







Presbyterian  
Community Church  
of the Rockies

October 15, 2023

20th Sunday After Pentecost

*“Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” Philippians 4:8*

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### 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** “Prelude No. 13, Allegro Maestoso” Flor Peeters  
Organist, Larry Gillum

**WELCOME** The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Liturgist, Judy Schaffer

We come today to give thanks to God

**Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, we say rejoice.**

We seek the peace of God that will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**Trust in the Lord always! Let us rejoice in that trust.**

We come to worship God who is excellent and worthy of praise.

**Worship the Lord always. Let us worship in thanks and praise.**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 477** “Ye Servants of God Your Master Proclaims” HYMNTUNE

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Merciful God, you invite us to be present at the table where we accept the invitation, join in the feast and listen to one another. Yet, we often decline the invitation and instead focus on our own wants and needs at the expense of others. In doing so, we hurt the feelings of others and ignore the needs in our community. Forgive us and help us open our eyes and our ears to those around us. Let us join in the conversations with those around us and listen to the needs our community, our nation and our world that we might find solutions steeped in your peace.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### PASSING THE PEACE

**\*RESPONSE** “Gloria Patri” (Hymnal #579)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

**A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES** Exodus 32:1-14, NRSV

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL** Matthew 22:1-4, NRSV

**JOYFUL BELLS ANTHEM** "Raise the Songs of Harvest" Larson  
Director, Patti Dolezal

**MESSAGE** "Being Present At the Banquet" The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

**MEDITATION AND \*HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 339** "Be Thou My Vision" SLANE

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) from the Confession of 1967

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. 9.56 "Now to him who by the power within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think."**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY** "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" (Tune: Aberystwyth) [L.Gillum](#)

**\*DOXOLOGY** (Hymnal # 592)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Unison)

***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. 420** "God of Grace and God of Glory" REGENT SQUARE

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** "Jesus, Our Divine Companion" [American Hymntune](#) (305)

## *The Week Ahead*

### **Monday, October 16**

**11:30 am—Presbyterian Women**

**6:30 pm—Session**

### **Tuesday, October 17: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

### **Wednesday, October 18**

**9:00 am—Finance Committee**

**12:00 pm—Bible Study**

**4:00 pm—Joyful Bells**

### **Thursday, October 19**

**3:00 pm—Columbarium Committee**

**4:00 pm—Chancel Bells**

**6:30 pm—Chancel Choir**

### **Sunday, October 22**

**8:30 am—Journeys**

**10:00 am—Worship: Welcoming New Members**

*See the full church calendar on [www.pccrusa.org](http://www.pccrusa.org)*

#### **Church Staff**

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey, [pastor@pccrusa.org](mailto:pastor@pccrusa.org)

**Office Administrator:** Meredith Ishida, [office@pccrusa.org](mailto:office@pccrusa.org)

**Financial Manager:** Carolyn Hull, [finance@pccrusa.org](mailto:finance@pccrusa.org)

**Handbell Director:** Patti Dolezal, [music@pccrusa.org](mailto:music@pccrusa.org)

**Organist:** Larry Gillum

**Choir Director:** Rich Dixon

#### **Elders**

Jan Boatman ▪ Dot [Rohrbaugh](#) ▪ Sue [Yowell](#) ▪ Jim [Nussbaumer](#)  
Bill [Solms](#) ▪ Pat [Waltermire](#) ▪ Nancy Almond ▪ Curtis Fox ▪ Judy  
Schaffer ▪ Steve Wilson ▪ Clerk of Session: Barb Cole

#### **Deacons**

Sharyn Gartner ▪ Carol Pearson ▪ Tami [Scace](#) ▪ Robert Sherrod  
Bill Almond ▪ Mimi [Hardendorf](#) ▪ Diane Palmer ▪ Bonnie  
[Vanderveen](#) ▪ Kelley Anderson ▪ Chuck Bonza ▪ Deborah Webb

## **Announcements**

**Passing the Peace**—Let us greet one another! And let us respect one another's unique needs and desires. As we pass the peace in worship, reach out in greeting to shake hands if you are comfortable doing so. If that does not feel right for you for any reason, feel free to wave, extend an elbow, or place your hands over your heart to indicate that you would like some space today.

**Harvest Festival** The Membership and Hospitality Committee invites everyone to attend our annual Harvest Festival Soup Luncheon after worship today. All are welcome, regardless of whether you brought soup to share.

**PW Bible study** will meet tomorrow, October 15, in the church library for lesson two in the Bible study book, *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*. Karen Daugherty will lead the discussion on "The Exorcism in [Gerasa](#)." We will gather at 11:30 a.m. and the lesson begins at 12 noon. Books are available in the church office and at the meeting for \$10. We hope you can join us.

**We are looking for a few people who are willing to be Small Group Leaders** for an Advent Study starting in November. We will be studying Walter Brueggemann's [Names For the Messiah](#). You choose the time and place, and Pastor Christine will provide the framework and support. Contact the church office if you are willing to lead. Sign-ups for non-leading participants will be offered later.

**If you have prayer requests** you'd like to share with the congregation, please contact Pastor Christine



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