



Sunday Morning Worship
April 26, 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

Every description of the angels and the heavenly host depicts them praising, worshipping, and falling down on the ground. In the new heavens and new earth, there is no famous pastor, no investiture of the gods, no individual glory; instead all glory is attributed to the Lamb.

- Simon Liu (Chinese House Church Pastor), "Grace to the City"

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM [LIVESTREAM]

tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

Church Office

3929 Coleman St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15207

t: 412-720-7014

e: office@cityreformed.org

w: cityreformed.org

Sunday Evening Worship Service

6:00PM [CANCELED]

3929 Coleman St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15207 (Greenfield)

Donations

Online: 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 Morning Worship – April 26, 2020
Presider: Reverend John McCombs

Call to Worship: 1 Peter 1:3-9

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

Leader Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People **According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

Leader To an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

People **Who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.**

Leader In this you rejoice, though 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.

People **Though you have not seen him, you love him.**

Leader Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

People **Obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.**

Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 85 | Speak Peace

(Words & Music: Daniel Snoko & Paul Zach 2019)

Speak peace to your people

Speak peace to your saints

Speak peace to your people

Speak peace to all the earth

(continued on next page)

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

You have covered all our sin
We have been restored again
Show us your unfailing love
Grant us salvation

Christ Is Risen

(Words & Music: Mia Fieldes and Matt Maher 2009)

Let no one caught in sin
Remain inside the lie of inward shame
But fix our eyes upon the cross
And run to Him who showed great love
And bled for us
Freely You've bled for us

*Christ is risen from the dead
Trampling over death by death
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead
We are one with Him again
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave*

Beneath the weight of all our sin
You bowed to none but heaven's will
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown
No burden great can hold You down
In strength You reign
Forever let Your church proclaim

O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
The glory of God has defeated the night
Singing O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
Our God is not dead
He's alive He's alive

Call to Confession: Isaiah 53:6

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Prayer of Confession: "Resting on God", adapted from *The Valley of Vision* by Arthur Bennett

Oh God, I come to You as a sinner with cares and sorrows, to leave every concern entirely to You - every sin which calls for Christ's precious blood. Revive deep spirituality in my heart. Let me live near to the great Shepherd: hear His voice, know its tones, and follow its calls. Keep me from deception by causing me to abide in truth. Keep me from harm by helping me to walk in the power of the Spirit. Give me intense faith in the eternal truth. Take the things that I know in my head and burn them into my heart. Let me never be ashamed of the truth of the gospel, that I may bear its reproach and live in a way that vindicates it. Let me see Jesus as its essence and find in it the power of the Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 1 Peter 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes and offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. While we are unable to receive your contributions in-person, please direct all giving to our website or via mail (cityreformed.org/give; 3929 Coleman St., 15207).

Jesus I Come

(Words: William Sleeper 1887; Music: Greg Thompson 2000)

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light
Jesus, I come to Thee,
Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Isaiah 40:1-31

"The Sovereign Shepherd" - Reverend Matt Koerber

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

¹²Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the

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earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? ¹³Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD, or what man shows him his counsel? ¹⁴Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? ¹⁵Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust. ¹⁶Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. ¹⁷All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. ¹⁸To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him? ¹⁹An idol! A craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and casts for it silver chains. ²⁰He who is too impoverished for an offering chooses wood that will not rot; he seeks out a skillful craftsman to set up an idol that will not move. ²¹Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does

not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might
he increases strength. ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹but they who wait for
the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with
wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall
walk and not faint.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Philippians 4:5b-7 / The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your
requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all
understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 4:12-13 / Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes
upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice
and be glad when his glory is revealed.

Scriptural Response: Psalm 23:1-6, *A Psalm of David*

Leader The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People **He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me
beside still waters. He restores my soul.**

Leader He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

People **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;**

Leader Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

People **You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies;**

Leader You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

People **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.**

Songs of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final songs if you are able.

Behold Our God

(Words & Music: Jonathan, Meghan, Ryan Beird, & Stephen Altrogge 2011)

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

*Behold our God, seated on His throne
Come, let us adore Him
Behold our King, nothing can compare
Come, let us adore Him!*

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

You will reign forever! (4x)

Holy Holy Holy

(Words: Reginald Heber 1826; Music: John Bacchus Dykes 1823-76)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
 Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
 God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

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

Life Together

Additional detail can be found on: cityreformed.org/events.

Zoom Call for Children Sun 4/26 @ 12PM	Children, meet with Pastor Matt & Chrissie today! For Zoom link, contact Charis (charis@cityreformed.org).
Agora Forum Mon 4/27 @ 7PM tinyurl.com/CRPCAgora	David Snoke will be leading a discussion on the question of moral evil—why did Adam and Eve sin? Join us on Zoom.
Wednesday Morning Prayer @ 8:30AM tinyurl.com/CRPCpray	We invite you to join others in the church to pray for the needs of our community and world. Feel free to send prayer requests to prayer@cityreformed.org .
Adult CE Thurs 4/30 @ 8PM tinyurl.com/CRPCAdultEd	Join us Online via Zoom Thursday evenings for an interactive study: "By the Rivers of Babylon: Psalms for the Exiled". This will be a four-part series, ending on 5/21. If Zoom asks you for a password, type "CRPC". Contact Seulgi Byun (seulgi.byun@gmail.com).
Women's Psalm Reading Fri 5/1 @ 7PM	Women, join us in reading Psalms as we seek the Lord. For the link to the Zoom meeting, contact Christy Heisler (cnheisler@gmail.com).
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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 Jim (partridge.je6@gmail.com).
Diaconate Assistance Available	Contact Nik Melchior (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.
