



Promise

September 8, 2024
16th Sunday after Pentecost

“Let us have hope during times that seem hopeless. Let us overcome the difficult times by faith in God.”
— Joshua Kang

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 in G Major”

John Stanley

“How Firm a Foundation”

Tune: *Foundation*

Organist, Larry Gillum

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 146)

Liturgist, Grace Stephen

Praise the Lord!

Praise the lord, O my Soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

The Lord will reign forever.

Praise the Lord!

***OPENING HYMN NO. 482**

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, we know that you are ever present, but we often go about our lives as if you don’t matter. We take for granted that you will show up when we are in need. But, God, you remind us in scripture that we should pray without ceasing and rejoice in you always. Your call on our lives and our behavior do not match. God, forgive us, and help us grow into the disciples that you have called us to be, and help us be present with others as you are present with us.

Silent Prayer of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Proverbs 3:1-6, NRSV

CHANCEL CHOIR "Deep Peace" arr. Dixon
Director, Rich Dixon

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL Mark 7: 24-36, NRSV

MESSAGE "Promise" The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 794 (GLORY TO GOD) SEE INSERT "O Savior, in This Quiet Place"

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY "Aria" from the 10th Concerto George Frideric Handel

*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 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. 276 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *(please remain standing)*

POSTLUDE "In Thee is Gladness" German hymn, *In Dir ist Freude*
**Please stand if you are able.*

The Week Ahead

See insert for this week's calendar

Announcements

Greeters this morning are Marianne and Bill Solms.

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

“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.

All women of the church are invited to the **Presbyterian Women's brunch** tomorrow, September 9, starting at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by the PW Coordinating Team. Come and join in on the food, fellowship and introduction to the fall Bible study, titled *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*.

PW Bible study will meet next Monday, September 16, in the church library to discuss lesson one in the Bible study book *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*. Pat Waltermire will lead the discussion on “Environmental Justice.” We gather at 11:30 and the lesson begins at 12:00 noon. We hope you can join us.

Crossroads Ministry provides basic human services to our neighbors in the Estes Valley. Let's help Crossroads practice practical Christian love to over 300 families by donating to the Crossroads Market. This month, the **CROSSROADS GROCERY CART will be in the Narthex on Sunday, September 15. Especially needed items are canned beans, Ramen and paper products. Remember; you're giving a hand up, not a hand out, to someone in need!**

September 15 Adult Sunday School topic: “The Underground Church” The Early Church during an age of Persecution. We will discuss how the church was able to grow even though the Roman leadership would often persecute Christians. What promises did hold that made it unique and made it grow? **All are welcome to attend.**

See insert for additional announcements...

Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies is a welcoming community united by faith in Jesus Christ; we seek to serve others, share God's love, and engage all people.

Donate!



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

Church Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey, pastor@pccrusa.org
Office Administrator: Brenda Dixon, 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

Jim Nussbaumer • Bill Solms • Pat Waltermire • Sue Yowell
Nancy Almond • Curtis Fox • Judy Schaffer • Steve Wilson
Terry Brigham • Dennis Jacobs • Jim Jonell • Kent Meyer
Clerk of Session: Barb Cole

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

The Week Ahead

Monday, September 9

- 11:30am Presbyterian Women's Luncheon
- 9:00am Meditation Trail Task Force
- 9:30am Finance Committee
- 11:00am Communications Committee
- 3:30pm Ballet Renaissance
- 6:00pm Oratorio Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 10

- 10:00am Building and Grounds
- 12:00pm One Day at a Time AA Group
- 1:00pm Personnel Committee
- 3:00pm Worship and Music
- 4:30pm Deacons
- 6:30pm Estes Valley Chamber Singers

Wednesday, September 11

- 10:30am Mission and Outreach Committee
- 12:00pm Bible Study
- 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 70449
- 4:00pm Joyful Bells

Thursday, September 12

- 8:30am EPNRC Board Meeting
- 9:30am COCO meeting
- 12:00pm One Day at a Time AA Group
- 1:30pm Risk Management Assessment Team
- 3:00pm Journeys Inner Work Group
- 4:00pm Chancel Bells
- 5:00pm EVICS
- 6:30pm Chancel Choir

Friday, September 13

- 3:30pm Ballet Renaissance

Saturday, September 14

- 9:30am Card-Making Group
- 3:30pm Burtoft-Hancock Wedding

Sunday, September 15 *CROSSROADS DONATIONS*

- 8:15am Adult Sunday School
- 8:30am Journeys
- 10:00am Worship –Scottish Heritage Sunday (Livestream available)
- 6:00pm Oratorio Orchestra Rehearsal

See the full church calendar on www.pccrusa.org

Announcements

Upcoming special church services:

September 15: Scottish Heritage Sunday, Come for a fun, lively service known as Kirkin' o' the Tartans. This Scottish-style service, complete with bagpipes, will honor our collective heritage. You are invited to "become a Scot" for the day and create your own Tartan out of paper or cloth to participate in the "Kirkin' o' the Tartans!".

September 22: Blessing of the Animals at 1:00pm at the Outdoor Chapel. Pastor Christine will conduct a service to include pet family members in a celebration of God's love for all his creation.

September 29: Members & Memories service honoring long-time members and friends. We will celebrate with a recognition in service along with a cake, pictures and fellowship.

October 13: Harvest Festival and Soup Luncheon hosted by the Hospitality Committee after worship at 11:00am. Each PCCR family is asked to bring a crock pot of hot soup to the Fellowship Hall prior to the 10:00 worship service. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

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).

Hymn Tidbits

(Researched by Joan [Buhlmann](#))

#482 - "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

Joachim Neander (1650-1680) wrote this hymn in 1680. Neander was an important hymn writer for the German Reform church. He wrote this hymn in Dusseldorf during a time in his life when he needed comfort. He learned to have close communion with God and nature during his time walking and composing hymns in the nearby river valley when he was head of the Latin school there. That valley was named after him-- Neander Valley or Neanderthal in German. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) translated the hymn in 1863. She was an English-language translator from London who studied under British Unitarians. She also studied in Dresden and in c. 1854 published her translations of German hymns. She was also deeply involved in promoting women's rights. She did more than any other individual to make the rich heritage of German hymnody available to the English-speaking world.

The tune Lobe Den Herren goes back to 1668 to the Praxis Pietatis Melica. The text is based on Ps. 103:1-6 and Ps.150.

#794 - "O Savior, in This Quiet Place"

Written by Fred Pratt, this text when first published was titled "A prayer for healing." It was written for the St. Barnabas Counseling Centre, an ecumenical center for healing in Norwich, England, where it was first sung on June 4, 1974. Originally the first line read, "Here, Master, in this quiet place," but no other lines have been altered. Most of this text is generated by imaginative consideration of how a person, especially one who is not entirely accustomed to praying, might express a longing for healing. But 5.3 is a biblical allusion to 1 Peter 1:7.

#276—"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

This is a poem written in 1925, by Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960) who sent it to William M. Runyan (1870-1957) in Kansas affiliated with the Moody Bible Institute and Hope Publishing. Runyan set the poem to music and Hope published it. The Biblical lyrics reference Lamentation 3:22-23. Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning. Great is Your Faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him." Chisholm wrote the poem as a testament to God's faithfulness in his very ordinary life. He wrote over 1200 poems, several of which are hymns.