



Sunday Morning Worship
November 29, 2020

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. If you would like more information, please contact us at office@cityreformed.org or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Reflections

Now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- 1 Peter 1:6b-7

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM

LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

SIGN-UPS: Church Center App (Events)
OR crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations

Church Office

3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
412-720-7014
office@cityreformed.org
cityreformed.org

Church Center App:



Sunday Evening Communion Service

SUNDAY 12/6 | 4PM, 5PM & 6PM

3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)
OR cityreformed.org/give

Mail: Church Office address above "Attn: Allison" (please make checks payable to City Reformed Presbyterian Church)

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – November 29, 2020

Presider: Elder Andy Leuenberger

Call to Worship: Galatians 3:26-29, 4:4-6

Please stand for the Call to Worship if you are able.

Leader In Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

People **For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

Leader There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

People **And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise...**

Leader When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

People **And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"**

Prayer of Invocation

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

(Words & Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard and Charles Wesley)

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free—
From our fears and sins release us:
Let us find our rest in thee—
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of eve'ry nation,
Joy of eve'ry longing heart.

(continued on next page)

Joy to those who long to see thee,
Day-spring from on high, appear—
Come thou promised Son of Jesse,
Of thy birth we long to hear—
O'er the hills the angels singing
News glad tidings of a birth
"Go to him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end—
By his life he brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend—
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King—
Born to reign in us forever;
Now thy gracious Kingdom bring—
By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Amen Amen

(Words & Music: Kate Robins and Neil Robins)

Let every creature rise and bring
Their grateful praises to our King
Angels descend with songs again
And earth repeats a loud amen

*Amen amen
Amen amen
I found my life
I found my life in him
Amen amen*

Peace like a river from His throne
Will flow to nations yet unknown
His word a light where hope is dim
And tribes unite to cry amen

And in this Child we'll find our rest
And all the meek and lowly blessed
An Infant tongue could sing the hymn
Of hallelujah and amen

Call to Confession: Revelation 3:19-20

Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Prayer of Confession

Father, we confess that we have sinned against you. We have disregarded your word and we don't listen to you as we should. Even our thoughts about you fall short. We have made you in our own image. Our vision of God is too small. We know that you are a fire of holiness and love. You consume impurities. Lord, without your grace we could not stand before you.

But we look to Jesus, our Savior. He is our righteousness and our hope. We pray that you revive in our hearts a true understanding of sin and holiness. We pray that you would cause us to see the heights and depths of your free grace. Change us from within, as we contemplate Jesus. Assure us of your love and give us new desires for life with you. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Revelation 21:5-6

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment."

Membership Vows: Graeme Woo

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

*We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ.
Please direct giving online or via mail (cityreformed.org/give; 3929 Coleman St., 15207).*

Peace

(Words & Music: Sherri Youngward 2008)

Peace, be still.
Lay all your worries down.
Be still, O My soul
Our God is in control.

And if God is for us,
Then whom shall I fear?
For our God is with us
So lay down, be still.
He is God.

*Hallelujah!
Our God has overcome.
Hallelujah!
Our Lord, Jesus Christ has won.
He is God.*

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Hebrews 12:3-11

Journey by Faith to the City of God: "Discipline"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Proverbs 3:11-12 / My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

Acts 11:18 / When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

Creedal Response: 1 Peter 3:17-18, 4:13, 4:16

For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit... But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed... Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

Song of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final song if you are able.

O Come O Come Emmanuel

(Words: 1400's French Mass; Music: Veni Emmanuel Chant)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times did give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, Thou Son of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
 Our spirits by Thine advent here;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heavenly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery.

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

If you would like to contact a pastor, please email joseph@cityreformed.org.

Life Together

<p>Open Evening Communion Services INDOORS Sun 12/6: 4:00, 5:00, 6:00 PM 3929 Coleman St., 15207 Church Center</p>  <p>App</p>	<p>In-person service held three times INDOORS at GREENFIELD, with communion served all times. Review instructions for attending at: cityreformed.org/evening-service and note "Safe and Sound" guidelines on p. 8-9.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before attending, self-assess the health and recent activities of you and your household. • ** BRING MASKS ** <i>Mandatory mask policy for everyone over 2 yrs old.</i> • Check in on your Church Center app (go to Check-In), or we will check you in upon arrival.
<p>Attend Morning Service "In-Person" Sundays @ 10:15AM WT, 5059 Ellsworth, 15213</p>	<p>Register on your Church Center App (go to Events), or online: crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations. Contact Sol@cityreformed.org. Morning Service Livestream continues indefinitely.</p>
<p>Parenting Seminar by Julie Lowe, Child Proof: Parenting by Faith, Not Formula Fri 2/5 @ 7 - 9PM & Sat 2/6 @ 9AM - 12PM WT, 5059 Ellsworth, 15213 <u>Early Bird Discount through TOMORROW 11/30!</u></p>	<p>Julie Lowe, counselor and faculty at the Christian Counseling & Educational Foundation. Register on your Church Center App (go to Events) or: tinyurl.com/childproof2021. \$15/person ~ <u>Early Bird Discount: \$10/person until 11/30!</u> Julie will teach on how to know, love, and disciple our children using biblical principles and practical wisdom. Contact Charis@cityreformed.org.</p>

(continued on next page)

"Safe"

"The sixth commandment requires all lawful efforts to preserve our own life and others." – WSC #68

Before we gather*:

- **Are you sick?** Do not attend if you or a family member are sick, if you are awaiting a COVID test result, or if you have COVID-19.
- **Have you been somewhere unsafe?** [PA Health Guidelines](#)¹ require either a quarantine or negative test for out-of-state travelers.
- **Have you been exposed?** Do not attend if you have had close contact² with someone who is COVID+. Limit your exposure to others if you have been in medically compromising situations.

When we are together:

- **Wear a mask.**
- **Avoid contact.**
- **Social Distance.**

After we leave:

- **Notify.** If you test positive for COVID and attended a CRPC event during a period 48 hours before the onset of symptoms, please [notify the church](mailto:sol@cityreformed.org) (sol@cityreformed.org).
- **Trace.** When someone notifies us about a concern for infection, we will trace all potential unsafe contacts at our events and also notify all people who attended the event.

**Contact [Dr. Andy Leuenberger](mailto:andy@cityreformed.org) (andy@cityreformed.org) for questions about how to apply these guidelines to your situation.*

1 health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx

2 cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact

Wednesday Morning Prayer @ 8:30AM tinyurl.com/prayCRPC	Join others in the church to pray for the needs of our community and world. Please send prayer requests to prayer@cityreformed.org .
Bethany Food Bank and Master's Kitchen Service Thurs @ 9AM - 1PM or 4 - 6PM Fri @ 12 - 1PM	Volunteer to help transport and package food with Bethany Community Ministries. Contact Donna at Bethany: 412.251.1227 or any of the Deacons@ cityreformed.org .

"... and Sound"

*"Since we have a great priest...Draw near... hold fast... meet together..."
- Heb. 10:19-25*

Sunday AM Worship

- Livestream online. (Join us live at 10:15AM when possible)
- In-person at Winchester Thurston.
- Sign up in advance.
- *If COVID concerns rise, we will decrease our attendance numbers.*

Sunday PM Communion (every other week)

- The PM Service will meet in the Greenfield Chapel.
- Multiple small and short services. (30 mins)
- Check in at arrival to assist contact tracing.
- Varied seating options.
- Modified process of distributing communion elements.
- *If COVID concerns rise, we will add more (smaller) services.*

Small Groups

- Small groups will be guided by direction from public health leaders.
- Contact Joseph Bianco (joseph@cityreformed.org).

Mentoring

- Women: Contact Sandy Snoke (sandy@cityreformed.org).
- Men: Contact Adam Schwab or Jim Partridge (jim@cityreformed.org).

Men's Discipleship Committee	MEN who are interested in discipleship through a mentoring relationship, contact Adam (ahs27@pitt.edu).
Volunteer Babysitting: Serve & Connect with Our Church Families!	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, help care for children as families navigate these challenging times! Please complete: tinyurl.com/CityBABYSIT . Contact Becki@cityreformed.org.
Caring for Each Other and the Deacon's List	Please update the deacons if you have needs or if you have abilities and resources to share with others. Contact Nik (nik@alum.wustl.edu) or any of the deacons.

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. If you are new, we would love to meet you! And, if you would like more information about our ministries, resources, and ways to engage, please fill out the visitor's card below or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Visitor's Card

We would love to get to know you. Please contact us at office@cityreformed.org with the following information.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Date: _____

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request, we will pray for you. Please send prayer requests to Pastor Joseph through prayer@cityreformed.org.
