



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

July 23, 2023



"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty." Winston Churchill

July 23, 2023 – 8th Sunday After Pentecost

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

Worship begins with the prelude. Please quiet and prepare yourself for worship. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind; be open and receptive to God's Spirit in our midst.

PRELUDE "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" Gordon Young
Organist, Larry Gillum

*CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, you have searched us
You have known us
O God, you know when we seek you out
You know the words on our tongues.
And, O God, know our hearts
See if there is anything that pulls us away from you
And, God lead us in the way of everlasting.
Let us worship you today in prayers and song.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 551** "Come, Ye Thankful People Come" ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Almighty God, you have planted us in good soil, watered us, fed us and cared for us. But we often follow our own desires apart from the path that you designed. Instead of hope, we look to despair. Instead of joy, we turn to fear. Instead of peace, we make war. Instead of serving others, we serve ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to grow in your ways that we might be agents of your love through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Prayer of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE** "Gloria Patri" (Hymnal #579)

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES *Genesis 28:10-19a, NRSV*

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM "The New 23rd Psalm" Carmichael
Director, Rich Dixon

**Please stand if you are able.*

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-43, NRSV

MESSAGE

"A Perfect Field"

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

***CONFESSION OF FAITH (Unison)**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 661 IN GLORY TO GOD**

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

SPARROW

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"When Thou Art Near"

J.S. Bach

***DOXOLOGY**

(Hymnal # 592)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The congregation responds, "hear our prayer"
following each petition which concludes, "God, in your grace..."*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

(Not merely announcements, but the activities of our life together that reflect our day-to-day responses to God's call for faithfulness and your invitation to join in!)

***HYMN OF SENDING NO. 439**

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

ST. PETER

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

"In You, Lord, I Have Put My Trust"

Himmlische Harfen 1573 (183)

The Week Ahead . . .

Monday, July 24

9:30 am—Membership and Hospitality

4:00 pm—Sign Choir

Thursday, July 27

10:00 am—Staff Meeting

6:30 pm—Chancel Choir

Friday, July 28

9:30 am—Merry Marthas

Sunday, July 30

8:15 am—Adult Sunday School

10:00 am—Worship (Livestream available)

11:00 am—Ice Cream Social



Note: The calendar includes all known church events at time of printing.



Flowers in the Sanctuary today are in celebration of Brenda and Larry Gillum's 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations on half a century of love, joy, and laughter together!

Fellowship Time—Join us after worship today for coffee and treats hosted by Presbyterian Women's Circle.

Ice Cream Social —Next week after Worship, please join us for an Ice Cream Social! The Membership and Hospitality Committee is sponsoring this fun event in honor of our new Pastor, Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey and her husband Mike Dempsey.



If you have prayer requests you'd like to share with the congregation, please contact Pastor Christine at pastor@pccrusa.org, or call 970-586-4404 (church).

Church Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey, pastor@pccrusa.org

Handbell Director: Patti Dolezal, music@pccrusa.org

Financial Manager: Carolyn Hull, finance@pccrusa.org

Office Administrator: Meredith Ishida, office@pccrusa.org

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; closed Fridays

Office Phone: 970-586-4404

Church Website: pccrusa.org

Organist: Larry Gillum

Choir Director: Rich Dixon