

T
H
E

M
E
R
C
I
F
U
L

Blessed Are...

the clean of 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

“God’s Deep Longing”

March 22, 2026
5th Sunday in Lent

“Peacemaking begins with what we can change—ourselves.”

— Henri Nouwen

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Steve Shive

PRELUDE

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

David Cherwein
Organist, Larry Gillum

CHORAL INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist, Patti Dolezal

Come, you who long for a quieter heart. Come, you who are weary of conflict within and around you.

We come seeking the peace of Christ.

Blessed are the peacemakers, Jesus says: those who mend what is torn, those who listen before speaking, those who risk love where division has grown.

We come to be shaped into people of peace.

The Spirit gathers us—to soften what is hardened, to heal what is broken, to reconcile what has been divided.

God of peace, meet us here and remake us.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 331**

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of reconciling love, we confess that we have not always been peacemakers. We have chosen being right over being reconciled. We have held tight to resentment and called it wisdom. We have avoided hard conversations and named it peace. We have wounded others with careless words. We confess the wars we carry inside—fear against trust, anger against compassion, control against surrender. Forgive us, O Christ. Unclench our hands. Soften our defenses. Teach us the courage of gentleness. Where we have broken relationship, give us humility to repair it. Where we have deepened division, make us instruments of healing. Create in us hearts that seek peace. Through Christ, Amen!

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 voice and piano. It consists of five 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 three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

JOYFUL BELLS

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

arr. Sandra Eithun
Director, Patti Dolezal

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:6-7, NRSV

CHANCEL CHOIR "My Song in the Night" arr. Paul Christiansen
Director, Rich Dixon

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL *Matthew 5:9, NRSV*

MESSAGE "God's Deep Longing" The Rev. Dr. Steve Shive

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 753 "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

MOMENT FOR MISSION Karen Daugherty

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" Dale Wood

***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. 307** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE Lenten Meditations based on Hymns 466, 518, 449

**Please stand if you are able.*





Please welcome Rev. Dr. Steve Shive

Steve is the Interim Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks. He has extensive background in pastoral and mid-council ministry that have taken him all around the United States including Texas, Missouri, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Wyoming and North Dakota. He also has certification as an Associate Certified Coach from the International Coaching Federation. Please give him a warm welcome!

Palm Sunday
March 29th—10:00am
Enter Holy Week as Jesus enters Jerusalem with a communion service, then join in fellowship with Brunch sponsored by the Hospitality Committee

Maundy Thursday
April 2nd—5:00pm
Join the Chancel Choir in a service of communion as we remember the last supper

Good Friday
April 3rd—12:00pm
Experience dramatic monologues read by members of our congregation from the *Voices of Good Friday*, narratives written by Amanda J. Burr

Easter Sunday
April 5th —10:00am
Celebrate the joy of Easter with Larry Gillum on the organ, the Chancel Choir, PCCR Bell Choirs and special guest The Highland Brass

Announcements

Greeters this morning are Evelyn & Steve Wilson.

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

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 morning March 22 & 29 at 9:00am in the Lounge, led by Mike Dempsey

Sunday evening March 22 & 29 at 7:00pm on **Zoom** only, led by Pastor Christine

Wednesday March 25 and April 1 at noon in the church Library, led by Pastor Christine

Adult Study Group with Carol Nussbaumer — Adult Study Group (a.k.a. Not Your Mother's Sunday School) will continue on Friday, March 27th at 10:00am in the church library. All are welcome!

One Great Hour of Sharing—In Panama, a group of women worked to fulfill their dream of clean and reliable water for 45 families from two indigenous communities. In Ohio refugee women have learned to market their sweet and savory treats to farmers market patrons, by being provided through the **Self-Development of People** Program with the tools, resources and opportunities to create economic stability for their families. This program, supported by the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering, enters into partnerships with groups of economically poor and oppressed to help them climb out of poverty. Envelopes are available in the pews that can be used to donate to the One Great Hour of Sharing.

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!

The Week Ahead

Monday, March 23

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

Tuesday, March 24

12:00pm One Day at a Time AA Group
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance
6:30pm Estes Valley Chamber Singers
6:45pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, March 25

12:00pm Bible Study
1:30pm Visions Meeting
4:00pm Joyful Bells
5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 77845
6:30pm Estes Park Chorale

Thursday, March 26

10:00am Vacation Bible School Meeting
4:00pm Chancel Bells
6:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group
6:30pm Chancel Choir

Friday, March 27

9:30am Merry Marthas
10:00am Adult Study Group
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance

Saturday, March 28

9:00am Set-up for Palm Sunday Brunch
10:00am Girl Scout Troop 70449
5:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group

Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday

8:30am Journeys
9:00am Lenten Study Group
10:00am Worship
11:00am Palm Sunday Brunch
4:00pm Oratorio Society Rehearsal
7:00pm Lenten Study Group on Zoom

See the full church calendar on www.pccrusa.org

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

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.

Save the Date!

Thursday, July 16 -
Sunday, July 19, 2026
9:00 - 11:30 am



Go Tell It on the Mountain

**Vacation
Bible
School**

Jesus Loves Me!

Open to children entering Kindergarten through 5th grade

Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies
1700 Brodie Ave. Estes Park, CO 80517
Phone: 970-586-4404 Email: office@pccrusa.org



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