



March 10, 2024

4th Sunday of Lent

*“Obviously, if we cannot speak properly of the suffering of God, we cannot speak at all, except perhaps metaphorically and allusively, of the compassion of God.”*  
—Andrew Purves

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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** “Meditation on the Eighth Tone” Joseph W. Clokey  
Organist, Larry Gillum

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

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Psalm 107) Liturgist, Patti Dolezal

God’s Steadfast Love endures forever.

**Let us give thanks to the Lord.**

He satisfies the thirsty, and fills up the hungry.

**Let us give thanks to the Lord!**

He saves the troubled from distress.

**Let us give thanks to the Lord**

**For his steadfast love endures forever!**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 210** “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” ST. ANNE

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

**Merciful God, we come to you asking for forgiveness and yet admit that it is hard to do. We sometimes want to justify our actions or merely push them aside. Yet, we know that these transgressions continue to weigh on our hearts. We need forgiving, and we need to humble ourselves both to ask and receive forgiveness. God in sending Christ to us, you have shown us how to forgive and how to receive forgiveness. Let us trust your example and open our hearts to the fullness of your compassion.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

**LORD HAVE MERCY (SEE INSERT)**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE: WE ARE FORGIVEN (SEE INSERT)**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES** Eph 2:1-10, CEB

**CHANCEL BELLS ANTHEM** “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” Dale Wood  
Director, Patti Dolezal

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL** John 3:16-21, NIV

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

**MESSAGE**

*"Believing in Forgiveness"*

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

**MEDITATION AND \*HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 280** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" AMAZING GRACE

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

G-1.402 An active member is a person who has made a profession of faith in Christ, has been baptized, has been received into membership of the church, has voluntarily submitted to the government of this church, and participates in the church's work and worship.

Sibyl Gardner

**\*AFFIRMATION 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.**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY**

"Me Bless the Cross" (Shaker Hymn)

Wilbur Held

**\*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)

**Loving God, we are thankful for these gifts that reflect our love for you. It is through your grace that we give from our hearts. These gifts come to all who are in need without any strings attached but merely reflect the wholeness of the love instilled in us through Christ Jesus. We pray this prayer of thanksgiving in the name of Jesus Christ. 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**

**\*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 547 (INSERT)**

"Go My Children, With My Blessing"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

Hymntune: *Regent Square*

## The Week Ahead

**Monday, March 11**  
9:00 am—Finance Committee

**Tuesday, March 12**  
10:00 am—Building and Grounds  
1:00 pm—Personnel  
4:00 pm—Deacons

**Wednesday, March 13**  
10:00 am—Mission and Outreach  
12:00 pm—Bible Study  
4:00 pm—Joyful Bells

**Thursday, March 14**  
3:00 pm—Journeys Soul Stories Group  
4:00 pm—Chancel Bells  
6:30 pm—Chancel Choir

**Sunday, March 17**  
8:15 am—Adult Bible Study  
8:30 am—Journeys (Online and in-person)  
10:00 am—Worship (Livestream available)

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

## Announcements

**Fellowship Time**—Join us after worship today for coffee and treats hosted by the Chancel Choir.

**“Just Coffee”** is for sale in the Narthex today, thanks to the Mission and Outreach Committee. For \$12 you may purchase ground or beans, regular, decaf, or half and half. Porch delivery is always available. It is being served at Fellowship Hour today if you would like to taste it before you buy!

The Hospitality Committee is planning a **Palm Sunday Celebration** on March 24 immediately after our regular church service. We’ll enjoy fellowship as we come to the end of Lent and anticipate Easter. Ham, rolls, and potatoes will be provided, and each family is asked to bring a dish to feed at least 8 people. If your last name starts with A-R, please bring a side dish (no potatoes)—Last Names A-R. If your last name starts with S-Z, please bring a dessert.

The **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** program, the third program of the **One Great Hour of Sharing**, is the emergency and refugee program. It enables congregations and mission partners to witness to the healing love of Christ by caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events such as wildfires and weather events in the U.S. to flooding in Pakistan and drought in East Africa.

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

*The symbolism of today's Lenten flower arrangement is: the cross which represents the Risen Lord, the pussy willows represent penitence, and the white flowers represent springtime.*

### 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

Jim Nussbaumer ▪ Bill Solms ▪ Pat Waltermire ▪ Sue Yowell  
Nancy Almond ▪ Curtis Fox ▪ Judy Schaffer ▪ Steve Wilson  
Terry Brigham ▪ Dennis Jacobs ▪ Jim Jonell ▪ Kent Meyer

### Deacons

Bill Almond ▪ Mimi Hardendorf ▪ Diane Palmer  
Bonnie Vanderveen ▪ Kelley Anderson ▪ Chuck Bonza  
Deborah Webb ▪ Chuck Slicker ▪ Mike Dempsey  
Brenda Gillum ▪ Jack Holmquist ▪ Joanie Kleckner

Donate!



Presbyterian  
Community Church  
of the Rockies



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