



Sunday Morning Worship
April 11, 2021

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

"Gandalf! I thought you were dead! But then I thought I was dead myself. Is everything sad going to come untrue? What's happened to the world?"

"A great Shadow has departed," said Gandalf, and then he laughed and the sound was like music, or like water in a parched land; and as he listened the thought came to Sam that he had not heard laughter, the pure sound of merriment, for days upon days without count.

- J.R. R. Tolkien, "The Return of the King"

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Services

9AM & 11AM

LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

SIGN-UPS: 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

Winchester Thurston Parking Lot
5059 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh PA, 15213

SUNDAY 4/11 | 5PM

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
Easter Morning Worship – April 11, 2021
Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: Isaiah 66:12, 14, 22-23

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

Leader For thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream... You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bones shall flourish like the grass;

People **And the hand of the LORD shall be known to his servants, and he shall show his indignation against his enemies...**

Leader For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain.

People **From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.**

Prayer of Invocation

Joyful Joyful We Adore You

(Words: Henry van Dyke 1907; Melody: Ludwig van Beethoven 1824)

Joyful joyful we adore You
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You
Op'ning to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

All Your works with joy surround You
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays
Stars and angels sing around You
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and mountain
Flow'ry meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally

You are giving and forgiving
Ever blessing ever blest
Well-spring of the joy of living
Ocean-depth of happy rest
Loving Father, Christ our Brother
May Your Spirit in us shine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to Your joy divine

Mortals join the mighty chorus
With the morning stars begin
God's own love is reigning o'er us
Humble love binds all in Him
Christ we echo ever singing
Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music we are bringing
In the triumph song of life

Were You There

(Words & Music: African American Spiritual)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord
Were you there when they crucified my Lord
Oh - Sometimes it causes me to tremble tremble tremble
Were you there when they crucified my Lord

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb
Oh - Sometimes it causes me to tremble tremble tremble
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb

Were you there when the stone was rolled away
Were you there when the stone was rolled away
Oh - Sometimes it causes me to tremble tremble tremble
Were you there when the stone was rolled away

Were you there when he rose up from the dead
Were you there when he rose up from the dead
Oh - Sometimes I feel like shouting glory glory glory
Were you there when he rose up from the dead

Call to Confession: Romans 6:4

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, if you kept a record of sins, who could stand? We acknowledge that a perfectly just judge looking at our lives, if he knew everything we have done, said, and thought, would have to judge us as guilty. We want to stop justifying ourselves to you and to others, and rest alone in your grace through the sacrifice of Christ. With you there is forgiveness, and you yourself will redeem your people from their sins. Help us to stop making excuses, and to turn from our times of rebellion against you to walk with you in new life, with hearts full of gratitude for all you have done for us. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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).

Wood and Nails

(Words: Isaac Wardell, Keith Watts, & Madison Cunningham 2017)

O humble carpenter down on your hands and knees
Look on your handiwork and build a house
So you may dwell in me
So you may dwell in me

*The work was done with nothing but wood and nails
In Your scar-borne hands
O show me how to work and praise
Trusting that I am Your instrument*

O loving laborer with the sweat upon your face
O build a table that I too may join you
In the Father's place
Oh in the Father's place

*The kingdom's come and built upon
Wood and nails gripped with joyfulness
So send me out within Your ways
Knowing that the task is finished*

*The dead will rise and give You praise
Wood and nails will not hold them down
These wooden tombs we'll break them soon
And fashion them into flower beds*

*The curse is done the battle won
Swords bent down into plowshares
Your scar-borne hands we'll join with them
Serving at the table You've prepared*

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Revelation 20:11-21:7

90 Days Through the Story of Scripture:

"The New Heavens and the New Earth"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

^{21:1}Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Additional Scripture

John 11:23-27 / Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

I Corinthians 15:42-49 / So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

Creedal Response: Westminster Confession of Faith 33.3

Christ would have us to be certainly persuaded that there will be a day of judgment, both to deter all people from sin and for the greater consolation of the godly in their adversity. He makes that day unknown to mankind, so that they may shake off all worldly security and be always watchful, because they do not know when the Lord will come, and may be always prepared to say, "Come Lord Jesus, come quickly, Amen."

Song of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final song if you are able.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

(Words: Samuel Medley 1775; Music: "Duke Street" John Warrington Hatton 1793)

I know that my Redeemer lives
What comfort this sweet sentence gives
He lives He lives who once was dead
He lives my everlasting Head

He lives my kind wise constant Friend
Who still will keep me to the end
He lives and while He lives I'll sing
Jesus my Prophet Priest and King

He lives to silence all my fears
He lives to wipe away my tears
He lives to calm my troubled heart
He lives all blessings to impart

He lives to bless me with His love
He lives to lead for me above
He lives to raise me from the grave
And me eternally to save

He lives to grant me daily breath
He lives and I shall conquer death
He lives all glory to His name
Jesus unchangeably the same

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

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

Life Together

Open Evening Communion Service 5:00 PM

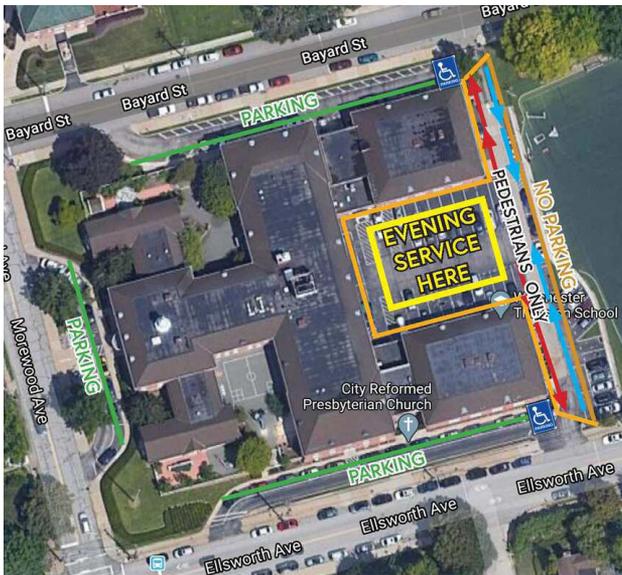
TONIGHT Sun 4/11: Leadership Installation & Ordination Service

WT Parking Lot, 5059 Ellsworth Ave, 15213

In-person service held **OUTDOORS**, with **communion** served (pre-packaged individual cups).

Please review instructions for attending at: cityreformed.org/evening-service.

- *No Advance Sign-Ups* required
- Please bring your own **chairs/blankets** to sit on
- **Park on the street** or along the campus driveways parallel to Ellsworth, Bayard & Morewood. *Do NOT park in the parking lot NOR adjacent to the field.* **Handicap** spots will be reserved near the Ellsworth entry and Bayard exit.



- For **restroom access to the building**, WT requires self-assessment screening. Please submit the WT Screening form before entering the building (one form per Sunday per household).

Leadership Installation & Ordination Service

TONIGHT 4/11 @ 5PM

WT Parking Lot

5059 Ellsworth, 15213

City Reformed will install leaders (Women's Ministry Council members, elder, and deacon) as part of our evening communion service located outside at Winchester Thurston. We will conclude with communion.

<p>Attending Services "In-Person"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sundays 9AM & 11AM • Every Other Sunday 5PM <p>Winchester Thurston (WT) 5059 Ellsworth, 15213</p> <p>Church Center App</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • **Please Sign Up for Indoor Services: Sign Up on your Church Center App (go to Events), or online: crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations. For assistance, contact Sol@cityreformed.org. • For services INDOORS at WT, please submit the WT Screening Form (tinyurl.com/WTscreening) - one per Sunday per household - on the Sunday morning you attend (not before Sunday). • Before attending, please self-assess the health and recent activities of you and your household (Review "Safe & Sound": tinyurl.com/SafeCRPCSound). • Mandatory **MASK** policy (all over 2 yrs old) • Please maintain social distancing between households. • **CHECK IN WITH A GREETER IN-PERSON upon arrival.** • Morning Service will Livestream one of the services indefinitely.
<p>Building Work Day THIS Sat 4/17 @ 9AM-3PM bit.ly/3uk8uFr</p>	<p>We will be laying carpet, painting, and working in the basement. SIGN-UP online: bit.ly/3uk8uFr. Contact Gary (building@cityreformed.org).</p>
<p>Serve at City tinyurl.com/ServantCity</p>	<p>One of the main constraints for our reopening plan (e.g. children's ministry) is to determine how many volunteers are able to help. Please consider serving by completing the "Serve at City" google form: tinyurl.com/ServantCity.</p>
<p>Graduate Recognition</p>	<p>If you are graduating (from high school, college, or even an advanced degree) OR you know who is, please let us know! Thank you for helping us acknowledge this very special Class of 2021. Contact Sol@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Directory Update</p>	<p>We are currently working on updating our directory. New to City Reformed and interested in being included? Or would you like to update your info? Contact Chrissie (chrissie@cityreformed.org).</p>
<p>PPWM Spring Event Sat 4/24 @ 10:15AM First Reformed PCA 12900 Frankstown Rd Penn Hills 15235</p>	<p>Join the women of our presbytery for a morning of teaching and encouragement from 1 Thessalonians. Sandy Snoke from our church will be the keynote speaker! Limited in-person attendance is available as well as a livestream option — please register! Contact Callie Miller (callie.miller@ruf.org).</p>
<p>SAVE-THE-DATE!! Vacation Bible School (VBS) July 26-30</p>	<p>We are moving ahead with plans for an in-person VBS 2021! Children 4 yrs old to rising 5th graders. VBS details are coming soon! Mark your calendars! Contact Charis@cityreformed.org.</p>

(continued on next page)

Women's Evening Bible Study Mondays @ 6-7:30PM	Join us Monday evenings over Zoom for "Becoming a Women of Purpose." Contact Cathy Taylor (Lawyerdad5@aol.com).
Tuesday Ladies Study Tuesdays @ 10-11:15AM	Ladies, join us Tuesday mornings over Zoom. Contact Tracy (partridge.ta@gmail.com).
Global Missions Prayer Fridays @ 6:30AM tinyurl.com/CRPCmissionsprayer	Join CRPC Missions Committee weekly for 30 min Zoom prayer. Contact Abbey Mae (methodam1@gmail.com) or Susan (susan@thealexanders.ws).
Youth Group	Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a series of events throughout the spring and summer! Contact Becki@cityreformed.org or Ben@cityreformed.org for info about our upcoming events.
NEED: Church Maintenance Position	We are looking to hire a part-time maintenance person for the building (~8 hr/mo). Contact Gary (building@cityreformed.org).
NEED: Mosaic Afterschool Program Teachers & Teachers Aids 227 S. 4th Street Jeannette, PA 15644	Mosaic Community Church is looking to hire two teachers and two teachers aids to provide homework help and individualized tutoring tailored to students' specific need. 3:30-6:30pm Monday-Thursday. Compensation included. If interested, contact Pastor Nate Keisel: nate@jeannettechurch.com.
Young Adult Women's Fellowship Every other Saturday	This is an informal gathering of women in the Church. The purpose is for us to do life together, get to know each other, and to foster a sense of community. You can expect, zoom conversations, zoom workouts, hikes, service etc. Contact Zenny@cityreformed.org.
Men's Discipleship Committee	MEN who are interested in discipleship through a mentoring relationship, contact Adam at mdc@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.
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.

Make Connections via Online Media

As the Covid-19 restrictions limit our ability to connect with other people, we need to work harder to develop healthy relationships through alternative means.

- To learn more about community groups (CGs) contact Joseph (joseph@cityreformed.org)
- To learn about how to connect with other women in the church (including small groups or CGs) contact Sandy (sandy@cityreformed.org)
- To learn about men's discipleship programs contact Adam at mdc@cityreformed.org.

Community Groups meet for Bible study, fellowship, and service, and are some of the best opportunities to connect with church life - always open for visitors throughout the year. Please contact Pastor Joseph Bianco (joseph@cityreformed.org) with any questions, and for a listing of current groups, refer to:

- cityreformed.org/community-groups

Specialty Groups meet in particular areas of interest for Bible study, fellowship, and service. For a listing of current groups, please refer to:

- cityreformed.org/prayer--specialty-groups

College Students please refer to campus ministry contacts below:

- CCO at CMU: Nameun Cho (ncho@ccojubilee.org)
- CCO at PPU: Katelyn Spallinger (kspallinger@ccojubilee.org)
- RUF at Pitt: Derek Bates (dbates@ruf.org), Callie Miller (callie.miller@ruf.org)
- cityreformed.org/collegestudents

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.
