

# Community Presbyterian Church

Weekly E-mail March 19, 2020

## WORSHIP NOTES:

Sunday, March 22, 2020 – Please join us via Facebook Live.



Dear Friends –

I know you've heard it before – these are uncertain times. Uncharted territory. There is no play book. It is hard to make sense of what has been happening in the world around us – and even harder to wrap your head around how quickly this progressed. One week ago, I was wrestling with the decision to cancel worship or not. Today, I am wondering about how to stay connected and how to stay grounded now

that pretty much everything is canceled and words like “social distance” and “self-quarantine” are part of our everyday vocabulary.

I've settled on Facebook and Facebook Live as one way in which we might stay connected – and grounded – during this time. Each morning at 10 a.m. I have been sharing scripture, prayers, and reflections through Community Presbyterian Church's Facebook page. Some have watched these live. Many more have watched the recordings. Thank you for connecting in this way.

On Sunday, March 22 and Sunday, March 29, I will be broadcasting live on Facebook. Hopefully we can use this tool to connect with one another.

In many ways, we are only beginning to adapt. As we continue to be isolated, new ways of being church and staying connected will emerge. We will update you all through email, on our webpage ([cpcplainview.com](http://cpcplainview.com)) <https://www.cpcplainview.com/> and through the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CPC.Plainview/>. You can always contact me directly at 507-316-8048.

Sincerely,  
Pastor John

**Please join us at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook Live!**

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 – The Third Sunday in Lent**

OPENING SENTENCES (Psalm 103:8)

The Lord is merciful and gracious.  
**Slow to anger and abounding in love.**

LITANY FOR LENT

For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.  
**Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.  
**Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.  
**Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.  
**Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish.  
**Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.  
**Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

**Eternal God, as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life. For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

## **OPENING HYMN #649 “Amazing Grace”**

Amazing 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.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

## **SCRIPTURE**

Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

‘Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.’

## **PRAYER AND MEDITATION**

“Awake and rise, Christ will shine on you.”

## **HYMN #450 “Be Thou My Vision”**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;

Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;

Thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou, mine inheritance, now and always;

Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven’s joys,  
O bright heaven’s Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## **CLOSING HYMN #39 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee.

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness,  
Lord unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence  
to cheer and to guide,

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine,  
with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

## **BLESSING AND CHARGE**

