



*Peace Begins with a
Change of Heart*

September 14, 2025

14th Sunday after Pentecost

“Cheap grace is the grace we bestow on ourselves. Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession...Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.”

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

PRELUDE

“Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs”

Joseph Prentiss

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” (*Te Deum*)

Paul Manz

Organist, Larry Gillum

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 51)

Liturgist, Jennifer Workman

O Lord, cleanse and refresh us and make us new.

Let your joy and gladness dawn in our spirits,

and the recreating power of your Spirit give us strength.

Renew us O God, and let your Spirit lead us in truth and righteousness. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 619**

“Praise, My Soul, The God of Heaven”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and one another. We have made choices that give us an unfair advantage over others. We have celebrated our good fortune while ignoring the hardships of someone else. We have ignored your call to reach out to others with compassion and love and have instead remained idle. God forgive us and create in us a clean heart.

Silent Prayer of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE:**

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
now am found, was blind, but now I see.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

A READING FROM THE EPISTLE

1 Timothy 2:1-7, NRSV

CHANCEL CHOIR

"Be Joyful in the Lord"

Telemann
Director, Rich Dixon

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10, NRSV

MESSAGE

"Peace Begins with a Change of Heart"

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 442 "Just As I Am, Without One Plea"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Bob Holcomb

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"Meditation No. 35"

Flor Peeters

***DOXOLOGY**

(Hymnal # 606)

*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**

COMMISSIONING OF MISSIONARY JIM NUSSBAUMER (Unison)

God of action, we pray today for Jim and for the people of Malawi. Give them strength to work together that they might feed the hungry, help the suffering and give hope to the poor. This partnership of mutual love is anchored in you God, and we pray for the safety and well-being of all building hope for tomorrow. We ask this prayer in Jesus name, 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. 634**

"To God Be the Glory"

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

(please remain standing)

POSTLUDE

"I Am Bound for the Promised Land"

from *Southern Harmony*

**Please stand if you are able.*



The Week Ahead

Monday, September 15

11:30am PW Women's Circle
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance
4:00pm Session

Tuesday, September 16

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE
9:30am Meditation Task Force
12:00pm One Day at a Time AA Group
2:30pm Nominating Committee
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance
6:30pm Estes Valley Chamber Singers
rehearsal
6:45pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, September 17

12:00pm Bible Study
1:00pm The Good Grief Group
4:00pm Joyful Bells
6:30pm Estes Park Chorale rehearsal

Thursday, September 18

12:00pm Stepping Stones Al-Anon Group
4:00pm Chancel Bells
3:00pm Columbarium Committee
5:00pm EVICS
6:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group
6:30pm Chancel Choir

Friday, September 19

10:00am Adult Study Group
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance

Saturday, September 20

9:00am Setup for Larry's reception
5:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group

Sunday, September 21

CROSSROADS DONATION COLLECTION
8:30am Journeys
10:00am Worship
11:00am Reception for Larry Gillum
4:30pm Oratorio Society of Estes Park
rehearsal

See the full church calendar on www.pccusa.org

Announcements

Greeters this morning are Betty & Kent Meyer.

Fellowship Time—Join us today for coffee and treats hosted by the Presbyterian Women.

A special Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the worship service today. The purpose of this meeting is for the election of officers to replace two vacant Elder and one vacant Deacon position.

There is a table in the Narthex today with hats and scarves that Merry Marthas will donate to the Crossroads Coat Drive. We will donate the rest of our hand made items in November to other Estes Park charities. Crossroads is accepting donations of coats, hats, and scarves through September for their Coat Drive in October. Any donations should be taken to Crossroads.

“Just Coffee” will be 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.

Blessing of the Animals—Today at 2:00pm at the Outdoor Chapel, Pastor Christine will conduct a Blessing of the Animals service to include pet family members in a celebration of God’s love for all his creation. All pet animals—dogs, cats, horses, llamas, birds—are welcome to receive individual blessings as witness to our dependence on other creatures and our stewardship responsibility for their care. All are invited to bring your pets for this special blessing.

CROSSROADS GROCERY CART will be in the Narthex on Sunday, September 21. Especially needed items are **sliced bread, toilet paper, macaroni & cheese, pasta shells and noodles.** Remember; you’re giving a hand up, not a hand out, to someone in need!

The Presbyterian Women’s Bible study will meet tomorrow, Monday, September 15, in the church library to discuss lesson one in the Bible study book, *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ.* We will be learning new information about “Mary Magdalene, the Tower” We gather at 11:30 a.m. and the lesson begins at 12 noon. The new Bible study books are available both at our meeting and in the church office. We look forward to having you join us.

Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Christine will be on Wednesday, September 17th at 12:00 noon in the church Library. This week’s topic is “Next in Line”, Genesis Chapter 25. This is a perfect time to join our little group if you are wanting to get involved.

Adult Study Group with Carol Nussbaumer —

The Adult Study Group (a.k.a. Not Your Mother's Sunday School) continues on Friday, September 19 at 10:00am. The current study looks at some favorite Bible passages: Isaiah 53, Psalm 23 and Matthew 5. A group of 4 professors explain the texts by considering geography, language, culture and other ancient sources. Instead of a single lecturer the seminar format features several experts who bring their combined knowledge to reflect on texts as they interact with each other's views and opinions. You are welcome to come once, or several times. You are encouraged to bring a Bible for the series.

An opportunity to join the Marion Medical Mission in prayer! If you would like to be part of the 2025 Marion Medical Mission "shallow wells" trip to Malawi, please request daily e-mails or the entire Daily Devotion Booklet to download. Each day from September 1 until late October there will be a scripture-based short devotion written by a volunteer or African employee ending with a short prayer and "Daily Application". No cost to you! Simply click <https://www.mmmwater.org/devotions>, enter your e-mail and that's that! You will be reading the same devotion each day as those in Africa are. And please include in your prayers Jim Nussbaumer, who will be leaving September 19 for this year's trip.

Vacation Bible School Coming to PCCR Summer 2026!! The new Christian Education Committee is excited to announce that PCCR will be hosting Vacation Bible School in the Summer of '26! We need **YOU** to help make it unforgettable! Whether you can serve behind the scenes, lead a group, or lend your creative talents, your contribution will help plant seeds of faith that will last a lifetime.

If you're ready to join the VBS planning team, please contact Jennifer Workman at 620-309-8365 or ckcworkman@gmail.com. Let's work together to make this Vacation Bible School a blessing for every child who walks through our doors!

Upcoming:

Today, September 14—Blessing of the Animals at 2:00pm at the Outdoor Chapel

Sunday, September 21—Celebration reception for Larry Gillum honoring his 25 years of service to PCCR following the worship service

Saturday, October 4—Memorial Service for Merry Nielsen at 2:00pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday, October 12—Kirkin O' the Tartans & Harvest Fest, more information to follow

Sunday, October 19—Information Discussion about Membership/Participation following the worship service

Elders

Nancy Almond • Curtis Fox • Judy Schaffer • Steve Wilson
Terry Brigham • Dennis Jacobs • Jim Jonell • Kent Meyer
Mimi Hardendorf • Jennifer Workman
Clerk of Session: Barb Cole

Deacons

Kelley Anderson • Chuck Bonza • Deborah Webb
Chuck Slicker • Mike Dempsey • Brenda Gillum
Jack Holmquist • Joanie Kleckner • Patti Dolezal
John Davis • Larry Pierce • Marilyn Irwin

Church Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey, pastor@pccrusa.org
Office Administrator: Brenda Dixon, office@pccrusa.org
Financial Manager: Darby Rand, finance@pccrusa.org
Handbell Director: Patti Dolezal, music@pccrusa.org
Organist: Larry Gillum **Choir Director:** Rich Dixon



***Blessing of the
Animals
Today at 2:00pm
Outdoor Chapel***



**Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies**



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