





Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies



December 3, 2023
1st Sunday of Advent
Lighting the Candle of Hope

"The kind of order with which we are concerned in Christian theology... is order fulfilling and expressing the imperative of the overwhelming, unconditional and liberating love of God." T.F. Torrence

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

PRELUDE

"Swiss Noël" Louis-Claude Daquin

"Veni Emmanuel" Richard Purvis

Organist, Larry Gillum

CHORAL INTROIT

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

WELCOME

Liturgist, Patti Dolezal

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE ("WE LIGHT THESE CANDLES"—SEE INSERT)

Dan and Tami Scace

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Isaiah 64)

In the chaos of this world, we ask when You will tear open the heavens and come down.

Oh God, hear our plea.

God we did expect the mountains to quake and the water to boil.

Oh God, we await your coming.

Oh God, we are your people, deliver us from the wilderness.

Oh God, we listen for your voice.

God we cry out with our voices and remember the praises of our ancestors.

Oh God, we praise you now, trusting that you will deliver us.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 86 (INSERT)

"The People Who Walked in Darkness"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

The Rev. Bruce Brackman

Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being; we are the clay, and you are the potter; we are the work of your hand. Yet we resist your purposes for us, and have sought instead to satisfy our own aims and desires. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember our iniquity forever. We are your people; be merciful to us. Come to us, revive us; renew us, to your eternal honor and glory.

Silent Prayer of Confession

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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, NRSV

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

Director, Rich Dixon

**Please stand if you are able.*

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES *Isaiah 64:1-9, NRSV*

***A READING FROM THE GOSPEL** *Mark 13:24-37, NRSV*

MESSAGE *“There is Hope—It’s Promised”* The Rev. Bruce Brackman

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 138 (INSERT) *“Who Would Think That What Was Needed”*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) - Insert** The Apostles’ Creed

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” (In Dulci Jubilo)* Paul Manz

***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 Hope, We offer these gifts today in this time waiting and preparation. We think of all those who are struggling to make ends meet, and those who come to this time of year yearning for answer to their prayers. May these offering be a blessing to them and give them courage to trust in the power of your love. In the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Invitation to the Lord’s Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Sanctus
Words of Institution
Communion of the People

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)
Gracious and abundant God, even as we wait for the fulfillment of your creation, you meet us in Christ at this table, in this meal. We thank you for feeding us with the bread of life and quenching our thirst with the cup of salvation. Now send us out into the world by the power of your Holy Spirit to share your life and salvation with all whom we meet. Amen.

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

***HYMN OF SENDING NO. 2** *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* HYFRYDOL

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Carols of the Season

The Week Ahead

Monday, December 4

9:00 am—Worship and Music

4:00 pm—Sign Choir

Tuesday, December 5

11:00 am—Worship and Music

2:00 pm—Advent Study Group #1

Wednesday, December 6

10:00 am—Advent Study Group #2

4:00 pm—Joyful Bells

6:30 pm—Advent Study Group #3

Thursday, December 7

10:00 am—Mission and Outreach

4:00 pm—Chancel Bells

6:30 pm—Chancel Choir

Saturday, December 9

9:00 am—Christmas Brunch

Sunday, December 10

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

Fellowship Time—Join us after worship today for coffee and treats hosted by the Journeys Class.

Christmas Brunch—On Saturday, December 9 at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall, the Grace and Grub Group will be hosting a Christmas Brunch. Bring a brunch dish to share and enjoy reconnecting with friends during this season.

Christmas Eve Service—On Sunday, December 24, PCCR will hold a candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 5 pm. Please come, and invite your family and friends for this poignant time of worship. The Membership and Hospitality Committee will serve hot chocolate and cookies in the Fellowship Hall afterwards!

Advent Study groups have begun but if you would still like to join in, please contact the PCCR Office!

When life gets a little complicated, can the Deacons on the Sunshine Committee help? We would be happy to supply meals to our PCCR family who are experiencing a few clouds in their life. Please contact the office or Pastor Christine if you or someone you know would like some sunshine!

Passing the Peace—From the Worship and Music Committee: 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.

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 ▪ Tami Scace ▪ Robert Sherrod
Bill Almond ▪ Mimi Hardendorf ▪ Diane Palmer ▪ Bonnie
Vanderveen ▪ Kelley Anderson ▪ Chuck Bonza ▪ Deborah Webb



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

1700 Brodie Avenue, Estes Park, CO 80517
Website www.pccrusa.org
Phone 970-586-4404
E-mail office@pccrusa.org
Office hours 9:00-3:00, Monday-Thursday