



Sunday Morning Worship
May 12, 2024

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

"When they were few in number,
of little account, and sojourners in it,
wandering from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another people,
he allowed no one to oppress them;
he rebuked kings on their account,
saying, 'Touch not my anointed ones,
do my prophets no harm!'"

—Psalm 105:12-15

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM
Winchester Thurston Auditorium
5059 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

Church Office

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

Welcome
Information:



Sunday Evening Worship Service

5:30PM
Greenfield Chapel
3929 Coleman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)
OR cityreformed.org/give
Mail: Church Office address above "Attn:
Bookkeeper" (please make checks
payable to City Reformed Presbyterian
Church)

Morning Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – May 12, 2024

Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: Psalm 105:1-9

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

Leader Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

People **Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!**

Leader Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

People **Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!**

Leader Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

People **O offspring of Abraham, his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

Leader He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

People **He remembers his covenant forever, the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant that he made with Abraham.**

Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 34 | Taste and See

(Words & Music: Joe Rigney & Shane Barnard 2015)

I sought the Lord and He answered me
And delivered me from ev'ry fear
Those who look on Him are radiant
They'll never be ashamed
They'll never be ashamed

This poor man cried and the Lord heard me
And saved me from my enemies
The Son of God surrounds His saints
He will deliver them
He will deliver them

*Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name together
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name forever*

O taste and see that the Lord is good
O blessed is he who hides in Him
O fear the Lord O all you saints
He'll give you ev'rything
He'll give you ev'rything

Let us bless the Lord
Ev'ry day and night
Never ending praise
May our incense rise

Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Christ Was Lower Still

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

Breath in reach out
Touch the hem of your garment now
Help me heal me
My mind my body and soul

*Let the King descend
Living Word Made Flesh
Lift this heavy heart
To your throne O God
In your wounds I find
Room for all of mine
When from grace I fell
Christ was lower still*

Humbly lowly
Jesus waits in the valley
My savior suffers with me
With him I'll rise again

'Till the earth is filled
Christ is lower still

We lift it all up to you Lord
We lift it all up to you Lord

Fairest Lord Jesus

(Words: Unknown; Music: Silesian Folk Melody)

Fairest Lord Jesus ruler of all nature
O Thou of God and Man the Son
Thee will I cherish Thee will I honor
Thou my soul's glory joy and crown

Fair are the meadows fairer still the woodlands
Robed in the blooming garb of spring
Jesus is fairer Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing

Fair is the sunshine fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host
Jesus shines brighter Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav'n can boast

Beautiful Savior Lord of all the nations
Son of God and Son of Man
Glory and honor praise adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine

Call to Confession: Isaiah 1:18

Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

Prayer of Confession: Based on Isaiah 53

Father, we confess our willful disobedience and stubborn sin. Like sheep we have gone astray.

We look to Jesus our Lord and Savior. He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Like a lamb, he was led to the slaughter. He was pierced for our transgressions, and upon him was laid the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, he poured out his soul to death, and he was cut off from the land of the living. He bore the sins of many.

Help us to experience the peace that he has brought to us, and bring healing through his wounds. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. 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.

Baptism: Zion William Schartner

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Cards and donations can be placed in offering bags. Giving can also be directed online (cityreformed.org/give) or sent via mail (3929 Coleman St., 15207).

The Anthem

(Words & Music: Henry Seeley, Jonathan Hunt, & Liz Webber 2007)

By His stripes we are healed
By His nail pierced hands we're free
By His blood we're washed clean
Now we have the victory

*The pow'r of sin is broken
Jesus overcame it all
He has won our freedom
Jesus has won it all*

*Hallelujah You have won the victory
Hallelujah You have won it all for me
'Cause death could not hold You down
You are the risen King
Seated in majesty
You are the risen King*

Our God is risen
He is alive
He won the victory
He reigns on high

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. Please pick them up after the sermon.

Sermon: Genesis 12:1-20

Sermon Series: The Faith of Abraham

"A Bad First Step"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

¹⁰Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land. ¹¹When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, "I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance, ¹²and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me, but they will let you live. ¹³Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake." ¹⁴When Abram entered Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful. ¹⁵And when the princes of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. ¹⁶And for her sake he dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male servants, female servants, female donkeys, and camels.

¹⁷But the Lord afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. ¹⁸So Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? ¹⁹Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife; take her, and go." ²⁰And Pharaoh gave men orders concerning him, and they sent him away with his wife and all that he had.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Exodus 32:12-14 / Why should the Egyptians say, 'With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

2 Timothy 2:11-13 / The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

Creedal Response: Westminster Catechism of Faith

27.2 This perseverance of the saints does not depend on their own free will, but on the immutability of the decree of God's choice, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father, the effectiveness of the merit and the intercession of Jesus Christ, the abiding of the Spirit, and the seed of God abiding within them, and the nature of the covenant of grace. The certainty and unfailing nature of their perseverance arises from all of these.

Psalm 27 | The Everlasting

(Words & Music: Fellowship Church 2010)

The Lord is my light and salvation
Whom shall I fear of whom shall I be afraid
The Lord is the strength of my life
Whom shall I fear of whom shall I be afraid

I will wait for you I will wait for you
I will wait for you I will wait for you

I will remain confident in this
I will see the goodness of the Lord
I will remain confident in this
I will see the goodness of the Lord

We set our hope on You
We set our hope on Your love
We set our hope on the Lord
Who is the everlasting God
You are the everlasting God

Your Grace Is Enough

(Words & Music: Matt Maher 2003)

Great is Your faithfulness O God of Jacob
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
Where nothing can keep us apart

*So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God*

*For Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me*

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Reverend Mark Robinson will be preaching from Ephesians 5:1-2, "Love and Sacrifice."

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

Women's Prayer Group: Thursdays, 10:30 - 11:30 AM Greenfield Chapel	Women's prayer group, meeting on Thursday mornings from 10:30-11:30 at Greenfield building. Come pray with us! If you plan to come, please contact Luda so we can add your prayer requests prior to meeting: 314-229-2023.
Missions Unit in Children's Church	This month, BOTH Children's Church classes will meet in G8 to learn about missions, and hear from guest speakers.
Women's Summer Bible Study: Thursdays, 1-3 PM	Becoming A Woman of Grace. Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 at Cathy Taylor's home in Churchill. Starting May 23. Contact Cathy: Lawyerdad5@aol.com.
Children's Ministry Assistant, Women's Ministry & Office NEEDS	We are seeking part-time women's ministry, office, and children's ministry assistants to care for our church. Jobs will be tailored to reflect the gifts and strengths of the individual filling this role and a sample job description will be provided upon request. For Children's Ministry need, contact: Becki@cityformed.org and for women's and office needs, please contact office@cityreformed.org
Save the Date: VBS July 15-19	We are excited to announce that VBS will be held July 15-19, 2024 at the Vietnam Veterans Pavilion! Mark your calendars now - more information will be shared soon.

CCLI License #2473859

All scripture verses are the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise noted.

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Agora Forum: Every other Monday 7 PM: 3929 Coleman</p>	<p>We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. The next meeting is May 13. We will continue our series on art and aesthetics by watching and discussing the movie "The Purple Rose of Cairo." Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com).</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12PM</p>	<p>Although many of us are retired, anyone who is free for lunch once a month is welcome. Please join us for lunch on Wednesday, May 15, when we will learn more about the missionary activity in Bulgaria and then pray for missionary work across Europe. Contact Joe Stehle for more information: joestehle@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Mommies' Discipleship Group: 2nd & 4th Thursdays 7-9 PM</p>	<p>Join us for a time of fellowship and encouragement as we pray for one another and study the book of Colossians. Contact Sandy for more info: sandy@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Additional Mommies Discipleship Group: 3rd Saturday of each month, 9:30AM - 11AM</p>	<p>This summer (May-August), Emily Schartner will be hosting at 1111 Morningside Avenue and we will be studying the Psalms together. On nice days, Dads are encouraged to bring their kids to the Highland Park Super Playground for a playdate! Please note that the first meeting is May 25th to avoid a scheduling conflict.</p>
<p>Wednesday Prayer Meetings: 8:30-9:30 AM</p>	<p>All are welcome to join our Wednesday prayer community. We begin with Scripture, move to a general opening prayer of adoration/thanksgiving, then share specific prayer requests and pray through them. Held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer.</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer: Mondays @ 9 PM</p>	<p>Join our church in prayer for missions partners. This week we will be praying for Andrew and Amy I in Northern Africa. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/crpcglobalprayer.</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group: Bi-Weekly Wednesdays @ 7 PM</p>	<p>Meets at Amelia Morrissey's Home on the North Side. Current study is: "Delight: A Walk through Psalms 1-30." For more info, contact Lindsay Karr (lindsay.karr@gmail.com).</p>
<p>CRPC Storytime: Bartlett Playground Second Monday of each month</p>	<p>SUMMER storytime for ALL kids will meet at Bartlett playground at 10 am on the second Monday of each month (5/13, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12, 9/9). Contact Taylor at taylorgilbride@gmail.com.</p>

College Students please refer to campus ministry contacts below:

- CMU: Chris Bollinger (cwbollinger@gmail.com)
- CCO at PPU: Matt Koerber (pastormatt@cityreformed.org)
- RUF at Pitt: Gavin Breeden & Callie Miller (gavin.breeden@ruf.org, callie.miller@ruf.org)
- cityreformed.org/collegestudents

Specialty Groups meet in particular areas of interest for Bible study, fellowship, learning, and service.

- **Agora Forum** (amain8511@gmail.com)
- **Men's New Hope** (Joseph@cityreformed.org)
- **Mommies' Group** (Sandy@cityreformed.org)
- **Wednesday Morning Prayer** (Nameun@cityreformed.org)
- **Men's Discipleship Committee** (mdc@cityreformed.org)
- **Young Women's Discipleship Group** (lindsay.karr@gmail.com)
- **Ultimate Frisbee** (danielrtoney@gmail.com)
- **Board Game Gatherings** (gatcheson@gmail.com)

Leadership

Elders

Rev. Matthew Koerber:
pastormatt@cityreformed.org

Rev. Joseph Bianco:
joseph@cityreformed.org

Rev. John McCombs:
john@cityreformed.org

Rev. Nameun Cho:
nameun@cityreformed.org

David Bacon:
bacon1986@gmail.com

Ben Chidester:
benwchidester@gmail.com

Luke Kephart:
lakephar@gmail.com

Craig Kozminski:
craigkozminski@gmail.com

Joe Stehle:
joestehle@gmail.com

Dave Snoke:
snoke@hey.com

Women's Ministry Council

Debbie Bacon: dpasewark@gmail.com

Sarah Cho: sarahjycho@gmail.com

Amanda Moore: mooreae1@gmail.com

Sandy Snoke: sandy@cityreformed.org

Irene Winkler: renew77@gmail.com

Sarah Winkler: sarahditch@gmail.com

Deacons

Neil Friedrich: njfried@gmail.com

Bill Gould: wwgould@verizon.net

Cyril Isaac: dukecyrillus@gmail.com

Don McMillan: donmcmillan697@gmail.com

Bob Simonelli: simonellir1756@gmail.com

Daniel Toney: danielrtoney@gmail.com

Jeff Winkler: jeffreypwinkler@gmail.com