



CHRIST MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude "Prelude in G-flat Major, Op. 16 No. 3" A. Scriabin

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

L: Wherever Jesus is,

All: there we can meet with God.

L: Wherever the Body of Christ is,

All: there we can meet with God.

L: With or without trappings and traditions:

All: Wherever two or three are gathered, we can meet with God.

We gather here to meet with God!

Liturgist Evie Bis

**Hymn - #402

“How Lovely, Lord (Psalm 84)”

Call to Confession , followed by Silence for Reflection and Prayer

Common Prayer of Confession

L: Sometimes your Word made flesh feels more like a riddle, O God.
1: We don't know how to interpret the stories that make us uncomfortable.
2. We find your zeal unnerving.
1. We find your explanations confusing.
2. We find your demand for immediate change outrageous.

Pastor Janna VanderWoude
Liturgist Evie Bis

**All: We confess we were just fine doing things the way we like them---
believing that you would fix everything one day in an afterlife, a world to come.**

L: For not taking you seriously when you show us how to live, how to be in community,
how to worship, how to use our resources—

All: Forgive us.

L: For preferring the structures we've built rather than the Body you call us to be—

All: Forgive us.

All: Forgive us and make us faithful partners in your kingdom work, here and now.

In the name of the Word who turns everything upside down, Jesus the Christ.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, good news doesn't always sound or feel good: Change can be so hard!

But hear this: In Christ, all things are made new. That includes you. That includes the body of Christ that is the church. That includes the world. But we give up to God what is, and what is done, knowing that God our Maker, through the grace of our Lord Jesus, re-makes all things.

All: Trusting in God's forgiveness, we go forward into new life. Thanks be to God!

****Response in Song - # 187, v.4 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"**

**Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still. (2x)**

GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

Word in Music

"Guide My Feet"
Traditional African American Spiritual

Arr by L. Larson
Lorenz Publishing Company, 2018

Time for All God's Children

Pastor Janna VanderWoude

*Please note that any children who come forward to the chancel will likely be seen on the worship livestream.
Children ages preschool—third grade are dismissed to Sunday Experience following the Word in Music today.

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist Evie Bis

Psalm, and Preface to the Gospel Text

Psalm 84:1-4

Liturgist Evie Bis

Gospel Text

John 2:13-25

Rev. Janna VanderWoude

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

Rev. Janna VanderWoude

Affirmation of Faith

(from the Theological Confession of Barmen, 1934; adopted into the PC-USA Book of Confessions, 1967/1983)

**Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture,
is the one Word of God which we have to hear
and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.
As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins,
so is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life.**

**Through Jesus we receive joyful deliverance
from the godless restraints of this world
for a free, grateful service to God's creatures.**

**The Christian Church is the congregation of humankind
in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord
in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit.**

**As the church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in a sinful world,
with its faith as with its obedience,
with its message as with its order,
that it is solely Christ's property,
and that it lives and wants to live solely
from his comfort and from his direction,
in expectation of his appearance. Amen.**

Hymn of Response- - # 394, v.1-3**"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"**

Although this ancient text (Latin, 7th cent.) has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune "Westminster Abbey" is aptly named for the edifice where the composer (Henry Purcell, c.1680) served as organist and is buried.

Prayers of the People

When you hear the phrase "We pray together:" you are asked to respond:
"Your kingdom come, Your will be done."

EUCARIST—OUR GRATITUDE AND TRUST IN GOD'S PROMISES

Invitation to the Offering

Liturgist Evie Bis

Offertory

"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson
1955 (Renewed) Jan-Lee Music

"

You are invited to use the time of the Offertory to reflect and to pray silently, offering grateful thanks for God's goodness, and commitment of ourselves for being Christ-bearers in a world so demanding of renewal and hope.

****Doxology-582, v. 1,2** "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, Amen.**

**World without end, without end, Amen. (3x)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, Amen.**

****Prayer of Dedication and Discipleship**

Liturgist Evie Bis

SENDING

****Sending Song- #769**

"For Everyone Born"

Blessing and Charge

Postlude

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

arr. K. Kobayashi

Art Attribution

Alexander Smirnov (Russian, 1947–), The Cleansing of the Temple. Oil on canvas.



You can learn more about the Theological Declaration of Barmen here:



Liturgy Attribution

Liturgy Adapted from Bibleworm Narrative Lectionary resources,
Rev. Teri Peterson, Scotland

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!

Texts for the Week

John 2:13-25

¹³ It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ He found in the temple those who were selling cattle, sheep, and doves, as well as those involved in exchanging currency sitting there.

¹⁵ He made a whip from ropes and chased them all out of the temple, including the cattle and the sheep. He scattered the coins and overturned the tables of those who exchanged currency. ¹⁶ He said to the dove sellers, "Get these things out of here! Don't make my Father's house a place of business." ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it is written, *Passion for your house consumes me.*

¹⁸ Then the Jewish leaders asked him, "By what authority are you doing these things? What miraculous sign will you show us?"

¹⁹ Jesus answered, "Destroy this temple and in three days I'll raise it up."

²⁰ The Jewish leaders replied, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and you will raise it up in three days?" ²¹ But the temple Jesus was talking about was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered what he had said, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

²³ While Jesus was in Jerusalem for the Passover Festival, many believed in his name because they saw the miraculous signs that he did. ²⁴ But Jesus didn't trust himself to them because he knew all people. ²⁵ He didn't need anyone to tell him about human nature, for he knew what human nature was.

Psalm 84:1-4

How lovely is your dwelling place,
LORD of heavenly forces!

² My very being longs,
even yearns,
for the LORD's courtyards.

My heart and my body
will rejoice out loud
to the living God!

³ Yes, the sparrow too
has found a home there;
the swallow has found herself a nest
where she can lay her young
beside your altars,
LORD of heavenly forces,
my king, my God!

⁴ Those who live in your house
are truly happy;
they praise you constantly.

Thank you to John Kim and Rachael Bis for providing audio support this week!
Thank you to Marie Bis for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a congregational meeting on Sunday, January 25, 2026 immediately following worship. The meeting is to approve the budget and the pastor's Terms of Call. All members are encouraged to attend.

VBS

Let's Explore the Nature of God together at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church!

We couldn't be more excited about Vacation Bible School for the summer of 2026 where we will show kids what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their safe place in life's storms. Mark your calendars for the week of July 6th!

Registration is now open for CMPC families and will open to the general public on Wednesday, January 21st. Registration can be found using the QR code below.



To make this a successful week for the kids of Christ Memorial we need volunteers! Please consider participating in this great church event. We need adult leaders and teen leaders (middle school, high school and college). For adult leaders volunteering for the week, registration is free for one of your children! Please reach out to Laura Jean Graybeal (vbs@cmpcusa.org) if you are interested in helping!

Update from the PNC

As we ring in the New Year, we wanted to give you an update from the PNC. We have continued to review resumes and conduct Zoom interviews with many interesting candidates. As we do our review a variety of things can happen. We decide if we want to talk further with a candidate, or we decide that they are not a good fit for CMPC. Sometimes after talking with us a candidate wants to stay in the pool, or they may choose to withdraw. And before we can meet with any candidate face to face, the Presbytery checks references and must give us a green light. We are meeting with some candidates face to face in January, which is exciting! But we also want to emphasize that we are looking for the best match for CMPC and the process takes time. Thank you for your patience and support during this lengthy process.

Remember, WE are the church and many good things are happening in our worship, ministry and fellowship time as we search for our next pastor and church leader.

Souper Sunday

Sunday, February 1, 2026 following the church service

To make this event a success, the Fellowship committee needs your help. We are requesting 15 homemade soups each in a crockpot, 8 artisan breads or cornbread, and 6 desserts. Please sign up via "sign up genius" and bring us your tastiest soup and treats...Thank you for your participation! This is always a favorite church event! Please respond by 1-28-26.



Who's Who in the Pews: An occasional feature from the Membership and Hospitality Committee to help worshipers get to know one another.

Wes Millard and Becky Zordan

Wes Millard and Becky Zordan joined CMPC as an engaged couple in February 2014 and were married later that year by the church's former pastor, Rev. Scott Hoffman. Wes has lived in their home in Hickory Ridge since 2000 and Becky joined him there in 2013.

They were brought together by their love of playing board games, hiking and beer, as well as cooking and baking taught to them by their Italian mothers.

Becky and Wes have two sons – William, age 10, and Robert, age 7 – and they are picking up some cooking and a love of board games and hiking. Both boys were baptized at CMPC, regularly attend Sunday worship service and are active participants in the LOGOS youth program. William made his debut as baby Jesus in the 2015 CMPC Christmas pageant when he was about 3 weeks old.

Wes grew up in northwest Connecticut and came to Baltimore to attend Johns Hopkins University for computer and electrical engineering. He has worked in the Space Department at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Howard County for 25 years. Most of this work has been to build radios that communicate all over the solar system. Wes serves as the electrical systems lead for the NASA Dragonfly mission being built to explore Saturn's moon Titan with a drone-like aircraft.

Becky works in a biological research lab at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She enjoys basic science laboratory research and is studying how cells ensure they make proteins properly. She grew up in the suburbs of Pittsburgh, moved around for college and graduate school, and lived in Baltimore while she held a postdoctoral research position prior to moving to Columbia.

Wes's hobbies include woodworking and home renovations that he was taught by his father and grandfathers. He gutted and rebuilt the first-floor interior of their house, and with Becky remade their 1980s-style master bathroom into a small oasis. There have been many smaller projects, like tables and picture frames, but building birdhouses and craft projects with his boys has been the most rewarding.

Both Becky and Wes enjoy expanding their cooking repertoires with friends from many cultures. When they can find more time, they aim to try out some challenging recipes from The Great British Baking Show and also get back into a good self-care routine with yoga.

Becky enjoys reading books and her favorites are mysteries, Jane Austen novels and beach reads. Knitting is another favorite pastime and she makes hats, scarves and wraps. Her biggest projects have been making blankets and octopus-shaped stuffed animals for the boys. In her downtime she also enjoys doing jigsaw puzzles as well as crossword puzzles, sudoku and other word games from The New York Times.

Wes became an Elder in 2024 and is currently chair of the Worship and Music Committee after previously serving as a Deacon on the Fellowship Committee. Becky has served as an at-large member of the Christian Education Committee of the Session since 2015 and is a member of the Pastor Nominating Committee that is working to find our next senior pastor.

The couple's favorite CMPC memories include the annual church picnics, working on multiple difficult-but-fun projects to benefit Rebuilding Together Howard County under B.J. Walworth's leadership, and learning from the impromptu insights of the delightful young kids who take part in the "moment with the children" portion of Sunday worship services.



402

How Lovely, Lord

(Psalm 84)

1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place;
2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day
3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High;

my soul is long-ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace.
is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray.
you show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.

The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest;
I'd rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord
The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,

and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

The author of this text, a Presbyterian minister and educator, was humming this tune as he began to create a paraphrase of Psalm 84 that would emphasize the beauty and peace of God's house. The tune is named for the composer's oldest sister, who was his first piano teacher.

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation 394

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come, with all your lov - ing - kind - ness;
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as we pray, and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Although this ancient text has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune is aptly named for the edifice where the composer served as organist and is buried.

769

For Everyone Born

E *Leader or All* A2

1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

E A2 Bsus B

for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,

F#m7 E/G# A2 Bsus

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

E Bsus E Bsus

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver-head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God's hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and that we who have been created in God's image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator's values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

Refrain

B All E E/G# A2 Bsus B

E E/G# A2 Bsus B

joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

Bsus B (E) Fine A2 E Bsus B

jus-tice and joy!