



Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

May 25, 2025 10:30 a.m.
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Order of Worship

**indicates to stand as you are able.

Prelude

Standing on the Promises

arr. M. Hayes

Hebrews 10: 23: *Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm,
for God can be trusted to keep his promise.*

"Standing on the promises of Christ my king, through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God. Standing,
standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on
the promises of God."

(words and music: Russell K. Kelso, 1886; public domain) (this piano solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 2008)

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

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

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

**Call to Worship

James Board

One: Through the faith of Christ,

All: we live and walk his way.

One: Through the power of the Spirit,

All: we put away the former things and are transformed.

One: Through the grace of God,

All: we are set apart and called to celebrate and proclaim God's good news.

**Hymn - 634

To God be the Glory

Call to Confession, followed by Silence for Reflection and Prayer

Common Prayer of Confession

You give us new life in Christ, O God.

**We confess it is so easy to fall back into old habits,
to find ourselves walking in our old ways.**

**We admit we try to earn our way into your good graces,
and insist others meet you on our terms too.**

When we re-build the very walls you have torn down,
and so cut off ourselves and others from recognizing your love: **Forgive us.**

When we get so wrapped up in our way
that we miss both the destination and the journey: **Forgive us.**

When we allow our worry about what others will think
to make our actions inconsistent with the gospel we claim to believe: **Forgive us.**

**By the faithfulness of Christ your Son,
pull us back into alignment with you, and make us faithful too. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

.....hear the Good News--- We live by the faithfulness of God's Son, who loved us
and gave himself for us: **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

Wes Millard

**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

The Promises of God

arr. L. Larson

Psalm 27: 1: *The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the
stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?*

(words and music by R. Kelso Carter, 1886; public domain)

(this anthem: Lorenz Publishing Co., 2013)

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures:

Luke 18:9-14

⁹ Jesus told this parable to certain people who had convinced themselves that they were righteous and who looked on everyone else with disgust: ¹⁰ “Two people went up to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself with these words, ‘God, I thank you that I’m not like everyone else—crooks, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of everything I receive.’ ¹³ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He wouldn’t even lift his eyes to look toward heaven. Rather, he struck his chest and said, ‘God, show mercy to me, a sinner.’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this person went down to his home justified rather than the Pharisee. All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up.”

Galatians 1:13–17

¹³ You heard about my previous life in Judaism, how severely I harassed God’s church and tried to destroy it. ¹⁴ I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my peers, because I was much more militant about the traditions of my ancestors. ¹⁵ But God had set me apart from birth and called me through his grace. He was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son to me, so that I might preach about him to the Gentiles. I didn’t immediately consult with any human being. ¹⁷ I didn’t go up to Jerusalem to see the men who were apostles before me either, but I went away into Arabia and I returned again to Damascus.

Galatians 2:11–21

¹¹ But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was wrong. ¹² He had been eating with the Gentiles before certain people came from James. But when they came, he began to back out and separate himself, because he was afraid of the people who promoted circumcision. ¹³ And the rest of the Jews also joined him in this hypocrisy so that even Barnabas got carried away with them in their hypocrisy. ¹⁴ But when I saw that they weren’t acting consistently with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of everyone, “If you, though you’re a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you require the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

¹⁵ We are born Jews—we’re not Gentile sinners. ¹⁶ However, we know that a person isn’t made righteous by the works of the Law but rather through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. We ourselves believed in Christ Jesus so that we could be made righteous by the faithfulness of Christ and not by the works of the Law—because no one will be made righteous by the works of the Law. ¹⁷ But if it is discovered that we ourselves are sinners while we are trying to be made righteous in Christ, then is Christ a servant of sin? Absolutely not! ¹⁸ If I rebuild the very things that I tore down, I show that I myself am breaking the Law. ¹⁹ I died to the Law through the Law, so that I could live for God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. And the life that I now live in my body, I live by faith, indeed, by the faithfulness of God’s Son, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I don’t ignore the grace of God, because if we become righteous through the Law, then Christ died for no purpose.

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

P: Thanks be to God

Sermon

****Hymn of Response - 684**

Faith Begins by Letting Go

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

Chorale Prelude on the Melody *Quem Pastores*

arr. H. Willan

John 6: 37-38: *All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.*

"Jesus, good above all other, Lord, in all our doings guide us; pride and hate shall ne'er divide us; we'll go on with thee beside us"

(words and music (taken from a German medieval melody: P. Dreamer, 1906; public domain)

(this organ solo: Concordia Publishing Co., 1950)

****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 p 35 in hymnal

SENDING

****Hymn - 703**

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

****Benediction**

Postlude

Song of Praise

by J. Mansfield

Psalms 149:1: Praise the Lord; sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of his faithful people.

"Hymns of glory, songs of praise, Father, unto thee we raise; Jesu, glory unto thee, with the Spirit, ever be."

(words and music (*Monkland*) James Montgomery, 1819; public domain)

(this organ solo: The Lorenz Co., 2020)

Thank you to Rachael Bis for providing audio support this week!

Thank you to Evangeline Bis for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

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@cmpcusa.org or call the church administrator at 410-997-8011. If no one answers, leave your name and number of attendees.

VBS

With VBS planning for decorations we are looking for Alaska/camping themed props. If you have any of the following items listed below and are interested in lending them for decorations please reach out to VBS@cmpcusa.org

Items needed:

canoes

camp chairs

hiking bags/boots

fishing rods

Communion

Celebration of the Lord's Supper (Communion) will be held the Second Sunday of the month through the summer: June 8 (Pentecost); July 13; and August 10. Please make note of this change in schedule for the summer months.

Men's Breakfast

Please join the men of CMPC for breakfast on June 7th at Bob Evans. Contact Eric Daniels for details at edanie31@yahoo.com

Summer Concert Event: Westminster Knox Choir (June 11th)

Join the entire church for a very special summer event – a Wednesday night concert with the talented Westminster Knox Youth Choir on Wednesday, June 11th.

We will be having a family time dinner with the visiting choir and the congregation from 6-7. The concert will be from 7-8 in the sanctuary, featuring a wide variety of music including gospel, songs of faith from around the globe, and a medley from “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.” Afterwards, those in 6th through 12th grade are invited to stay a little longer into the evening, enjoying some social time, games, and a short devotional with the choir.

Come for as much or as little as you can, but please sign up if you plan on joining for dinner, the social, or would like to help volunteer!



**Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church Financial Update
2025 General Operating Fund**

The Session approved and presented the 2025 budget at the congregational meeting in January. At that time, the formation of a commission was announced to bring members and friends of the congregation into meaningful conversations about ministry expansion opportunities and the corresponding underlying financial needs. We publish these numbers out of our gratitude for your continued financial support and to provide you with an opportunity to participate in the work of the commission and the associated working groups.

CMPC Financial Summary				
Period: January 1, 2025 - April 30, 2025				
2025 General Fund				
		Budget	Actual	% to budget
Pledged Contributions		\$ 497,172	\$ 234,479	47%
Contributions		\$ 40,500	\$ 20,150	50%
Building Use Fees		\$ 6,000	\$ 2,780	46%
Special Mission Offerings		\$ 12,000	\$ 2,264	19%
Pass-Through Revenue		\$ -	2,870	
Total Revenue		\$ 555,672	\$ 262,543	47%
Expenses		\$ 679,254	\$ 216,569	32%
Pass-Through Expenses			\$ 2,870	
Total Expenses			\$ 219,439	
Variance		\$ (123,582)	\$ 43,104	

If you have questions about the financial data as presented, please reach out to Joyce Danzig at joyce.danzig@gmail.com to arrange for a time to talk to a member of the finance committee. For more information about the work of the commission and to learn about ways that you can participate, contact one of our commission co-chairs, Sue Ashman ashmanmom@gmail.com or Josh Gliptis at jbgliptis@gmail.com.

634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
 2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

Refrain

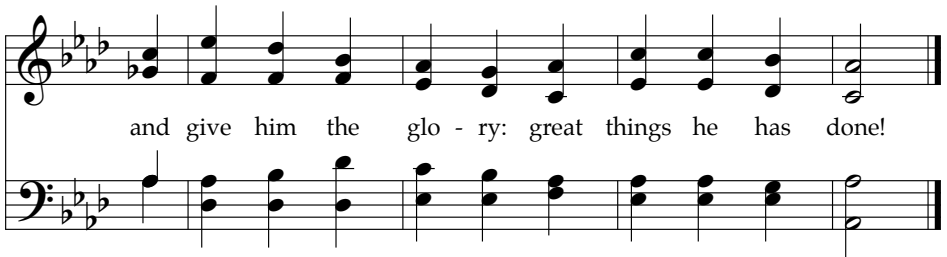
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!



O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,

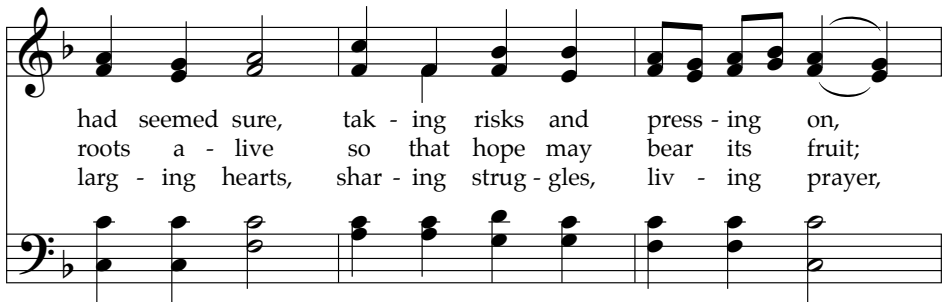


and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

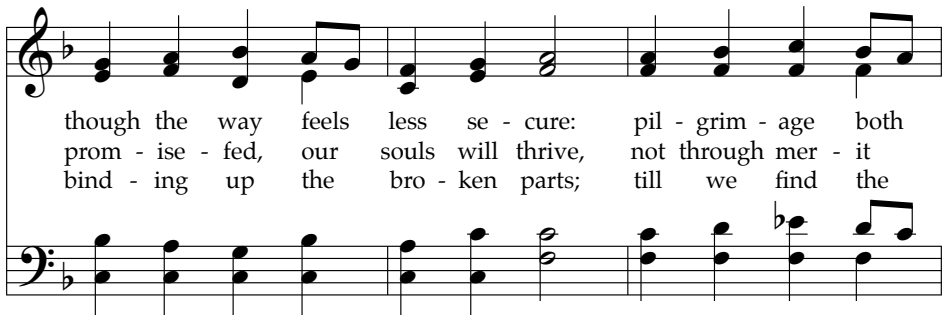
Faith Begins by Letting Go 684



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what
 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - ory's
 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en -



had seemed sure, tak - ing risks and press - ing on,
 roots a - live so that hope may bear its fruit;
 larg - ing hearts, shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer,



though the way feels less se - cure: pil - grim - age both
 prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive, not through mer - it
 bind - ing up the bro - ken parts; till we find the



right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
 we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
 com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

This text affirms that faith is not a state of being but a process of becoming what we are called to be in relationship to God, other people, and the world. The movement from one stage of faith to another is suggested by gestures of the hand: letting go, holding on, reaching out.

703 Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

1 Je - sus, thy bound - less love to me no thought can
 2 O grant that noth - ing in my soul may dwell, but
 3 O Love, how gra - cious is thy way! All fear be -

reach, no tongue de - clare; O knit my thank - ful heart to
 thy pure love a - lone; O may thy love pos - sess me
 fore thy pres - ence flies; care, an - guish, sor - row melt a -

thee, and reign with - out a ri - val there! Thine whol - ly,
 whole, my joy, my trea - sure, and my crown! All cold - ness
 way wher - e'er thy heal - ing beams a - rise. O Je - sus,

thine a - lone, I'd live; my - self to thee en - tire - ly give.
 from my heart re - move; may ev - ery act, word, thought be love.
 noth - ing may I see, noth - ing de - sire, or seek, but thee.

John Wesley learned the original German hymn from the Moravians during his time in Savannah, Georgia, and translated all sixteen stanzas. The tune, named for a 4th-century martyr, comes out of the Roman Catholic revival movement of the mid-19th century.