guard as a Signal Corps officer. He plans to move to Charlotte, NC post grad with his Fiancée Shannon.



**James Board** is graduating from Wilde Lake High School. James played baseball all four years and was on varsity for three. He ran cross country for three years and is a member of NHS. James will be attending Towson University where he will be majoring in Electronic Media and Film.



**Patrick Gavan** is graduating from Penn State, with a BS in Criminology and a minor in legal studies.



**Nick Del Favero** will be graduating from Hammond High School in May. At Hammond he was the goalie for the Boys Varsity Soccer Team and played attack for the Boys Varsity Lacrosse Team. Nick was on the stage crew for the musical (Mean Girls) this past winter. He has been active in LOGOS for several years and was part of the FISH program. He plans to attend HCC in the fall. Nick is interested in becoming a math teacher.



**Riley Jackson** has been an active member of CMPC since 2011. She attended preschool, participated in VBS and LOGOS, and volunteers during Sunday Experience. This year, she is graduating from Reservoir High School, where she was a Speech & Debate team captain and avid theater performer. This fall, Riley will be majoring in chemical engineering at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Special thanks to her friends, family, and the CMPC community!