



January 18, 2026

**Welcome to  
Community.**

*We are glad you are  
here. While here we  
hope you will feel  
welcome and  
find the service  
meaningful.*

*Childcare (infants  
through 4 year olds)  
is available. Worship  
boxes for younger  
children to borrow  
during worship are  
located at the entrance.*

*Large Print bulletins  
are available. Please see  
an usher for assistance.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**– We Gather For Worship –**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Heavenly Father, may we come before you today with hearts full of gratitude. May we recognize and celebrate the incredible truth that we are Children of God, called by your name and held in your unchanging love.

Lord, remind us of how greatly blessed we are. We thank you for the gift of life, the grace that covers our mistakes, and the inheritance of peace you have promised us. As we prepare to worship, open our eyes to see the beauty of your holiness and open our ears to hear the truth of your Word. Let everything we do today reflect the joy of belonging to You. Amen.

**– We Are Called Into God's Presence –**

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Remembering Who You Are**

Leader: In worship we are reminded first and foremost, that our identity is found in God who loves us. We are defined not by our titles or tasks, but by our inherent value, and connection to the Divine source of all life.

*The baptismal water is poured.*

The water of baptism reminds us:

People (Left side) **I have been adopted as God's child.** (Ephesians 1:5)

People (Right side) **I am blessed.** (Ephesians 1:3)

People (Left side) **I am redeemed.** (Ephesians 1:7)

People (Right side) **I am chosen of God, holy and dearly loved.** (Ephesians 1:5)

People (all) **I am saved by grace.** (Ephesians 2:8)

People (all) **I am part of something bigger than myself.** (Ephesians 2:10)

Prayer (in unison) **Lord, help me to realize all that I am as your child so I may claim my true identity and glorify you in all the ways of my life. Amen.**

\*OPENING SONG

*How Great Is Our God*

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;  
Let all the earth rejoice, let all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide.  
It trembles at His voice, it trembles at his voice.

**Chorus: How great is our God! Sing with me, how great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

Age to age he stands, and time is in His hands,  
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end.  
The God-head, Three in One, Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. (Chorus)

Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing, how great is our God!  
He is the name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing, how great is our God! (Chorus Twice)

**How great, how great is our God!**

"How Great Is Our God," words and music by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves  
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**– We Confess Our Sins –**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we are all precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. You set us apart as your children, yet our behavior does not always match our identity as children of God. You call us to follow; yet we often turn to our own ways. Evidence of your goodness surround us, yet we fail to acknowledge or give thanks for all our blessings.

**Forgive us. When we turn from your ways, guide us back to you. In Christ name we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE TO THE PARDON

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
(Verse 3)

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

*In the presence of a  
forgiving God,  
We become aware of the  
ways we fall short  
of God's best hopes  
for us, and ways we  
have hurt others.  
As you pray the prayer  
of confession; think  
how the words express  
specific sins in your  
life and the life of the  
church. We turn to God  
asking forgiveness.*

*Claim the truth that  
through God's grace  
and Christ giving of  
himself on the cross,  
we are forgiven. Let this  
truth set you free  
from your sins so you  
may be restored to  
God and one another.*

## – We Hear God's Word –

*All children are invited  
to come forward for the  
Children's Moment.*

*The Scripture bears  
witness to the word of  
God. Listen beyond the  
human word for the  
Word of God. Pray that  
the Spirit will speak to  
you through the text.*

*All Scripture is God-  
breathed and is useful  
for teaching, rebuking,  
correcting and training  
in righteousness, so that  
the servant of God may  
be thoroughly equipped  
for every good work.  
2 Timothy 3:16-17*

*The affirmation of  
faith invites us to join  
with God's people  
everywhere in claiming  
our faith in God as our  
Creator, Redeemer and  
Sustainer. It also  
reminds us to go out  
and publicly proclaim  
our faith in God.*

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### ANTHEM

*Down By the Riverside with Standing in the Need of Prayer*

Trad. Spirituals,  
Arr. Mary McDonald

Gonna lay down my burden down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
I'm gonna lay down my burden down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside.

I ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more,  
Ain't gonna study war no more, no more.  
Ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more,  
Down by the riverside.

It's me, it's me, it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me, it's me, it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.  
Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standing in the need of prayer.  
Not my mother, not my father, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standing in the need of prayer.

Gonna lay down my sword and shield down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
Gonna lay down my sword and shield down by the riverside,  
Down by the river, down by the river, down by the river.

It's me, It's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer!  
It's me, it's me, O Lord!

#### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

#### READING FROM THE WORD OF GOD – *Ephesians 1:3*

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God,  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

Rev. Rod Stone

**I Am Blessed!**

## – We Believe –

*\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – (from a Brief Statement of Faith)*

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus was crucified, giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**We trust in God who created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver**

and re-newer of life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## – We Offer Our Prayers –

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

## – We Share Our Gifts –

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

FRIENDSHIP RECORD – *(Please sign and pass)*

OFFERTORY

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*Great Is the Lord*  
(Verse 2)

Great are you, Lord, You are holy and just:  
By your power we trust in your love.  
Great are you, Lord, you are faithful and true;  
By your mercy you prove you are love.

Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory!  
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice:  
Great...are you, Lord! Great...are you, Lord!

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## – We Go Out to Be God's Presence in the World –

\*CLOSING HYMN

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*  
God be the love to search and keep me;  
God be the prayer to move my voice;  
God be the strength to now uphold me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.  
Bind to myself the name of Holy,  
Great cloud of witnesses enfold;  
Prophets, apostles, angels witness:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.



**QR Code (for quick mobile giving)**

*The giving of an offering not only supports the ministry of Christ but it is the symbolic dedication of our life and all that we have to give to God in response to his love. Remember that all things belong to God, and that we are entrusted to use all that we have to bring glory to God.*

*Our worship does not end at the conclusion of this service. We go forth to love and serve the LORD in daily living. In so doing, we seek to fulfill our mission to "love God and make God's love known".*

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,  
Flashing of lightning, strength of wind,  
Depth of the sea to soil of planet:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Walking behind to hem my journey,  
Going ahead to light my way,  
And from beneath, above, and all ways:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Christ in the eyes of all who see me,  
Christ in the ears who hear my voice,  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

\*BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

*The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of Worship*

\*Please stand if you are able.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Pat and Nancy in honor and appreciation of Sally Raynor who's our go to in time of need. We love you!

Accompanist: Ed Martel

Ushers: Alan Tucker, Joe and Patty Franklin, Holly Alexander

Greeters: Jane and Leo Garcia

Audio: Scott Brewton

Holy Grounds: Nancy Oakley

**Children's Church:** If you are a visitor here and have a child that would like to attend children's church they are more than welcome to join us! After the children's sermon, all children ages kindergarten through fifth grade are dismissed to go downstairs with the teachers. We have a snack, game, Bible lesson and a craft. If your child has any food allergies or other health/behavior concerns please come downstairs with your child and let the teachers know. We have visitor forms as well that are located by the worship boxes and bulletins. When church is finished please come downstairs to pick your child up. We also have a nursery that is available from birth-preschool age. Thank you!

**Prayer from Our Care Team:** Each month, Pastor Meg and your congregational care elders, Patty Franklin, John Liles, and Cindy Ward, meet to pray through the requests that have been offered on our congregational prayer list. If you have new requests to bring to our team for prayer and care, please contact Cindy Ward via phone or email: [rwyt20042004@yahoo.com](mailto:rwyt20042004@yahoo.com) (910) 986-0491.

## **The Mission of Community Presbyterian Church:**

"We exist not for ourselves, but to love God and  
make God's love known."

## – Community Happenings –

### Weekly Calendar

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#### Sunday (January 18)

- 10:30 a.m. Worship – Fellowship Hall  
5:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship – Loft

#### Monday

- 11:00 a.m. PEO – Fannie B. Gray Parlor  
1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision – Fannie B. Gray Parlor  
4:00 p.m. Designing Women – Everette House  
5:30 p.m. Barbershop Board Meeting – Conference Room  
6:30 p.m. Barbershop – Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. Session Meeting – Fannie B. Gray Parlor  
7:00 p.m. Troop 7G – Great Room

#### Tuesday

- 3:30 p.m. Brookside Tutoring – Fannie B. Gray Parlor  
6:30 p.m. Pack 7 Committee Meeting – Fannie B. Gray Parlor  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 7 – Fellowship Hall

#### Wednesday

- 10:00 a.m. Pines Garden Club – Fannie B. Gray Parlor  
12:00 p.m. CALL Committee Meeting – Conference Room  
2:00 p.m. PAWS – Fellowship Hall

#### Thursday

- 10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Purls – Library  
2:00 p.m. PEO – Fannie B. Gray Parlor  
5:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall

#### Friday

- 8:30 a.m. Prayer Garden

#### Sunday (January 25)

- 8:30 a.m. Usher and Greeter Appreciation – Fellowship Hall  
10:30 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

### Snack Volunteers Needed for Tutoring Group

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We need volunteers to provide snacks for our weekly tutoring program. This can be a **one-time help (even just once per semester)** — or more often if you'd like. There is no **ongoing commitment** unless you want one.

#### Each week, we aim to provide:

- **Protein:** string cheese, Babybel cheese, etc.
- **Fruit:** bananas, apples, clementines
- **Sweet:** cookie or small treat
- **Salty:** chips, pretzels, dried seaweed
- **Drinks:** bottled water

Snacks should be dropped off in the **church kitchen or refrigerator by 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays.**

If you're willing to help — even once — we would be so grateful.

Please contact **Pat McFadyen** at [mcfadyen.pat@gmail.com](mailto:mcfadyen.pat@gmail.com) with questions.

Thank you for supporting our students!

### Mark your Calendar

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**February 4th from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** Dr Ivan Rusyn, President of the Ukrainian Evangelical Theological Seminary will be with us to share his experiences of serving Christ in Ukraine during a time of war. All are invited.

### Congregation Annual Meeting

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Sunday, February 8th following worship the Annual Meeting of our Congregation will be held. Hollie's Catering will be providing her delicious homemade lasagna for lunch. Cost \$5 per individual. Children under 5 eat for free. **Please RSVP to the office (910) 295-6848 or [sraynor@communitypres.com](mailto:sraynor@communitypres.com) by Sunday, February 1.**



# THEOLOGY ON TAP

You donated to the 2025 Sandhills Crop Walk boot fundraiser, and Theology on Tap won! This winter, cozy up with your beverage of choice and join fellow CPC members for conversations on Faith and the Christian Life. The meeting locations for each gathering will be announced closer to the dates.

ALL SESSIONS 5:30-6:45PM



**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21st**

“As We Forgive Our Debtors” - Forgiveness in the Christian Life



**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th**

“I Doubt It”- Faith & Doubt in the Christian Life



**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25th**

“Worthy of the Call” - Exploring Vocation in the Christian Life

**PASTOR MEG WILL FACILITATE EACH SESSION WITH  
OPENING COMMENTS & FOCUSED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS.  
RSVPS WILL NOT REQUIRED BUT WILL BE REQUESTED AS  
THEY WILL BE HELPFUL FOR SAVING SEATS!**

## – Community Presbyterian Staff –

**Rod Stone**

*Pastor – Head of Staff*

Ext 12

rstone@communitypres.com

**Meghan Vail**

*Associate Pastor*

Ext. 13

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**Gerlene Cotton**

*Nursery Attendant*

**Betty Pope**

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*Interim Director of Youth Ministry*

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**Terri Sinclair**

*Director of Music Emeritus*

**Evie Miller**

*Nursery Assistant*

## – Contact Information –

**Church Office:** (910) 295-6848

**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday – Closed

**If you need a Pastor after hours, the following can be reached:**

**Rod Stone, Pastor:** (910) 585-0828

**Meghan Vail, Associate Pastor:** (732) 804-4907

**Mailing Address:** Community Presbyterian Church • P.O. Box 1449 • Pinehurst, NC 28370

**Location:** 125 Everette Road • Pinehurst, NC 28374

[www.communitypres.com](http://www.communitypres.com)

