

Worship for the Lord's Day

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

9:30 am

Prelude

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

arr. Lloyd Larson

Lighting the Christ Candle

Ty Skupien

Words of Welcome

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

*Opening Words:

One: The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: It moves us beyond retribution and cycles of violence.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: It leads us to enemy-love and scandalous forgiveness.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: so let us commit our way to the Lord together

All: until righteousness shines like the dawn and our justice like high noon.

*Hymn 753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

All: God of abundant mercy, you alone can turn evil into good, sorrow into rejoicing,
 and death into everlasting life. Teach us your way of grace —
 to meet hatred with kindness,
 to answer curses with blessing,
 to love without holding back,
 to give without thought of return;
 all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Sung Response 582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another, let us share the peace
 with one another. The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

***Sung Response 399**

God Welcomes All

THEMBA AMEN

Growing with God

Beth

*Following Growing with God, all children are invited to go to Faith Formation class in LL6
 or sit in the pews with their families.*

Sung Response 399 remain seated

God Welcomes All

THEMBA AMEN

Prayer for Inspiration

Ken

Scripture Reading

Luke 6:27-38

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. This is the Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Scripture Reading

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Beth

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. This is the Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Scandalous Forgiveness

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

***Hymn 444**

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

DETROIT

Offering Our Gifts to God

Ken

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Christopher Cock, tenor



QRCode for Giving

***Doxology** words 607, tune 606 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

***Prayer of Dedication**

Church Tidings

use this QRCode to sign into the friendship pad



Beth

Joys & Concerns

God's People Pray / The Lord's Prayer (using "sins")

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

***Hymn 754**

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

***Charge and Blessing**

***Postlude**

Festive Postlude on "St. Theodulph"

Douglas E. Wagner

** Please rise in spirit or body*

All speak emboldened type

LITURGIST: Ken Monson

USHERS: Doug James, Erin James

ONLINE WORSHIP HOST: Brendan Cock & Gary Coop

AV: Erich Kretchmer, Liz Monson

ACOLYTE: Ty Skupien

LARGE PRINT hymnals are available from the ushers.

Next Sunday in Worship, March 2

Luke 9:28-36

Mystery of Transfiguration



Transfiguration © by Milke Moyers

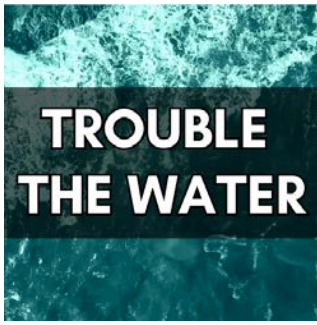


VISITING CPC? WELCOME!

We believe feeling welcome is foundational for members and visitors to be open to the journey of lifelong faith formation and growth. If you've felt a sense of welcome at CPC and are curious in learning more about us, reach out to Ingrid Ellithorpe, Community Connector, to chat by email ingridellithorpe@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 630.452.2625.

HELLO!
My name is

Visitor



TROUBLE THE WATER
Fri March 7 - Sun March 9
Weekend workshop with Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance

Through powerful storytelling, guided discussions, and immersive experiences, participants will engage and reflect on the generational systems and forces that shape our world, and our place within them. Sessions offer a space for meaningful soul-work. We hope you leave with a deeper awareness of yourself, your community, and the responsibility we all share in creating a more equitable future.



Register today with the QRcode.

Sponsored by the Mission, Education & Outreach Committee of CPC.

Four Sessions:

Fri March 7	7:00 - 9:00 pm
Sat March 8	9:00 - 11:30 am
	11:30 - 12:30 lunch provided
	12:30 - 3:00 pm
Sun March 9	10:45 - Noon

While participation at all four sessions will provide the most meaningful experience, it is not required. Child / Family care stipends available to support your need for care in your home while you attend **Trouble the Water**.

You may be asking what can I expect from this weekend? WHY should I participate in this?

We will explore how to acknowledge that racism exists and to honor differences in how we perceive it. We will honor our individual need for solace and lean into the value of conversation as we support one another in building beloved community and belonging. We hope that our time together may inspire movement from uncomfortable acquiescence, to more active engagement in building the beloved community for which God longs. This weekend will not eliminate any uncomfortable feelings around racism; we hope it will reform our response to the racism of the world.

Our leaders for Trouble the Water



Alicia Reese joined Crossroad's organizing and facilitation team in November and also serves as an on-call hospital chaplain. She received her Master of Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary and is ordained PCUSA. Alicia lives in the Uptown neighborhood of Chicago with her spouse and three fur babies.



Jessica Vazquez Torres see bio below



GUEST PREACHER: Jessica Vazquez Torres
Sunday March 9

Jessica is a proven leader with over 20 years of experience in antiracism, anti-oppression, and cultural competency workshop development and facilitation. Jessica is deeply committed to addressing social structures and cultural dynamics that marginalize and minoritize communities, limiting their access to the resources needed to thrive not just survive. A 1.5-generation ESL Queer Latina of

Puerto Rican descent, Jessica holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Central Florida, a Master of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary, and a Master of Theological Studies from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. She lives with her spouse Laura and their 80-lb dog Magpie.

This week at CPC:

Sunday, February 23

9:30 am — Worship

9:45 am — Faith Formation; LLRm 6

10:45 am — Adult Ed; Chapel/Hybrid

5:00 - 7:00 pm — Youth Event: Sky Zone

Monday, February 24

7:00 pm — Deacons; Chapel & Zoom

Tuesday, February 25

9:15 am — PW Circle 1; Gathering Room

10:00 am — PW Circle 4; Oak Trace

1:00 pm — PW Circle 2; Gathering Room

1:30 pm — Staff Meeting, Chapel / Zoom

7:00 pm — A & P; Chapel / Zoom

7:00 pm — PW Circle 3; Gathering Room

Wednesday, February 26

7:00 pm — Chancel Choir; Sanctuary

Thursday, February 27

9:00 am — Read * Share * Pray; Chapel / Zoom

7:00 pm — Clarion Bell Choir rehearsal; Sanctuary

Friday, February 28

Saturday, March 1

Sunday, March 2

New Members joining / Baptism

9:30 am — Worship

9:45 am — Faith Formation; LLRm 6

10:45 am — Adult Ed; Chapel / Zoom

5:00 pm — MS Cubes; LL Rm 8

5:00 pm — HS Cubes; LL Youth Lounge



FAITH FORMATION CLASS ~ FORGIVENESS

Join us this Sunday for a discussion about forgiveness.



NURSERY CARE

The Nursery will be staffed by our volunteers **March 9**. The Nursery is located across from the church office on the main floor and is always open for use, even when not staffed by our volunteers.



BIBLE EXPLORERS

Please note; Bible Explorers has been cancelled for this Sunday and will be rescheduled for a later date.

**March 23 & April 27 & Date TBD
During Sunday worship service**

All kids in 4th - 6th grade are encouraged to participate in our Bible Explorers group. These sessions will be exciting and engaging. Kids will get a chance to interact with their friends and their bibles in ways that equip and inspire them to read their Bibles regularly at home.



LENDING LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

My Elephant is Blue

What will help when the blues leave you feeling as though you're crushed beneath an elephant? Will a smile do the trick? A gentle nudge? Chocolate? A walk? Can anyone—or anything—make the elephant go away? Warm, empathetic, hopeful, and often funny, *My Elephant is Blue* is an inviting exploration of the experience of living under the weight of sadness.

***My Elephant is Blue* is available in the Lending Library...check it out!**



Understanding Our Connections – The Qur'an and the Bible

Sunday Feb 23

10:45 - 11:45, Chapel and [Zoom link](#)

This coming Sunday, Imam Hassan Aly (Qur'an) will be joined by Rev. Dr. Robert Cathey (Bible) for the final class on finding connections between the Qur'an and the Bible. Each of them is familiar with the content of the other's sacred text and faith tradition, and they will share with us additional insights.

Dr. Cathey has been attending the first three classes remotely and so he is quite familiar with the material that we have covered. Note that he provided some documents that he recommends that we read before Sunday. **You can find them [here](#).**



SUNDAY MARCH 23
LEONARDO GARCIA ALTINO – CELLIST
Worship Music

We are excited to welcome back cellist Leo Altino to worship at CPC.

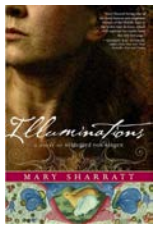
Brazilian-American cellist Leonardo Garcia Altino has performed with leading orchestras, including the Boston Symphony and Odense Symphony. By fourteen, he had already appeared as a soloist with every major orchestra in Brazil. A winner of the Viña del Mar International Cello Competition, he has performed across the Americas, Europe, and Asia. Praised by *The Strad Magazine* for his “exceptional musical intelligence and an exceptionally cultivated sound,” he is currently a faculty member at the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM
“Bison Tales and Tallgrass Trails”
Tuesday, March 4, 12:30



Please join us in Fellowship Hall for a delicious luncheon with dessert and a stimulating presentation by Cindy Crosby. Cindy is a steward supervisor for the Schulenberg Prairie at the Morton Arboretum and a writer, teacher, and lecturer on the tallgrass prairie and nature conservation. She has a master’s degree in natural resources with an emphasis on environmental interpretation. Her talk will focus on tallgrass prairies including wildlife and particularly bison. All are invited. Bring friends!!



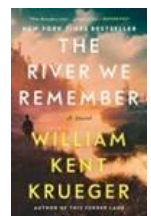
READ*SHARE*PRAY
Thursdays
9:00 - 10:30 am
Chapel / Zoom

Join us on Thursday mornings for a book discussion on the novel entitled *Illuminations*, a novel of the life and spiritual journey of Hildegard von Bingen.

CIRCLE OF VOICES WILL NOT MEET IN MARCH

Our April book is *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger. It will be available at the Clarendon Hills Library.

For more information contact Barb Coop.



MEAL A MONTH COLLECTION

Food pantries are in desperate need. Fill a bag with non-perishable grocery items to be donated to Hinsdale Community Services.

The suggested menu is:

- Cereal and Pancake Mix Rice
- Mac & Cheese Canned Tuna or Chicken
- Peanut Butter & Jelly Salad Dressing
- Beans Paper Products



Any non-perishable items will be most welcome! Pick up a bag in the narthex or use your own and return to CPC. Thank you for your generous donations.



INTERIM PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Fred Veenbaas, chair; Pat Garner, secretary; and Kathy Florence have been elected by the Session to serve as the search committee for the Interim Pastor / Head of Staff. They are beginning their work immediately. Thank you for your prayers for their faithful work.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP BEGINNING OF LENT Wednesday, March 5 7:00 pm

Lent is a journey of preparation for the coming of Holy Week. In this season we will walk with Jesus he moves closer to the cross. This year we will study key texts in the gospel of Luke. We will engage familiar stories—the Good Samaritan, Mary and Martha, the fruitless fig tree, the Lost Sheep, Zacchaeus, and more.



as

The liturgical season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, a day to remember that we are dust and to dust we will return. A worship service with the imposition of ashes and communion will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 5 in the Sanctuary.



Community Presbyterian Church

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www.chcpc.org [Follow us on Facebook](#)

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