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Blessed Are...

the pure in heart

the meek

the poor in spirit

they who mourn

they who hunger & thirst

FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Matthew 5:3-12

the peacemakers

they who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness, because of Me

“Beatitudes of the Heart”

March 8, 2026

3rd Sunday in Lent

“The image of God is not like an image permanently stamped on a coin; it is more like an image reflected in a mirror. That is, human beings are created for life in relationships that mirror or correspond to God’s own life in relationship.”

— Daniel L. Migliore (July 22, 1935—March 2, 2026)
Professor Emeritus of Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

PRELUDE

“Lamb of God, We Fall Before Thee”
“By Thy Cross, O Christ, and Passion”

Henry Markworth
Paul Manz
Organist, Larry Gillum

CHORAL INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 42:1-2)

Liturgist, Marilyn Irwin

As a deer longs for flowing streams,

so our souls long for you, O God.

Our souls thirst for God, for the living God.

When shall I come and behold the face of God?

***OPENING HYMN NO. 804**

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we know that you are present with us at all times, and yet we continue to question your presence. Instead, we look for hope and peace in behaviors that are destructive and words that hurt others. God forgive us, and let us live into your grace that we may experience the blessedness that you freely give.

Silent Prayer of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE:**

216 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus mine eye at times can see
the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
and from my strick - en heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess:
the won - ders of re - deem - ing love and my un - wor - thi - ness.

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The accompaniment consists of block chords in the bass line.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE

Psalm 95, NRSV

CHANCEL CHOIR

"The Pure in Heart"

Patrick Hawes
Director, Rich Dixon

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-9, CEB

MESSAGE

"Beatitudes of the Heart"

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 647

"Give Thanks"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from the PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"Me Bless the Cross"

Shaker Hymn-Wilbur Held

***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**

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

(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. 172** "Blest Are They"

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE Lenten Meditations based on Hymns 193, 252, 169

**Please stand if you are able.*

A graphic with a light green, textured background and green palm fronds framing the text. The text is centered and reads:

Palm Sunday Brunch
Sunday, March 29
immediately following the worship service

The Hospitality Committee will provide
ham, potato casserole, rolls, and coffee/water.

The congregation is asked to bring a dish that will feed
at least 8 people. Last names beginning with A-R: side
dishes, salads (no potatoes please).
Last names beginning with S-Z: desserts.

Announcements

Greeters this morning are Linda & Larry Emsing.

Fellowship Time—Join us today for coffee and treats hosted by the Joyful Bells.

Lenten Bible Study—Come and join us for a Lenten Bible study over the Beatitudes. We will be using the text *The Beatitudes for Today* by James C. Howell to guide our study. Three different times are available for you to choose from:

Sunday mornings beginning February 22nd at 9:00am in the Lounge, led by Mike Dempsey

Sunday evenings beginning February 22nd at 7:00pm on Zoom only, led by Pastor Christine

Wednesdays at noon beginning February 25th in the church Library, led by Pastor Christine

If you would like to participate, please let Brenda in the church office know including which time you would like to attend.

CROSSROADS GROCERY CART will be in the Narthex next Sunday, March 15. Especially needed items are pasta sauce, diced tomatoes, sliced bread and canned chicken.

The Presbyterian Women's Bible study will meet next **Monday, March 16**, in the church library to discuss lesson 7 titled "The Woman Who Was Bent Over," based on Luke 13:10-17. Many women today are "bent over" due to physical challenges or by life experiences. Together we will explore how, as followers of Christ, we can learn to listen more and walk more closely with others as the family of God. We gather at 11:30 a.m. in the church library to share in fellowship before our lesson begins at 12 noon. The Bible study books are still available in the church office or at our meeting. We hope you can join us!

Adult Study Group with Carol Nussbaumer — Adult Study Group will continue a 4-week video Roundtable on **Friday, March 13** titled "Exploring Biblical Archeology: The Story of Jericho." Three biblical scholars will lead us on this adventure: Dr. Cyndi Parker, Dr. Nick Schasser and Dr. Yeshaya Gruber. The group meets on Friday mornings at 10:00 in the church library. No need for advance preparation, but a review of the book of Joshua would be useful. We will not be singing "Joshua Fit' De Battle O' Jericho" ...The group meets at 10:00am in the church library and all visitors are welcome!

One Great Hour of Sharing -From responding to the needs of refugees in Moldova, due to the Russia/Ukraine war, to providing relief items such as water, clothing, food and more to the people of Ghana who were affected by widespread flooding of the lower Volta River, the **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** program has been providing immediate help in these areas as well as long-term recovery support. This program, supported by the **One Great Hour of Sharing**, provides the healing love of Christ by caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events.

Volunteers are needed at the Estes Dementia Day Center (EDDC) - The center will provide enriching activities, emotional support, and a safe environment for individuals living with any form of Dementia, starting in April. Volunteers will play a vital role in enhancing the quality of life for participants through meaningful interactions and companionship. Volunteers will work closely with the Program Manager during their four (or more) hour commitment, and all training is free to volunteers. If you are interested in learning more about or becoming a Volunteer Caregiver in this program, please contact Jane at jhsstuart@gmail.com or 970-430-8105. (website: estesdementiadaycenter.org)

Palm Sunday Brunch—Mark your calendars to attend the annual Palm Sunday Brunch on **March 29th** immediately following the worship service. The Hospitality Committee will provide ham, potato casserole, rolls, and coffee/water. The congregation is asked to bring a dish that will feed at least 8 people. Last names beginning with A-R: side dishes, salads (no potatoes please). Last names beginning with S-Z: desserts. We look forward to this special time of fellowship before Easter!

Upcoming:

Sunday, March 15—Crossroads Donation Day

Sunday, March 29—Palm Sunday Brunch immediately following the worship service in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 2—Maundy Thursday Service at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary

Friday, April 3—Good Friday Service at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 5—Easter Service at 10:00am in the Sanctuary with Larry Gillum on the organ, the Chancel Choir, Combined Bell Choirs and special guest The Highland Brass

Church Staff

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

Elders

Terry Brigham - Dennis Jacobs - Jim Jonell - Kent Meyer
Mimi Hardendorf - Jennifer Workman - Bruce Ellingwood
Fred Thibodeau - Dale Bonza - Diane Palmer - Brian Rood
Mike Warren - Clerk of Session: Barb Cole

Deacons

Mike Dempsey - Brenda Gillum - Jack Holmquist
Joanie Kleckner - Patti Dolezal - John Davis - Larry Pierce
Marilyn Irwin - Beth Carle - Leslie Causer
Mark Koepke - Ann Taylor

The Week Ahead

Monday, March 9

9:30am Finance Committee
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance

Tuesday, March 10

10:00am Building & Grounds Committee
12:00pm One Day at a Time AA Group
1:00pm Personnel Committee
3:00pm Worship & Music Committee
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance
4:30pm Deacons
6:30pm Estes Valley Chamber Singers
6:45pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, March 11

10:00am Mission & Outreach Committee
12:00pm Bible Study
4:00pm Joyful Bells
5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 77845
6:30pm Estes Park Chorale

Thursday, March 12

8:30am ENN Board Meeting
4:00pm Chancel Bells
5:00pm EVICS
6:15pm Girl Scout Service Unit
6:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group
6:30pm Chancel Choir

Friday, March 13

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

Saturday, March 14

10:00am Girl Scout Troop 70449
5:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group

Sunday, March 15

CROSSROADS DONATION DAY
8:30am Journeys
9:00am Lenten Study Group
10:00am Worship
7:00pm Lenten Study Group on Zoom

See the full church calendar on www.pccrusa.org



**Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies**



Donate!

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office@pccrusa.org

Office hours

9:00-3:00, Monday-Thursday