



# Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

***July 6, 2025 10:30 a.m.  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost***

## Order of Worship

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

### Prelude

*O God, Beyond All Praising*

arr. L. Larson

Psalm 145:1: *I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.*

"O God beyond all praising, we worship You today; and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay.  
For we can only wonder at every gift You send, at blessings without number and mercies without end.  
We lift our hearts before You and wait upon Your word. We honor and adore You, our great and mighty Lord."  
(words: M. Perry, 1982; music (*Thaxted*): G. Holst, 1918)  
(this piano solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 2014)

### 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

Rev. Ken Page

*Liturgist: We gather in the presence of Christ, who calls all people to himself.*

1: Not to escape the world he calls us to serve;

2: not to gloat about our goodness;

**All: but to re-focus ourselves on his priorities.**

*Liturgist: We gather in the presence of Christ, the king.*

3: He is preparing a place for us, in this world and the one to come;

4: and he is among us, preparing us for his kingdom,

**All: in moments large and small, he shows us the way.**

*Liturgist: We gather in the presence of Christ, head of the Body,*

**All: to worship and be made faithful, for fruitful ministry in Christ's name.**

### \*\*Hymn - 332

*The Right Hand of God*

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

### **Common Prayer of Confession**

*L: You have said, Lord,*

*that your followers would always be in community  
with those the world despises and overlooks.*

1 and 2: You have said, Lord,

that we can see your face in the faces of those around us.

3 and 4: You have said, Lord,

that to follow you is to leave behind our status, and the status quo.

**We confess that we hear you but we sometimes wish we didn't.**

*L: We are trying our best, O God, or at least we want to claim we are:*

1. We help those in need when we have extra to spare,
2. We serve when we have time,
3. We only look away when we just can't face one more problem!
4. We only withhold generosity when we think it will be misused.

**We confess, too, that sometimes we want our faith in you to be enough,  
without needing to bring our way of life into it.**

1 and 2: Forgive us, God,

for your way asks much of us and we haven't quite managed it yet.

3 and 4: Forgive us when we have judged rather than loved,

when we have taken it upon ourselves to sort people into "us" and "them",  
when we have turned our eyes away from even one of your beloved children.

**Forgive us, O Christ, in your mercy and abiding love for us,**

**and change our habits so our first instinct aligns with your love for all.**

**Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

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

### **\*\*Response in Song - 443**

*There is a Redeemer*

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son

Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One

Thank you O my Father for giving us your Son

And leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

## **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.*

Caitlin Roscoe, trumpet; Will Roscoe, trumpet

Psalm 148:1: *Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest places.  
Praise the Lord Psalm. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest places.  
Praise the Lord!*

"I know that there's a God above, there's evidence in all the love. Creation is enough to prove it to ya'. And when He says there's day from night, and then He commanded "Let there be light," and every breath he drew was Hallelujah. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah; Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah. The angels sang at the savior's birth, the echo still heard 'round the earth; the beauty and the spirit says He knew you. The babe was brought with so much care, below all things, but God was there, and from your lips it drew a Hallelujah. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah; Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

(music by L. Cohen, 1984; Sony/ATV Songs LLC; new lyrics by E. Shane/R. Oliveria, 2018)

## Prayer for Illumination

### Scriptures

#### Hebrew Bible Text for the Day: Ezekiel 34:11-26, 20-24

<sup>11</sup> The LORD God proclaims: I myself will search for my flock and seek them out. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd seeks out the flock when some in the flock have been scattered, so will I seek out my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered during the time of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will gather and lead them out from the countries and peoples, and I will bring them to their own fertile land. I will feed them on Israel's highlands, along the riverbeds, and in all the inhabited places. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them in good pasture, and their sheepfold will be there, on Israel's lofty highlands. On Israel's highlands, they will lie down in a secure fold and feed on green pastures. <sup>15</sup> I myself will feed my flock and make them lie down. This is what the LORD God says. <sup>16</sup> I will seek out the lost, bring back the strays, bind up the wounded, and strengthen the weak. But the fat and the strong I will destroy, because I will tend my sheep<sup>[a]</sup> with justice.

<sup>20</sup> So the LORD God proclaims to them: I will judge between the fat and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup> You shove with shoulder and flank, and with your horns you ram all the weak sheep until you've scattered them outside. <sup>22</sup> But I will rescue my flock so that they will never again be prey. I will even judge between the sheep! <sup>23</sup> I will appoint for them a single shepherd, and he will feed them. My servant David will feed them. He will be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be their prince. I, the LORD, have spoken.

#### New Testament Text for the Day: Matthew 25:31-46, CEB

<sup>31</sup> "Now when the Human One<sup>[a]</sup> comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

<sup>34</sup> "Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. <sup>35</sup> I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

<sup>37</sup> "Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

<sup>40</sup> "Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.'

<sup>41</sup> "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> I was hungry and you didn't give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn't give me anything to drink. <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you didn't welcome me. I was naked and you didn't give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

<sup>44</sup> "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn't do anything to help you?' <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer, 'I assure you that when you haven't done it for one of the least of these, you haven't done it for me.' <sup>46</sup> And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life."

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**

Risky Business

Rev. Janna VanDerWoude

**\*\*Hymn of Response - 346**

*For the Healing of the Nations*

## **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**

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

arr. V. Labenske

*Psalm 87:3: Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God.*

"Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God. God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode. On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes."

(words: J. Newton, 1775; music (*Austrian Hymn*): F.J. Haydn, 1797; public domain)

(this piano solo: Alfred Publishing Co. 2008)

**\*\*Doxology - 608**

*Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow

Praise Christ, all people here below

Praise Holy Spirit Evermore

Praise Triune God, whom we adore!

**Prayers of Thanksgiving with the Lord's Prayer page 35 in hymnal**

## SENDING

**Hymn - 754**

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

**\*\*Blessing and charge**

**Postlude**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

arr. V. Labenske

*Psalm 18:2: The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge;  
my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*

"A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great; and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal."

(words and music attributed to M. Luther, 1529; translated by H. Hedge, 1852; words and music are public domain)  
(this piano arrangement: Alfred Publishing Co., 2008)

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

Thank you to for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## Joy's Retirement Party

Please join us in Fellowship Hall following worship on July 13th to thank Joy for her devotion, love, musical expertise and JOY that she has brought to CMPC since 1987.

Please RSVP to the church office by July 6th (office@cmpcusa.org or 410-997-8011)

CMPC will be presenting gifts to Joy to show our appreciation for her years of dedication. If you feel so moved and would like to contribute monetarily towards the gifts, please send your donation to the church office by July 6th. No amount is too small – it's the thought that counts!



## WELCOME!

We welcome our guests from First of Howard. We hold you in our prayers and offer our support throughout your time of need.

## Communion

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

## Becoming Presbyterian

Tuesdays, July 1-15 at 7 PM: Member or not, here you come! (We hope).

Those who have an interest in officially joining up with Christ Memorial Presbyterian, here is your chance! This 3 week-series will give you the low-down on 3 aspects of membership here at CMPC.

AND--if you are already a "church member" but you'd like to freshen up your views on what that exactly means, you are also welcome to come!

Week 1--Being a Christian, generally and in the Reformed/Presbyterian tradition

Week 2--Being Presbyterian/Reformed in the PC-USA tradition

Week 3--Being a PC-USA member in the Christ Memorial tradition

The group will meet at 7 PM in the conference room. We look forward to being with you!

Please COME to the  
Commission on Ministry Expansion

**TOWN HALL and Summer POTLUCK DINNER**

**When:** Wednesday, July 16 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

**Where:** Fellowship Hall at CMPC

**Who:** Everyone! Childcare will be provided after dinner

**What:** Hotdogs, Hamburgers and dessert will be provided. Please bring your favorite summer salad to share.

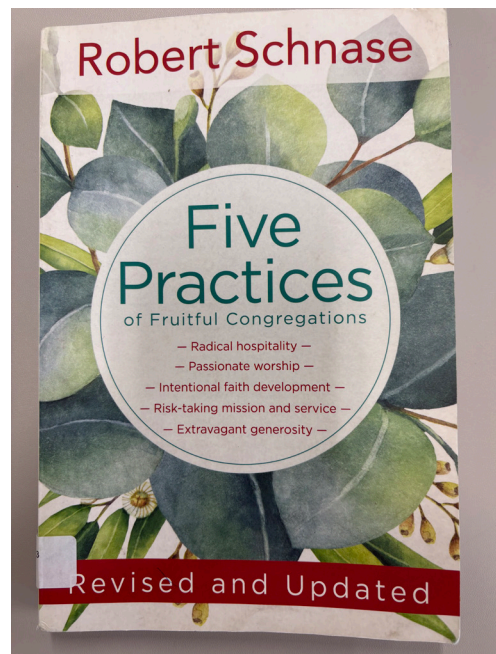
The Town Hall portion will begin at 7 pm, with a brainstorming session and opportunity to provide feedback on current ideas being considered by COME (Commission on Ministry Expansion). Topics focus on property use, facility use/rental, mortgage reduction and ways to grow the membership.

Please RSVP below by Sunday, July 13.



**The Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation**

The current Sermon series about practices of fruitful congregations is taken from the book shown here. The Practices and sermons are listed on your red Summer season pew cards, and if you want to learn more, the book is available through Amazon and other book dealers.



## The Right Hand of God

332



1 The right hand of God is writ-ing in our land, writ - ing with  
 2 The right hand of God is point-ing in our land, point - ing the  
 3 The right hand of God is strik-ing in our land, strik-ing out at  
 4 The right hand of God is heal-ing in our land, heal-ing bro - ken



pow - er and with love; our con - flicts and our fears, our  
 way we must go; so cloud - ed is the way, so  
 en - vy, hate, and greed. Our self - ish - ness and lust, our  
 bod - ies, minds, and souls; so won-drous is its touch with



tri-umphs and our tears, are re - cord-ed by the right hand of God.  
 eas - i - ly we stray, but we're guid-ed by the right hand of God.  
 pride and deeds un - just, are de - stroyed by the right hand of God.  
 love that means so much, when we're healed by the right hand of God.



## OPTIONAL STANZA

5 The right hand of God  
 is planting in our land,  
 planting seeds of freedom, hope, and love;  
 in these Caribbean lands,  
 let people all join hands,  
 and be one with the right hand of God.

In biblical imagery, references to "the right hand of God" imply God's power and God's favor. Beginning with an allusion to the handwriting on the wall at Belshazzar's feast (Daniel 5:5), this vigorous Caribbean hymn proceeds to identify ways God continues to act in our own day.

## 346 For the Healing of the Nations

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with  
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your  
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the  
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing  
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,  
 earth be banned: pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,  
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness,

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of  
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through  
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon  
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.  
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.  
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.  
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

The first line of this text quotes the declared purpose of the leaves of the tree of life growing beside the river of life in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 22:2). The hymn continues by identifying some of the many ways we are called to share with God in this healing work.

# Help Us Accept Each Other 754



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;  
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life  
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved  
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.  
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,  
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart  
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.  
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.  
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.