

Community
Presbyterian
Church



Connected
Praying
Caring

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Newsletter

WORSHIP UPDATE

Sunday morning April 12th – Join us in person at church or online!

10:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday

Psalm 133

John 20: 19-31

Pastor Denise Dunbar-Perkins

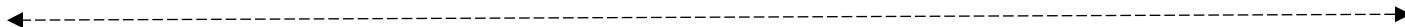
“A View from the Edge”

[Community Presbyterian Church - Home \(cpcplainview.com\)](http://cpcplainview.com)

[Community Presbyterian Church - YouTube](#)

Coffee Fellowship served after church.

Server: Mark Rich & Jason Laske



Mission of the Month for April: MN Adult and Teen Challenge

Adult & Teen Challenge of Minnesota (MnTC) is a faith-based recovery organization offering residential and outpatient programs for teens and adults struggling with substance abuse and life-controlling issues.

Overview

MnTC's mission is to help men, women, and teens gain freedom from chemical addictions and other life-controlling problems by addressing physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The organization operates multiple campuses across Minnesota, including Minneapolis, Brainerd, Duluth, Mankato, Alexandria, Rochester, and Buffalo. Programs are designed to serve individuals at various stages of recovery, from first-time treatment seekers to those with long-term addiction struggles.

Faith-Based Approach

MnTC integrates Christian principles into its programs, including biblical studies, work projects, and recreation, fostering a supportive environment of love, trust, and respect. The faith-based model is central to helping participants develop new life patterns and overcome addiction.

Community and Advocacy

MnTC engages in prevention programs, community forums, and legal advocacy, working with schools, law enforcement, and local nonprofits to raise awareness about substance abuse and support recovery efforts. The organization serves over 3,400 individuals annually across Minnesota.

The Gideons Membership Drive

The Gideons of Rochester are looking for more members to join their ranks. They are looking for professional businessmen in the area who are interested in becoming members of the Gideons. There is a free informative Banquet and meeting on May 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Salem Road Covenant Church, 3401 Salem Road SW in Rochester. RSVP to 507-272-7272 by May 10th to reserve your place at the meeting.

Projector Update:

The company we hired to install the projector has now received the new updated model, the 2026 model of the NEC-SHARP projector. We have been waiting for this new 2026 model, since the last 2025 model we were supposed to receive was destroyed in the warehouse by accident. Now, we are waiting for the installation of the projector. It should be in the next few weeks. We are excited to have our projector back again in worship!

AL-ANON IS:

A fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who believe their lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. Al-Anon is: a mutual support recovery program based on the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. Al-Anon is: a nonprofessional fellowship is where members share their experience, strength, and hope to solve their common problems. Al-Anon meets weekly at the Plainview Church of Christ on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. 205 First Street NE (enter door #3 on 2nd Avenue).

PRAY FOR COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are trying to make this church a PRAYING church, where we rely on the power of prayer in complex decisions. A group of members have committed themselves to praying for the church at either 9am or 9pm, or both. Please feel free to join with the Lord in prayer at either or both of these times. There is great power in prayer, and praying together brings unity.



CHOIR SCHEDULE: *Choir has resumed! We will take April 8th off from practice. We will resume practice on April 15th. Our rehearsals run for about an hour. All are welcome to attend! We would love to have you with us!*

Per Capita 2026

Per Capita this year will be \$43.75 per person. **What does “Per Capita” Mean in the Presbyterian Church (USA)?**

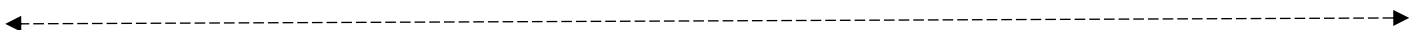
“Per Capita” is an annual *per-member apportionment* that every Presbyterian congregation pays to support the work of the denomination at all three governing levels:

1. **Presbytery** – \$26.99-- regional support for congregations, teaching elders, programs, and mission.
2. **Synod** – \$5.50--a larger regional body offering education programs (such as Synod School) and support services, including low-cost loans for churches.
3. **General Assembly** \$11.26-- the national body providing leadership, disaster relief, peacemaking initiatives, youth programs (like Triennium), and work that serves the whole church.



PRAYER LIST

- Prayers for Tim Pries and family, with the loss of his brother Scott.
- Prayers for Gary Lee, Joan’s husband, who is recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.
- Prayers for Joe Flanagan, for good health. Prayers for Julie, for strength.
- Prayers for John Zabel for better health.
- Prayers for Ron Byler with his recent diagnosis.
- Prayers for Alyssa Kreofsky, who is in a lot of pain and has kidney disease.
- Prayers for Bonnie’s niece Debra, with breast and bone cancer.
- Prayers for peace in our own country.



2025 Giving Statements

Your 2025 giving statements are now available in the office. Just call Mark at 507-534-2298 or email at cpcoffice@hbc.com to request your giving statement. Giving statements are also available after church services in the office. Just find Mark and he can print it off for you right there. Thank you again for your continued support of our wonderful church!

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Tom & Diane Ellringer

Apr. 4

Jordan Alden

Apr. 18

Julie Cranston-Fuentes

Apr. 22

Wendy Rollie

Apr. 29

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



Volunteers needed to serve in May and June!

Is there a Sunday you would be interested in helping serve during worship? We need greeters, coffee fellowship, and liturgist. Sign up on the deacon's sign up clipboard or email cpcoffice@hbc.com.

Noisy Offering

There are coin offering buckets at each door of the sanctuary. Remember to bring your spare change to church for the noisy offering. We are using this offering to go toward our Per Capita costs.



Welcome to Community Presbyterian Church!

Sunday, April 12th, 2026
Second Sunday in Easter

Gathering

PRELUDE

Joan Lee, Organ

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bruce Firzlaff

Easter people, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ is risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up: how do we know? What's the proof? Is Resurrection real?

Within our questioning, Christ appears.

We may find ourselves like other disciples, witnesses of Christ's resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

Within our certainty, Christ appears.

Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's salvific work in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

Bruce Firzlaff

Let us pray together:

Gracious and Eternal God, you are the one who calls us together and the one who sends us out in the world. Remind us, as we gather, how good it is to dwell with you and one another. Stir our hearts to love boldly, freely, and joyfully. Let us praise you with our whole lives and magnify your name by our works. We bless and honor you, O Faithful One, from generation to generation and from community to community. Speak to our spirits and receive our worship. Amen.

Service Prayers for Easter 2A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

OPENING HYMN #267 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Bruce Firzlaff

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea,

And God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth.

Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other, as we pray together, saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Bruce Firzlaff

Gracious and Eternal God, you never abandon us the way that we sometimes abandon you. We doubt your power and your compassion. We call upon your name, but too often without expectation that you will answer. We blame you for the things we have collectively caused or that life demands. Yet, we give ourselves credit for the good that comes our way. We offer empty apology devoid of real repentance. We want to be absolved without engaging in repair. Help us to cherish grace as a gift and mercy as a miracle. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Denise

Beloved, the Redeemer of our souls meets us in our doubts, uncertainty, and questions.

When we call, God responds.

Receive the grace of God to trust the Holy One with our struggles, pain, and brokenness.

Hear the Good News: we are forgiven!

Alleluia! Amen.

Adapted from Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good.' Used with permission.

GLORY TO GOD #581 "Glory Be to the Father" "Gloria Patri" found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian Hymnal.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Pastor Denise

A CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR CPC

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bruce Firzlaff

Let us pray together:

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PSALM

Bruce Firzlaff

Psalm 133

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Bruce Firzlaff

John 20: 19-31

SERMON "A View from the Edge"

Pastor Denise Dunbar-Perkins

Responding

HYMN #268 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

(Verses 1, 2, & 4)

found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's 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. Amen.

CALL TO PRAYER #523 "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" (Refrain, V1, Refrain)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray Holy God, source of all being weaving us together in the great and intricate tapestry of Creation.

**Creator God, mother and father of us all,
in your holy love you took on our limitations.
Born of a body, bound within a body,
you know the whole of this human experience.
Learning to communicate with words;
Teaching us to communicate with presence.
Learning the fears that wring us dry;
Teaching us of the love that nurtures us back to life.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERINGS OF LOVE AND THANKSGIVING

April Mission of the Month: MN Adult & Teen Challenge

DOXOLOGY: #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray together:

Generous One, may these gifts be a blessing to those in need, a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve, encouragement for those who doubt, a balm

for those in pain. May our generosity reflect our gratitude and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.

Sending

DEPARTING HYMN #462 "I Love to Tell the Story"
found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal

BENEDICTION Pastor Denise

BENEDICTION SONG #260 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" (Verse 1)

POSTLUDE Joan Lee, Organ

GREETERS: Howard Gray & Ron Manzow