

Welcome to Community Presbyterian Church!

MAY 3, 2026

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:00 A.M.

Welcome to this Sacred Time and Holy Place of Worship.

Quote for Meditation *"Make me walk along the paths of your commands for that is where my happiness is found."* Psalm 119: 35

GREETING and PASSING OF THE PEACE

Elder Andy Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Andy Smith

PRELUDE:

"I Will Come to You" (Hymn #177)

Senior Choir

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Adapted from Psalm 118) Elder Andy Smith

One: Open for us the gates with your gracious mercies where the righteous enter...

All: ...we will go in and thank the Lord.

One: These gates lead to the presence of the Lord and the godly enter there.

All: We thank you for answering our prayers and giving us victory over sin for you are our salvation.

One: The stone that the builders have rejected has now become the cornerstone.

All: This is the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see.

One: This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Come, let us worship the Lord, our God.

* Opening Hymn: #81

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Elder Andy Smith

"If we confess our sins, He that is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his Word is not in us."

1 John 1:9

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Elder Andy Smith

Come let us join in unison to confess our sins.

Mighty God, we know that you have done many wondrous things and that everything you do is glorious and reflects your majesty. - And yet, we take the beauty of your creation for granted failing to be the good stewards that you expected us to be.

Eternal Father, we know that you are kind and merciful feeding us the daily bread of your Spirit and your Word. - And yet, we allow ourselves to be filled instead with the vitriol and divisiveness of this world before we even think of going to your Word for your wonderful counseling.

Prince of Peace, we know that you have the power to bring justice that will never end. - And yet, we stumble over who and how we should forgive. We hold grudges and let offenses linger filling our hearts so that there is no room for your loving Spirit.

Gracious God, forgive us. Pour out your mercy upon us. Create in us clean hearts and once again send your Spirit to fill our hearts with the joy of knowing you and desiring your instruction and guidance. [A moment for silent reflection]

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *adapted from Psalm 145*

Elder Andy Smith

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. My friends, know that through the Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the gracious mercies of our God that your sins have been forgiven.

*Sung response: #581

“Gloria Patri”

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S TIME:

Elder Christy Hemmes, Family Ministries Director

Children will be dismissed to Sunday School following the children’s message.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Psalm 31: 1-5 *responsively –*

led by Elder Andy Smith

One: I come to you Lord for protection. Do not let me be ashamed.

All: Do as you have promised and rescue me.

One: Listen to my prayer and hurry to save me.

All: Be my rock and the fortress where I am safe.

One: You, Lord God, are my rock and my fortress.

All: Lead me and guide me so that your name will be honored.

One: Protect me from hidden traps and keep me safe.

All: You are faithful and I trust you because you rescued me.

Gospel:

John 14:1-14 (NT pg. 102)

Elder Mel Prestamo

Response:

One: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON:

“If it were not so...”

Elder Mel Prestamo

*HYMN: #175

“Seek Ye First”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CALL FOR THE OFFERING –

Elder Andy Smith

OFFERTORY:

“There’s a Quiet Understanding”
Senior Choir

Ted Smith-Nilson

*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #708

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Elder Andy Smith

PRAYER REQUESTS

Elder Mel Prestamo

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

Elder Mel Prestamo

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.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***CLOSING HYMN: #269**

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

***BENEDICTION**

Elder Mel Prestamo

CHORAL RESPONSE

**Please rise in body or in Spirit*

† † † † † †



E-Giving at Community Presbyterian Church

If you would like to donate to the mission of Community Presbyterian Church, just scan the QR code to the left and it will take you to our donations page, managed by the PCUSA.

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Chester, New Jersey 07930

The Rev. Christopher W. Scrivens, Pastor

Office Telephone: (908) 879-5091 E-Mail Address: office@cpchester.org

www.cpcchester.org