



# CHRIST MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FISH Sunday  
February 22, 2026

## GATHERING

Prelude

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

R. Redhead, arr L. Dengler  
Concordia Publishing House. 1997

Welcome and Announcements

Meghan Jenkins & Abby Jones

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

L: May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you

**\*\*Call to Worship**

Meghan Jenkins & Abby Jones

L: In the wilderness, water brings life.

**All : Seek us out O God and take us to the water.**

L: In the word of God, the good news gives light.

**All: Seek us out O God, and fill us with understanding.**

L: In the teachings of Jesus, we are commanded to love one another.

**All: Seek us out O God, and fill us with love.**

L: Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

**\*\*Hymn - #743**

"O God You Are My God"

Call to Confession , followed by Silence for Reflection and Prayer

Nathan Board

Common Prayer of Confession

Nathan Board

All: **God of love,**

**We confess that we have not borne the fruit of the spirit.**

**We haven't loved others as you have loved us.**

**We have failed to be faithful to you,**

**And failed to keep your commandments alive in our hearts.**

Assurance of Pardon

God the true vine, may you take away the branches in our life that don't bear fruit. And may you nourish the branches that do, so that we may be glorified by Jesus's word. Now that our sins are pruned, let us rejoice and bear fruit.

All: **Amen.**

**\*\*Response in Song - # 450, v.1**

"Be Thou My Vision"

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

## GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

Word in Music

"Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

Zoe Kim, flute and Ian Fieldsend, piano

See insert - Please feel free to sing and sign along!

Rick Founds

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Time for All God's Children

Abby Jones and Alison Slingluff

\*Please note that any children who come forward to the chancel will likely be seen on the worship livestream.

There is no Sunday Experience this week, so please return to the pews with your family.

**Prayer for Illumination**

Ian Fieldsend

**Psalm**

Psalm 22:25-31

Zoe Kim

**Gospel Text**

John 15: 1-17

Callum McGillivray-Stubbs  
Austin Keen

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**

The following high school seniors from FISH will be sharing their reflections from today's text (in order of their appearance):

Nathan Slingluff, Remy Aquino, Emma Gallagher, Abby Del Favero, Abby Jenkins

**\*\*Hymn of Response- - # 300** "They Will Know We are Christians By Our Love"

**Prayers of the People** (concluding with the Lord's Prayer in unison, Hymnal p. 35)

Evie Bis

# EUCHARIST—OUR GRATITUDE AND TRUST IN GOD’S PROMISES

**Invitation to the Offering**

Austin Keen

Offertory

“Ich Ruf zu Dier, Herr” (I Call to Thee, Lord)

J.S.Bach/F.Busoni

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- #701**

“Lord Prepare Me”

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living  
sanctuary for you.**

**\*\*Prayers of Dedication and Discipleship**

Nicholas Kitt

## SENDING

**\*\*Sending Song - see insert**

“Blessed Be Your Name”

Blessing and Charge

**Postlude**

Ten Voluntaries for the Organ or Harpsichord, Voluntary III

John Stanley  
Les Editions Outremontaises. 2007

### Art Attribution

Steve Thomason, “The Art Pastor”, from his draft book, 2012  
See more about his John 15 meditations here:



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!

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

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FISH (Fellowship in Senior High) LOGOS participants  
2025-2026

Remy Aquino  
Evie Bis  
Nathan Board  
Alyssa Clymire  
Pearson Cogswell  
Abby Del Favero  
Ian Fieldsend  
Emma Gallagher  
Abby Jenkins  
Meghan Jenkins  
Abby Jones  
Austin Keen  
Zoe Kim  
Nicholas Kitt  
Callum McGillivray-Stubbs  
Maren McGillivray-Stubbs  
Emily McMillion  
Evan Richardson  
Alison Slingluff  
Nathan Slingluff

FISH adult volunteers

Wes Millard  
Allison Miller  
Caitlin Roscoe  
Hyiwot Teshome  
Noah Teshome  
Jonathan Thornhill  
Rev. Janna VanderWoude  
Becky Zordan

# Texts for the Week

## John 15:1-17

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. <sup>2</sup> He removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't produce fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything. <sup>6</sup> If you don't remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. <sup>12</sup> This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. <sup>17</sup> I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.

## Psalm 22:25-31

I offer praise in the great congregation  
because of you;  
I will fulfill my promises  
in the presence of those who honor God.  
<sup>26</sup> Let all those who are suffering eat and be full!  
Let all who seek the LORD praise him!  
I pray your hearts live forever!  
<sup>27</sup> Every part of the earth  
will remember and come back to the LORD;  
every family among all the nations will worship you.  
<sup>28</sup> Because the right to rule belongs to the LORD,  
he rules all nations.  
<sup>29</sup> Indeed, all the earth's powerful  
will worship him;<sup>a</sup>  
all who are descending to the dust  
will kneel before him;  
my being also lives for him.<sup>l</sup>  
<sup>30</sup> Future descendants will serve him;  
generations to come will be told about my Lord.  
<sup>31</sup> They will proclaim God's righteousness  
to those not yet born,  
telling them what God has done.

## *Blessed Be Your Name*

(1) Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name

(2) And blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be Your name

(Chorus) Every blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
And when the darkness closes in, Lord  
Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name  
Blessed be Your name

(3) When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's "all as it should be"  
Blessed be Your name

(4) And Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name

### Chorus

(Bridge) You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord, blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

*Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

Lord, I lift Your name on high  
Lord, I love to sing Your praises  
I'm so glad You're in my life  
I'm so glad you came to save us  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave From the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift Your name on high

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## 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](mailto:vbs@cmpcusa.org)) if you are interested in helping!

## Mulch Sales

The scouts of CMPC are having their annual mulch sale with free Driveway Delivery the weekend of March 20-21. The Scouts will deliver high quality mulch to your home in time for your spring gardening needs, saving you time and effort of going to your local garden center. Order here by March 8th:



## CMPC CONCERT SERIES - VOLUME I

You're invited to an evening filled with beautiful live music and joyful community spirit!

Join us as **The Gallery Winds Woodwind Quintet, Jeremi Lukanus, Flute 29 Flute Choir**, and other special performers share a delightful program sure to inspire and entertain.

This **FREE** concert is the perfect way to unwind. Come sit back, listen, bring a friend and enjoy an uplifting evening of wonderful performances.



We can't wait to see you there!

Sunday, April 19th  
6:30-8:30pm  
CMPC Sanctuary



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

### **Bob and Sue Ashman**

Bob and Sue Ashman moved to central Maryland in 2006 from Midlothian, Va., and have resided in North Laurel ever since. They joined CMPC in 2007.

They met in the summer of 1979 while working together at new student orientation at the University of Delaware and were married in Newark, Delaware in 1982.

Sue is currently serving as an Elder and has served two previous terms on the Session. She is a member of the Mission Committee and has been a member of the Preschool Board of Directors since 2008. She has served with LOGOS, the Stewardship Committee, and on capital campaigns over the years. Sue also co-chaired the Commission on Ministry Expansion (COME) in 2025.

Bob is an Elder who served on the Session from 2013 to 2015 and has been a member of the Worship and Music, Stewardship and Finance committees. He has served as CMPC Treasurer since 2018 and is a ringer with the Bells of Joy handbell choir.

He retired from the Federal Reserve Board as an Assistant Director in 2020. During his career he worked in a variety of roles, including information technology management, information security, continuity planning, and finance. He previously worked at the Federal Reserve banks in New York, Philadelphia, and Richmond.

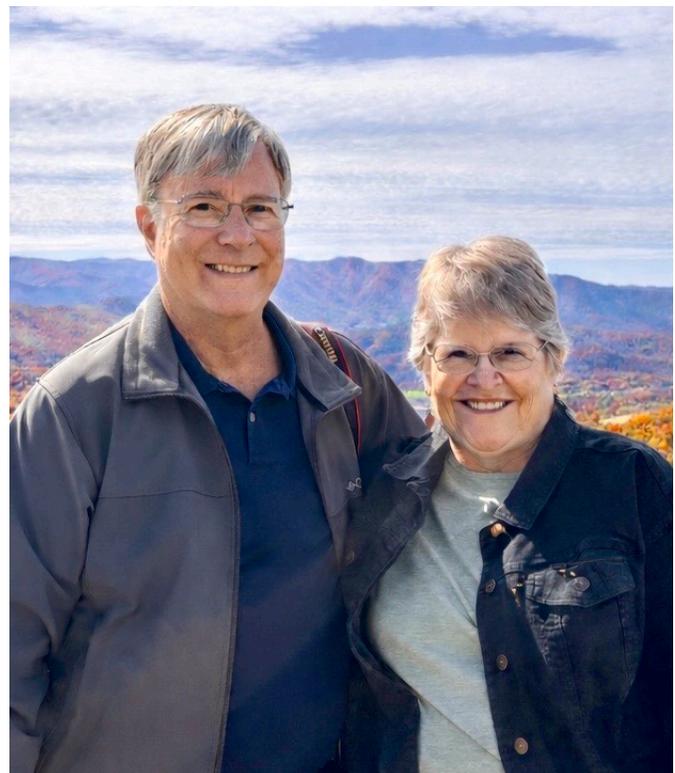
Sue works part-time as a demonstrator for scrapbooking and card-making. She has previously worked in higher education administration for Penn State, Ursinus College and Western Connecticut State University and as coordinator of parish life at a previous church in Pennsylvania. She enjoys paper crafting, volunteering, flower arranging and spending time with family and friends. Her favorite title is "Grandma."

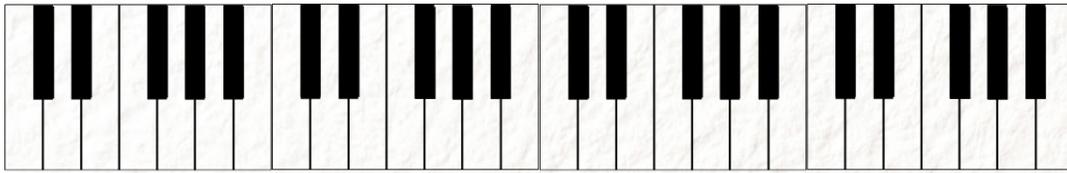
Bob is an avid baseball fan who follows the Phillies, Orioles and Nationals, and he likes to stay informed of current events. He enjoys helping his children and grandchildren whenever they need assistance, and also serves as an election judge in Howard County.

The couple has three children: Steve, 37; Brianna, 31; and Courtney 29. Steve and his wife Cassandra live in Baldwinsville, NY, with their two children, Michael, 6, and Meg, 4. Brianna and her husband Brian live in Severn, MD, with their two children, Nolan, 7, and Violet, 2. Courtney recently moved to Columbia and lives in Clary's Forest 2. Brianna and Courtney participated in LOGOS until they graduated from high school and are members of the church. Nolan also participated in LOGOS until he moved to Severn in 2025.

Bob and Sue enjoy traveling together and exploring new places. Among their favorite destinations are Bethany Beach, Hawaii, Alaska and the Rhine Valley. They estimate they've visited 36 states and 15 countries and are hoping for new adventures in the coming years, locations to be determined.

Among the couple's favorite CMPC memories is when their grandson Michael was just under 3 months old and was baby Jesus in the 2019 Christmas pageant with their son Steve and daughter-in-law Cassandra portraying Joseph and Mary. Another wonderful highlight was having their daughter Brianna's wedding officiated by Pastor Scott Hoffman at the church in September 2023.





# 2026 MUSICAL TREATS AND BOUNTIFUL SWEETS

6PM-8PM  
SUNDAY, MAY 31ST  
THEME: NATURE



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# O God, You Are My God 743

## Step by Step

O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise  
 you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise  
 you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will  
 learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead  
 me, and I will fol - low you all of my days.

Though this refrain from a longer song is not a paraphrase of any particular psalm, the language in the first six lines has definite scriptural overtones (such as Psalms 31:14, 5:3; Deuteronomy 26:17). The final two lines sound more spontaneous and lead to a confident conclusion.

# We Are One in the Spirit 300

## They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm) (Em)  
Fm Cm Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;  
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;  
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;  
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) (Em)  
B<sup>b</sup>m Fm

we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,  
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,  
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,  
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) (Em)  
B<sup>b</sup>m Fm

and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:  
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:  
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) (Em)  
D<sup>b</sup> Fm

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

(Am) (Em) (Am) (Bm) (Em) (Am/E) (Em)  
B<sup>b</sup>m Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Cm Fm B<sup>b</sup>m/F Fm

love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.