





Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

November 19, 2023

25th Sunday After Pentecost

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." Albert Einstein

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 "Vater Unser im Himmelreich" J.S. Bach Organist, Isaac Johnson

BELLS INTROIT Chancel Bell Ensemble, Director, Patti Dolezal

WELCOME The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 90)

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

You have protected us and cared for us.

Lord, you have loved us before the mountains were brought forth and the earth formed.

You have taught us about unending love.

Lord, you have empowered us to serve you for the betterment of others.

You have showed us constant compassion.

Lord, out of your love, and care and compassion, let us worship you with voice and song.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 2223 IN SING THE FAITH** "They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"

ST. BRENDANS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God,

On this day that we think about stewardship, we are reminded that we benefit from your generosity. However, we do not always respond in kind and even take our church home for granted. We talk about the ways the church can be a center of community, how our congregation can care for those in need, and how our building can be a place of rest and comfort. Yet we forget that all this needs our support. God help us see how we can grow in our ability to be a blessing to others and to live into your call on our lives as stewards of Christ.

Silent Prayer of Confession

**Please stand if you are able.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*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

2 Corinthians 9:1-9, CEB

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30, NRSV

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Abide With Me" J Richard Dixon

Kathye Osborne, Flute
Stan Osborne, Piano

MESSAGE

"A Heart of Gratitude"

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—INSERT (Unison)

from the Brief Statement of Faith

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 440

"In Christ There Is No East Nor West"

MCKEE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" (Krug)

Chancel Bell Ensemble

*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 (Unison)

God of goodness, We pray in thanksgiving for these life transforming gifts. These gifts from our hearts help us serve our congregation, our community, our nation and our world. May they give hope to the hopeless and comfort to the troubled. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

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. 478

"Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven"

LAUDA ANIMA

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Variations on *Lauda Anima*" Christa Bakich

The Week Ahead

Monday, November 20

11:00 am—Presbyterian Women

4:00 pm—Sign Choir

6:30 pm—Session

Tuesday, November 21. NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Wednesday, November 22

12:00 pm—Bible Study

2:30 pm—Turkey Talk

4:00 pm—Joyful Bells

Thursday, November 23: Thanksgiving Day, Office Closed

Friday, November 24

9:30 am—Merry Marthas

Sunday, November 26

8:15 am—Adult Sunday School

8:30 am—Journeys (Online and in-person)

10:00 am—Worship (Livestream available)

See the full church calendar on www.pccrusa.org

Announcements

Flowers in the Sanctuary today have been given in loving memory of Don Gallup. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Celebrating Carolyn Hull's 25 Years of Ministry—Please join us in honoring our amazing Financial Manager, Carolyn Hull! Immediately following worship today, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and to show our gratitude for her numerous selfless contributions and years of dedicated service. Carolyn, thank you for being here!

Fellowship Time—Join us after worship today for coffee and treats hosted by the Card-Making Group.

PW Bible study will meet tomorrow, November 20, in the church library for lesson three in the Bible study book, *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*. Pat Waltermire will lead the discussion on "A Bleeding Woman Encounters Christ". 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. The Bible study is open to all women of the church. We hope you can join us.

Bolt Bag Assembly—Please join members of your Mission Committee on November 19, immediately following worship, in the Lounge. We have 24 bags waiting to be "stuffed" with essential supplies. All supplies will be provided by the Mission committee. ...we just need your help to assemble! The Bolt Bags will then be given through EVCA (Estes Valley Crisis Advocates) to their clients to assist them with a "new start". EVCA clients include survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, suicide, and other life traumas. This is a fun and interactive opportunity to learn more about the mission of EVCA. A staff member from EVCA will be on hand during Fellowship Hour to answer questions and provide information about the advocacy services.

Turkey Talk—On Wednesday, November 22 at 2:30 pm in the Good Samaritan Society Multi Room, please join Pastor Christine and your fellow PCCR members for a discussion of how Thanksgivings in our past have shaped our lives. This event will be held at Good Samaritan Society Senior Apartments Multi Room. It is intended for PCCR members and those who are already connected to the PCCR community, but you do not need to be a Good Sam resident to attend. See you there!

Advent Study Groups: Join us in our Advent Study of Walter Bruggeman's text, *Names for the Messiah*. These peer-led groups will meet four times in late November and December. Look in the Narthex for the sign-up sheets to find a time and day that works for you.

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

Office Administrator: Meredith Ishida, office@pccrusa.org

Financial Manager: Carolyn Hull, finance@pccrusa.org

Handbell Director: Patti Dolezal, 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 • Tammi Scaze • Robert Sherrod

Bill Almond • Mimi Harndorf • Diane Palmer • Bonnie

Vanderveen • Kelley Anderson • Chuck Bonza • Deborah Webb



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