



March 1, 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 – *(St. Augustine of Hippo)*

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless 'til they find rest in you. Grant us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness hinder us from doing it; but that in your light we may see light, and in your service find our perfect freedom through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

– We Are Called Into God's Presence –

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: During this season of Lent, we journey toward the cross, setting aside our own comfort, our own desires, and our own ways to follow Christ. For Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me.

People: **We come to deny the voice of "self" and listen for the voice of the Spirit.**

Leader: In a world that tells us to put ourselves first and not worry about the needs of another,

People: **Teach us to stay humble and kind.**

Leader: We embrace the path of sacrifice and service knowing it leads us to life.

People: **For in the dying of our old selves, the life of Christ is made manifest in us.**

All: **Come, let us worship the Lord who emptied Himself for our sake.**

*OPENING HYMN

Humble & Kind
(Joyful Noise and CPC Choir)

You know there's a light that glows by the front door.
Don't forget the key's under the mat.
When childhood stars shine, always stay humble and kind.
Go to church 'cause your mama says to,
Visit grandpa ev'ry chance that you can.
It won't be wasted time, always stay humble and kind.

Chorus: Hold the door, say please, say thank you.
Don't steal, don't cheat and don't lie.
I know you got mountains to climb, but always stay humble and kind.
When the dreams you're dreamin' come to you,
When the work you put in is realized,
Let yourself feel the pride, but always stay humble and kind.

Don't expect a free ride from no one.
Don't hold a grudge or a chip, and here's why:
Bitterness keeps you from flyin', always stay humble and kind.

(Chorus)

When it's hot, eat a root beer popsicle,
Shut off the AC and roll the windows down.
Let that summer sun shine, always stay humble and kind.
Don't take for granted the love this life gives you.
When you get where you're goin', don't forget, turn back around.
Help the next one in line, always stay humble and kind.

(Chorus)

– We Confess Our Sins –

CALL TO CONFESSION

In this Lenten season we are mindful of the weight of our attachments that interfere with our relationship with Christ. When you entered the Fellowship Hall this morning, you selected a rock that represents an attachment you wrestle with. As we prepare our hearts to confess, let us grasp our rocks in our outstretched hands, seeking God's help to relinquish our attachments to all that distracts from our commitments to be Christ's faithful disciples.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: In this Lenten season, we acknowledge:

Our attachments to conveniences at the expense of creation:

All: We hoard what was intended to be shared for the common good. We misuse earth's resources. We take the availability of fresh water for granted. We neglect the call to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.**

Leader: Our attachments to our devices, such as TVs, smart phones, laptops, and social media.

*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.*

All: We are overly present with our devices at the expense of our families, friends, and our Christ-centered relationships. They consume our time and our attention, leaving little time for prayer and for the nourishment of our spiritual lives.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

Leader: Our attachments to food, sweets, alcohol, or other substances that we over-consume.

All: We abuse and misuse these consumables. We take in these items and use them to fill us or satisfy us, when what truly satisfies us is the grace and mercy of God, and the certain presence of God's Spirit to sustain us.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

Leader: Our attachments to words that harm, degrade, and manipulate.

All: We succumb to gossip, complaints, and deceitful comments. We seek to control others and give in to destructive expressions of anger, rather than righteous ones. Our words tear down, when we ought to build up.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

Leader: We feel the weight of the rock in our outstretched hand, calling to mind a particular attachment that we wrestle with in our own lives. We confess that we do not want to succumb to its weight. We long to lay down the burden of this attachment.

Silent Prayer of Confession

(A time of silence is kept for personal reflection and repentance.)

All: We pray that God will have mercy upon us and strengthen us, as we center our hearts and minds on Christ and his cross. With God's help, we will rid ourselves of this burden, and of our attachments that hinder our faithful journey with Christ.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

– We Hear God's Word –

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE WORD OF GOD – *Mark 8:34-36*

*(Whoever wants to be my disciple must **deny themselves** and take up their cross and follow me.) — Mark 8:34*

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God,

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Living in Denial

Rev. Rod Stone

– Celebrating Christ's Life and Love –

INVITATION TO THE TABLE – *Denying Yourself*

PRAYER AT THE TABLE

PRAYER FOR SILENT REFLECTION

My Lord and my God, take from me everything that distances me from you.

My Lord and my God, give me everything that brings me closer to you.

My Lord and my God, detach me from myself to give my all to you.

– Nicholas of Flue

THE WEIGHT OF ATTACHMENT AND AN INVITATION TO RELEASE IT

(Choose a stone that will be provided for you to select naming an attachment, pray about letting go of that attachment, and leave it at the foot of the cross.)

PARTAKE OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.

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 small communion wafers are free of gluten, wheat, dairy, yeast, egg, soy, nuts and corn.

Jesus Messiah
(Congregation to join on chorus)

Chris Tomlin, arr. Sorenson

He became sin, who knew no sin that we might become his righteousness.
He humbled himself and carried the cross. Love so amazing, love so amazing!

**Chorus: Jesus, Messiah, name above all names,
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel. The rescue for sinners,
The ransom from heaven, Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all!**

His body, the bread, his blood, the wine; broken, spilled out, all for love.
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn.
Love so amazing, love so amazing! (Chorus)

All our hope is in you. All our hope is in you.
All the glory to you, Lord, the Light of the world, light of the world! (Chorus)

**Final Chorus: Jesus, Messiah, name above all names,
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel. The rescue for sinners,
The ransom from heaven.**

Choir only: Jesus, Messiah, Jesus, Messiah,
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all. Jesus is Lord of all!

"Jesus Messiah," words and music by Chris Tomlin
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– We Share Our Gifts –

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

FRIENDSHIP RECORD – *(Please sign and pass)*

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



**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.*

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

*CLOSING SONG

Take My Life

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
Ever, only, all for thee.

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”.

POSTLUDE

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of Worship

*Please stand if you are able.

Accompanist: Cindy Hughes

Ushers: David and Josh Butler, Pam and Mike Jankowski, Jacob Graham

Greeters: Harlan McCaskill

Audio: Bob Barmore

Holy Grounds: Joe and Patty Franklin

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 Patty Franklin via phone or email: (703) 717-3456; pd.franklin.lc@gmail.com

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

Sunday (March 1)

- 10:30 a.m. Worship – Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. Usher/Greeter Lunch – Conference Room
2:00 p.m. CROP Walk Team Captains Rally –
Conference Room
5:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship – Youth Loft

Monday

- 8:45 a.m. PEO – Fannie B. Gray Parlor
10:00 a.m. Pinehurst Garden Club – Conference Room
4:00 p.m. Designing Women – Great Room
5:30 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting – Fannie B.
Gray Parlor
6:30 p.m. Barbershop – Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Troop 7G – Great Room

Tuesday

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast – Off Campus
2:30 p.m. CALL – Everette House
3:30 p.m. Brookside Tutoring – Fannie B. Gray Parlor
6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Crossover – Sanctuary

Wednesday

- 1:00 p.m. Circle #1 – Fannie B. Gray Parlor
2:00 p.m. PAWS – Fellowship Hall
4:00 p.m. Dementia Care Partner Support Group –
Chapel

Thursday

- 10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Purls – Library
1:00 p.m. Ray Taylor Memorial Service – Sanctuary
2:00 p.m. Reception – Fannie B. Gray Parlor
5:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall

Friday

- 8:30 a.m. Prayer Garden

Saturday

- 10:30 a.m. Lake Pinehurst Villas Board Mtg. – Fannie
B. Gray Parlor

Sunday (March 8)

- 10:30 a.m. Worship – Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. VBS Information Meeting – Conference
Room
5:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship – Loft

On-line Giving is now available. And it's easy!

Anyone can now donate to CPC via the QR code or the link below.

You can donate via your Smartphone, laptop, Mac or tablet. You can also donate via the "Give" button on the homepage of the GCC website. The donation landing page gives you a drop down menu with options of which fund you would like your donation to go to. FYI - any donation going to the General Fund will be applied against your pledge total.

If you have any questions please contact Sam Crouter/
Finance Manager in the church office at (910) 295-6848 or
at scrouter@communitypres.com

[https://onrealm.org/
CommunityPresby67558/give/now](https://onrealm.org/CommunityPresby67558/give/now)

QR Code (for quick mobile giving):



SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School 2026!

**Monday, June 15th - Wednesday, June 17th
5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
PreK through 5th Graders**

Youth Helpers Welcome and Encouraged!

Vacation Bible School Volunteer Meeting March 8th

Join us on **Sunday, March 8th** after worship for our annual VBS volunteer meeting! Lunch will be provided! There are a variety of opportunities to participate in this summer's VBS, which takes place June 15th through June 17th in the evenings. VBS is a joyful, spirit-led, and Christ-centered ministry to our youngest church members. Come explore possibilities to volunteer as we bring this wonderful program together. Registration forms are available in the church office for our Pre-K through 5th graders! Walk-ins welcome, but if you know you plan to attend our volunteer meeting, an RSVP is helpful for food planning purposes. Questions? Contact MaryBeth Liles (Maryrock@bellsouth.net).

Red Cross Children's Comfort Kits - Supplies Drive

When there is a home fire or other tragedy that displaces a family, the American Red Cross provides relief and support to families in the form of toiletries kits for adults and comfort kits for children. With your help, our Brookside students in the Reach for Success mentoring program at CPC will be assembling comfort kits for children during spring break, the week of April 6th. Our goal is to assemble sixty kits in support of children who have experienced loss and displacement.

If you would like to donate to their efforts, the following supplies can be received in the church office beginning March 1st through March 31st:

- Toothbrush
- Washcloths
- Crayons
- Pencils
- Notebooks
- Non-Flouride Toothpaste
- Bars of Soap
- Coloring Books
- Pencil Sharpeners

Questions? Contact Michelle Gray (graymb72@gmail.com).

– February Anniversaries & Birthdays –

Anniversaries

Bob and Trish Christina 3/8
Terry and Jane Mohr 3/14
Bob and Janet Burton 3/17
Scott and Sonja Brewton 3/18
Mike and Tracy Newman 3/22
Robert and Ellen Harris 3/27
Marty and Lucinda Carpenter 3/28
Joe and Valeria Caseman 3/29

Birthdays

Cathy Breeden 3/1
Myron Dice 3/2
Ruby Sledge 3/2
Kate Warner 3/2
Billy Breeden 3/3
Wanda Sweeney 3/6
Marty Carpenter 3/9
Char Popson 3/9
David Ainslie 3/10
Chris Miller 3/10
Tom Konold 3/11
Zander Goss 3/12
Jane Ricks 3/13
Joe Caseman 3/17
Gary Lewis 3/18
Judy Scyster 3/19
Jordan Gray 3/20
Laura Hoel 3/20
Nina Smith 3/20
Stephanie Jenkins 3/22
Robbie Mays 3/22
Lynn Delgarn 3/24
Pat McFadyen 3/24
Trish Christina 3/25
Leann Dockins 3/25
Patty Franklin 3/25
Pam Garty 3/25
Ray Kees 3/25
MaryLou Troutman 3/25
Anna Hagendorn 3/27
Joyce Johnson 3/27
De Clark 3/28
Patricia Reed 3/29
Keegan Foyles 3/30
Bruce Geddes 3/30
Amanda Jacoby 3/30
Joyce Edge 3/31
Josh Liddell 3/31

