

What is Freedom?



July 5, 2026

6th Sunday after Pentecost

“While I reiterate the professions of my dependence upon Heaven as the source of all public and private blessings; I will observe that the general prevalence of piety, philanthropy, honesty, industry, and economy seems, in the ordinary course of human affairs particularly necessary for advancing and conforming the happiness of our country.”

— George Washington *“Answering a letter from the General Assembly of Presbyterian Churches in the United States”, May 1789*

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

PRELUDE

“Prelude on an American Folk Hymn”

George Frederick McKay
Organist, Larry Gillum

CHORAL INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adopted from John 14:23, and “I Come With Joy, a Child of God”)

Liturgist, Patti Dolezal

Jesus said: Those who love me will keep my word.

We come with joy as children of God.

Jesus said: my Father will love them.

We come to this community of love.

Jesus said: and we will come to them and make our home with them.

We come bound together giving the world love that makes us one.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 12

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love, it is in you that we are forgiven and experience the fullness of love in the world. And yet, freedom of conscience is often not equated with freedom of our physical selves. Many are bound in this world due to debt, a lack of food and resources, or an inability to go home. God, we pray to be forgiven for our part in this reality. Give us

strength to recognize our own shortcomings and to work together for the betterment of all your people.

Silent Prayer of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE:**

465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!

O we pray for God's for - giv - ness, all our sor - rows we do share.

All be - cause we trust in God's love, know - ing there is so - lace there.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5:13-26, NRSV

CHANCEL CHOIR

“The Last Words of David”

Randall Thompson
Director, Rich Dixon

*He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.
And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth,
even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass
springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain. Alleluia, amen.*

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 8:31-36, NRSV

MESSAGE

“What is Freedom?”

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY No. 370 “This Is My Father’s World”

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Robert Elmore

*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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts:

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS: #562 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Now send us forth your people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 366

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

Wilhousky-Gillum

**Please stand if you are able.*



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

*Registration forms are available in the Narthex, Church Office or on the website
pccrusa.org*

For more information, contact Jennifer Workman at ckcworkman@gmail.com

Announcements

Greeters this morning are Mary & Rick Andes.

Fellowship Time—Join us today for coffee and treats hosted by the Personnel Committee.

Today we welcome Middle School & Senior Youth from First Presbyterian Church of Grand Island, Nebraska. They will be doing mission work while they are here including work on our Meditation Trail.

All Church Picnic – Just a reminder that following the worship service next Sunday, July 12th, is the annual church picnic in Fellowship Hall. See the back of this bulletin for more information.

Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Christine will meet on Wednesday, July 8th at 12:00 noon in the church library. Come join us as we continue a study series on the book of Exodus. All you need is your bible. This week's topic is "Who is Moses?" Scripture: Exodus 18. See you there!

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

Prayer Team - The Deacons are excited to announce that they will be hosting a Prayer Team beginning July 13th at 11:00am in the church Library. A Prayer Team consists of a group of individuals called to pray for the needs of the congregation, community and the world. If you feel prayer is your spiritual gift, please consider joining this team. The sessions should last about 15-30 minutes. ALL are welcome to attend in person, or via zoom. A sign-up sheet for those wishing to attend is in the narthex.

Vacation Bible School – Registration is now open for all children entering kindergarten through 5th grade for VBS at PCCR **July 16-19th from 9:00-11:30am**. Registration forms are available in the narthex, online at pccrusa.org or in the church office. Contact Jennifer Workman at ckcworkman@gmail.com for more information. Bring your grandchildren!

Summer Outdoor Worship Services – Experience a wonderful way to worship in nature, enjoying a campfire-like atmosphere at **5:00pm on Wednesdays July 22 and August 26** at our Outdoor Chapel. Join Pastor Christine with Kent Meyer on guitar for an informal service in the beauty of our Meditation Trail. Invite your friends and neighbors, everyone is welcome!

Rocky Ridge Music Concerts – All are invited to attend these concerts given by the students of Rocky Ridge Music Center on Thursday, July 9 & 23 at 3:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Upcoming:

Monday, July 6 – Church office closed in observance of Independence Day

Thursday, July 9 – Rocky Ridge Concert at 3:30pm in the church Sanctuary

Sunday, July 12 – All Church Picnic in Fellowship Hall following the worship service

Thursday-Sunday, July 16-19 – Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, July 22 – Outdoor Summer Service at 5:00pm in the Outdoor Chapel

Thursday, July 23 – Rocky Ridge Concert at 3:30pm in the church Sanctuary

Sunday, July 26 – Service of Remembrance at 11:15am at the Columbarium

The Week Ahead

Monday, July 6

Church Office Closed in observance of
Independence Day

Tuesday, July 7

12:00pm One Day at a Time AA Group
1:30pm VBS Training
3:30pm Ballet Renaissance
6:45pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, July 8

10:00am Mission & Outreach
12:00pm Bible Study

Thursday, July 9

10:15am Estes Valley Library Book Club
1:00pm Foundation
3:30pm Rocky Ridge Concert
6:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group
6:30pm Chancel Choir

Friday, July 10

10:00am Adult Study Group

Saturday, July 11

9:00am Set-up for Church Picnic
10:00am Fairway Club POA
5:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group

Sunday, July 12

10:00am Worship
11:00am All Church Picnic
4:00pm Nebraska Picnic

See the full church calendar on

www.pccrusa.org

Summer Picnic

Sunday, July 12 – 11:00am

***You are invited to our All-Church Family Summer Picnic
to be held on our church patio and in Fellowship Hall***

The Hospitality Committee will provide hot dogs, buns, condiments, water, and paper supplies. If you would like anything else to drink, please bring your own.

Dress casually for church and bring your food to the church kitchen.

The picnic begins immediately after worship.

Bring a potluck dish to share using the suggested list below:

A through H – Salads

I through N – Baked beans or other vegetable dishes

O through T – Desserts

U through Z – Miscellaneous (chips, etc.)

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

Deacons

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

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



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies



Donate!

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