



**Sunday Evening Service  
December 8, 2019**

# Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. Please feel free to stick around after the service and ask questions about who we are and what we do! If you would like more information, please refer to our print newsletter, *City This Month*, or visit our website: [cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org).

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## Reflections

In the incarnation, the divine nature does not lose his divine attributes. He doesn't communicate them to the human side. He doesn't deify the human nature, but in the mystery of the union between the divine and the human natures of Jesus, the human nature is truly human. It's not omniscient. It's not omnipotent. It's none of those things. But at the same time, the divine nature remains fully and completely divine. ...

What is emptied is glory, privilege, exaltation. Jesus in the incarnation makes himself of no reputation. He allows His own divine exalted standing to be subjected to human hostility and human criticism and denial. "He took the form of a bondservant and coming in the likeness of men." This is an amazing thing that he doesn't just come as a man, he comes as a slave. He comes in a station that carries with it no exaltation, no dignity, only indignity. "And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient even to the point of death," the shameful death of the cross.

- R.C. Sproul, "What Did Jesus Do?"

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## About Us

### Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM  
Twentieth Century Club  
4201 Bigelow Blvd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Oakland)

### Church Office (Open Tues - Fri)

3929 Coleman St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207  
t: 412-720-7014  
e: [office@cityreformed.org](mailto:office@cityreformed.org)  
w: [cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org)

### Sunday Evening Worship Service

6:00PM  
3929 Coleman St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207 (Greenfield)

### Donations

Online: [cityreformed.org/give](http://cityreformed.org/give)  
Mail: to the Church Office address above  
"Attn: Allison" (please make checks payable to  
City Reformed Presbyterian Church)

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Evening Worship – December 8, 2019

Prsider: Reverend John McCombs

## Call to Worship: Luke 1:46b-55

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

Leader "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

People **And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;**

Leader He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

People **He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever."**

## Prayer of Invocation

## Psalm 85 | Speak Peace

(Words & Music: Daniel Snoke 2019)

*Speak peace to your people  
Speak peace to your saints  
Speak peace to your people  
Speak peace to all the earth*

Surely his salvation is at hand  
Unfailing love and truth have met  
Righteousness will cover all the earth  
And his glory will fill the land

Lord revive your joy in us again  
And let us hear what you will say  
Will your anger always be on us  
Will you not restore us again

## God With Us

(Words & Music: Leslie Jordan 2012)

You have come to bring peace  
To be love, to be nearer to us  
You have come to bring life  
To be light, to shine brighter in us.  
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

*Our Deliverer, You are Savior  
In Your presence we find our strength  
Over everything, our redemption  
God with us, You are God with us.*

You have come to be hope  
To this world for Your honor and name.  
You have come to take sin  
To bear shame and to conquer the grave.  
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

You are here and  
You are holy  
We are standing  
In Your glory (Lord)

## **Catechism Readings: Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 21. Who is the redeemer of God's elect?

**A. The only redeemer of God's chosen ones is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was and continues to be God and man in two wholly distinct natures and one person, forever.**

Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

**A. Christ, the Son of God, became man by taking to himself a true body and a reasoning soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the virgin Mary and born of her, yet without sin.**

## **Call to Confession: Philippians 2:4-7**

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

## **Prayer of Confession**

Father, in this Christmas season, we thank you for reaching out to us, to do something for us that we could not do for ourselves, in sending your Son. Restore to us a wonder at your grace, an awe of your power and glory, and a sense of nearness to you. Forgive us for running from this to that and forgetting that our story is a part of your grand story. Forgive us and turn us away from both defiant sins and little sins, and soften our hearts once again to draw close to you and walk in your light. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon: Philippians 1:6**

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

## **Corporate Prayer**

# Song of Renewal

*We do not take a formal offering in our evening service. If you feel led to contribute as an act of worship, an offering box is available in the back corner of the sanctuary.*

## Solid Rock (My Hope Is Built)

*(Words: Edward Mote 1834; Music: William Batchelder Bradbury 1863)*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' Name.

When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand,  
All other ground is sinking sand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, His covenant, His blood,  
Support me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my Hope and Stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

## Pastoral Prayer

## Sermon: Colossians 1:9-20, 2:8-13

"Christmas and the Unique Person of Christ" - David Snoke

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And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup>being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

<sup>2:8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule

and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses...

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**Leader** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

## Additional Scripture

Hebrews 4:14-16 / Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## Sermon Outline

- I. The importance of thinking about theology and the Trinity
- II. Review of the Trinity
- III. How should we think about Jesus?
  - A. The Divine King
  - B. Fully Human
  - C. Joined to Us
- IV. Why we should think about Jesus

# Song of Thanksgiving

## King of Kings

(Words & Music: Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, & Scott Ligertwood 2018)

In the darkness we were waiting  
Without hope without light  
'Till from heaven you came running  
There was mercy in your eyes  
To fulfill the Law and Prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

*Praise the Father praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of glory majesty  
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
Now we see that in your suff'ring  
You saw glory to behold  
Knowing you were our salvation  
Jesus for our sake you died

For the morning that you rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
'Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
Then the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are re-stored

Then the Church of Christ was born  
And the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint  
By his blood and in his name  
In his freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me

**Prayer**

**Announcements**

**Benediction**