



# CHRIST MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 3, 2026

## GATHERING

Prelude

Gymnopedie No. 1

Erik Satie  
Peters Edition, 1888

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Janna VanderWoude

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

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you**

**\*\*Call to Worship**

Liturgist Tiffany Carmean

1: Praying together is powerful

2: Singing to God with one voice is powerful

1: Worship creates a new reality

2: Worship expands our heart and hope for goodness in the world.

Leader: Worship is powerful!

So come, let us join in heart, mind, and voice

**All: To worship in spirit and truth.**

**\*\*Hymn -405**

**"Praise God for this Holy Ground"**

### Resurrection Prayer

L: Liberating God, You set us free for new life with you.

**P: We give you thanks and praise: Just as you opened the tomb so you open the locked doors of our hearts and call us out into your life.**

L: When we are unable or unwilling to live fully in your kingdom way, when we choose instead our self-interest, and our frustration overshadows our faith,

**P: Still we trust that you are bringing us ever nearer, and growing us into your likeness.**

L: When we find ourselves trapped by our own actions,

**P: give us the vision and humility to make it right and to share your goodness with others.**

L: When we are in your arms, we can never be bound by the powers of death.

**P: Teach us again, Lord Jesus, to bear your resurrected life in our bodies; leave no place for fear or arrogance or injustice within us.**

**We ask in the name of the One who overcame death and who raises us to new life even now, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

### Assurance of our Hope in the Risen Christ

L: Hear this Good News: Through Christ, we have been shown forgiveness, and the power of the Spirit for filling us only with songs of praise for God's grace, and blessings for all whom we meet.

**All: Trusting in the hope Christ offers, we go forward into new life. Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Response - # 240 Refrain, v.4, Refrain "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"**

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**4. Come let us praise the living God  
Joyfully sing to our Savior (Refrain)**

## GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

### Word in Music

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

C. Tomlin and L. Giglio  
Arr. J. Koerts  
Worship Together, 2006

### Time for All God's Children

Wes Millard

*\*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.*

### Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist Joyce Danzig

### Psalms Text for the Day

John 15:18-21, 26-16:4, CEB

### Gospel Text for the Day

Acts 16:16-34, CEB

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God**

Hymn of Response - - # 821- "My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing?)"

Prayers of the People Concluding with the Lord's Prayer, Hymnal, p. 35

## EUCCHARIST—OUR GRATITUDE AND TRUST IN GOD'S PROMISES

Invitation to the Offering

Liturgist Joyce Danzig

Offertory

" All Creatures of Our God and King"

arr. Jan Welch  
(self published) 2020

We invite you to use the time of the Offertory to reflect and to pray silently, offering thanks for God's goodness, and commitment of ourselves for declaring that the God who creates also re-creates. making all things new.

\*\*Doxology- #232 v.4

**"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"**  
**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!**  
**praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!**  
**Praise our God, you heavenly host, Alleluia!**  
**Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

\*\*Prayer of Dedication and Discipleship

Liturgist Joyce Danzig

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
Lift up your hearts.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.**  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Praise to you, O God, for all your works....Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:*

Hymnal - # 552 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

**1. Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**  
**2. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

*Thankyou, O God, for sending us your Son. He lived among us....Great is the mystery of faith:*

Hymnal - # 553 "Christ Has Died; Christ is Risen"

**Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again. (2x)**

*Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon your gifts of bread and wine...all glory and honor are yours, O God, now and forever. Amen.*

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

The cups in the outer rings of the trays contain wine. The rest of the cups contain grape juice. A gluten-free bread option is available. Please raise your hand slightly and a server will bring it to you.

*Offer communion to each other, passing the bread and holding it for all to take together:*

*...the Bread of Life, given that we might be holy and whole. **Amen.***

*Then pass the cup among you, holding it for all to take together.*

*... the cup of salvation, poured out in love for the world. **Amen.***

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Hymn – # 772 – v. 1,3, 4

“Live Into Hope”

Blessing and Charge

Postlude

“In the Garden”

by C. Austin Miles  
arranged by Richard Kingsmore  
Kingsmore Music Works, Inc. 2026

Art Attribution

“Set Free to Worship,” Rebecca Brogan, Australia



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 Neil Danzig for providing audio support this week!  
Thank you to n for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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# Texts for the Week

## Acts 16:16-34 (CEB)

<sup>16</sup> One day, when we were on the way to the place for prayer, we met a slave woman. She had a spirit that enabled her to predict the future. She made a lot of money for her owners through fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> She began following Paul and us, shouting, "These people are servants of the Most High God! They are proclaiming a way of salvation to you!" <sup>18</sup> She did this for many days.

This annoyed Paul so much that he finally turned and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ, I command you to leave her!" It left her at that very moment.

<sup>19</sup> Her owners realized that their hope for making money was gone. They grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them before the officials in the city center. <sup>20</sup> When her owners approached the legal authorities, they said, "These people are causing an uproar in our city. They are Jews <sup>21</sup> who promote customs that we Romans can't accept or practice." <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in the attacks against Paul and Silas, so the authorities ordered that they be stripped of their clothes and beaten with a rod. <sup>23</sup> When Paul and Silas had been severely beaten, the authorities threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to secure them with great care. <sup>24</sup> When he received these instructions, he threw them into the innermost cell and secured their feet in stocks.

<sup>25</sup> Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> All at once there was such a violent earthquake that it shook the prison's foundations. The doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer awoke and saw the open doors of the prison, he thought the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword and was about to kill himself. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted loudly, "Don't harm yourself! We're all here!"

<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for some lights, rushed in, and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> He led them outside and asked, "Honorable masters, what must I do to be rescued?"

<sup>31</sup> They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your entire household." <sup>32</sup> They spoke the Lord's word to him and everyone else in his house. <sup>33</sup> Right then, in the middle of the night, the jailer welcomed them and washed their wounds. He and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. <sup>34</sup> He brought them into his home and gave them a meal. He was overjoyed because he and everyone in his household had come to believe in God.

## John 15:18-21, 26-16:1

<sup>18</sup> "If the world hates you, know that it hated me first. <sup>19</sup> If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. However, I have chosen you out of the world, and you don't belong to the world. This is why the world hates you. <sup>20</sup> Remember what I told you, 'Servants aren't greater than their master.' If the world harassed me, it will harass you too. If it kept my word, it will also keep yours. <sup>21</sup> The world will do all these things to you on account of my name, because it doesn't know the one who sent me.

<sup>26</sup> "When the Companion comes, whom I will send from the Father—the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father—he will testify about me. <sup>27</sup> You will testify too, because you have been with me from the beginning. **16** <sup>1</sup> I have said these things to you so that you won't fall away.

## Praise God for This Holy Ground 405

Capo 2: (D)

(G)

(A)

(Bm)



1 Praise God for this ho - ly ground,  
 2 Praise God in whose word we find  
 3 Praise God who through Christ makes known  
 4 Praise God's Spir - it who be - friends,  
 5 Though praise ends, praise is be - gun

(Em7)

(D/F#)

(Em7)

(Asus4) (A)



place and peo - ple, sight and sound.  
 food for bod - y, soul, and mind.  
 all are loved and called God's own.  
 rais - es, hum - bles, breaks, and mends.  
 where God's will is glad - ly done.

Refrain

(D)

(G)

(Em7)

(A)

(F#7)

(Bm)



Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

(D)

(Em7)

(A7)

(D)



God's good - ness is e - ter - nal.

Although several passages in the Psalms come close to the wording of this refrain, none matches it exactly. The refrain serves as a summation of the stanzas, each of which is filled with multiple instances of God's providential mercy, and all of them are worth pondering.

821

# My Life Flows On

## How Can I Keep from Singing?

1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.  
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the *New York Observer* of August 7, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.

## 772

## Live into Hope

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -  
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight  
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to  
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the  
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of  
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's  
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!  
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.  
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.  
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

This text on Luke 4:16–20, the author's first, was written for the United Presbyterian Women's National Meeting in July 1976 because the team planning worship could not find a suitable hymn on that passage. She wrote the words with this vigorous 18th-century tune in mind.



# Milltown Quilters

2026 Exhibit: Recent Works

April 13 through May 17, 2026

HCLS Central Branch is pleased to welcome back the Milltown Quilters and their stunning work with this exhibit showcasing a variety of design and quilting techniques, both machine and hand-sewn.

Since 1997, the Milltown Quilters have shared appreciation, enjoyment, and knowledge of quilting through fellowship-filled weekly meetings. The guild supports the community by donating quilts to local Neonatal Intensive Care Units and charities like *Project Linus*, which offers quilts to children in need.

This year, in honor of *America250*, the Milltown Quilters have focused their efforts on creating quilts honoring veterans through *Quilts of Valor*. The guild have spent several months cutting, stitching, and quilting Log Cabin Blocks in support of this effort. These quilts will be donated to local veterans throughout the state.



Example of a Log Cabin Block made by the guild



## News you need to know from CMPC May 2026

### VBS

We are less than 3 months away from VBS week (July 6 - 10) at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church! We are excited to share that we will be welcoming over 115 children into the building to Explore the Nature of God in Rainforest Falls! For this week to be a successful outreach at CMPC we need volunteers like you!

Here are some of the areas that we need help!

- \* Kitchen Crew - adult volunteers working together each morning to prepare snacks for the children
- \* Preschool Bible Teacher - adult volunteer that will lead the prepared Bible lesson for the 20 preschool children registered once each morning
- \* Assistant in Elementary Sticky Scriptures - adult volunteer that will support the lead teacher run a station that includes a small video and discussion each morning
- \* Assistant in Preschool Recreation - adult volunteer that will support the lead teacher run a station that includes outdoor fun games each morning
- \* Assistant in Elementary Bible - adult volunteer that will support the lead teacher run a station that shares the highlighted Bible story each morning
- \* Youth Leaders - youth volunteers ages middle school - high school that will travel with the crews of children around the stations and you will receive service hours

Any questions about these amazing volunteer opportunities? Reach out to Laura Jean Graybeal or Heather Gallagher at [vbs@cmpcusa.org](mailto:vbs@cmpcusa.org)

### Come Join Us

This month we're heading to Iron Bridge Cafe and Wine Bar. This restaurant is small and cozy with a farm to table vibe. A definite favorite in Howard County. They're excited to be our 3rd venue for our "Come Join Us" luncheon!

Where: 10435 MD Route 108, Columbia, MD. 21044

Date: Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Time: 12:30pm

Please RSVP by 12 pm on Monday, May 25, 2026

Maximum: 16 guests



THE IRON BRIDGE WINE CO.





**CHRISTIAN FAITH NIGHT**

**JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30 PM**

**ORIOLES VS. CUBS**

**\$17 EACH TICKET**

**MUST RESERVE BY JUNE 6TH**

**CONTACT TOM ENGLE**

**DPGROOVE@HOTMAIL.COM**



## The Garden Keepers

Looking for a crew of men and women interested in becoming “garden keepers” to help maintain our beautiful memorial garden, water pots of plants around the church, assist the Girl Scouts with their rain garden and any future landscape at the front of the church. All other areas will be maintained by the property committee.

As you know, many hands do make light work! The rain garden will hopefully be revitalized this weekend and we can help maintain its integrity. At this point, the memorial garden will require minimal weeding and planting. The irrigation system handles the watering. Currently, we only have one pot at the back entrance of the church but hope to have two more at the front entrance. Depending on the number of people joining, the time commitment should be minimal but necessary.

If interested, please contact Shelley Clemens at 443-756-2345 or  
shelleyclemens57@gmail.com

An organizational meeting will be held Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 9am at the church.

## Adult Bible Studies

There are currently two Bible studies being offered and led by Kathy Koch. The Monday Zoom is now meeting at 7 pm on the third and fourth weeks of the month. The group started a study about hope which should take them through the rest of the school year.

Bible Basics meets Tuesdays at 11 am during the school year. The group is currently discussing the New Testament letters.

Please contact Kathy at KathrynKoch79@gmail.com for more information about either class. You can also text Kathy at 301-643-6861.

## IT'S BACK!

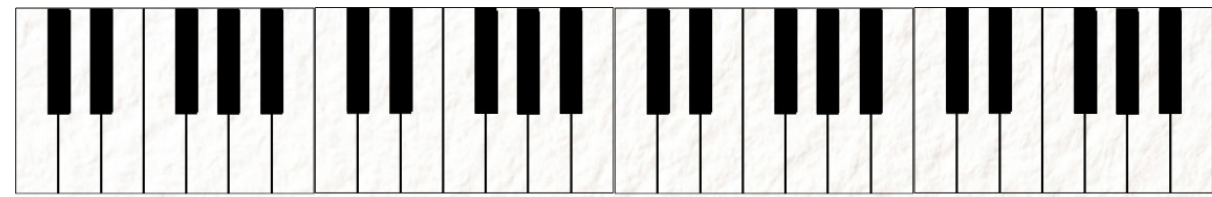
RISE AGAINST HUNGER is returning to CMPC on Saturday, June 27!  
Mark your calendars and save the date. There's a role for anyone ages 4 to 104+ so plan to participate individually or as a family in this wonderful mission project to feed the hungry. Details coming soon.

The Fifth Sunday offering in May will support Rise Against Hunger.



## Attention all graduates!

CMPC would like to recognize all of our graduates on Graduation Sunday, May 31st! If you or someone you know from the CMPC family is graduating from high school, trade school, college, or graduate school, please send us a brief paragraph featuring the graduate's name, the institution they are graduating from, and future plans. Pictures should also be included. Please send write-ups to Kathleen at office@cmpcusa.org by Tuesday, May 19th.



# 2026 MUSICAL TREATS AND BOUNTIFUL SWEETS

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



CONTACT:  
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(PERFORMERS)  
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TOM ENGLE  
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