



Sunday Morning Worship
August 12, 2018

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. Please stop by the Welcome Table in the foyer - we would love to meet you! If you would like more information, please fill out one of the info cards on the table, refer to our print newsletter, *City This Month*, or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Reflections

Test your friend before you have need; but, in-deed
A friend is never known till a man has need.
Before I had need, my most present foes
Seemed my best friends; but thus the world goes.

- John Heywood, *A Dialogue Containing Proverbs and Epigrams* (1562)

Please speak to an usher or greeter if you have any questions about the nursery and children's programs.

- *There is a nursery for children infant – 3 during the service.*
- *During the 10:15 am service, children 4 – 7 have the option to be dismissed to attend Children's Church.*
- *Children's bulletins are available at the back table for those staying in service.*

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – August 12, 2018

Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: 2 Corinthians 4:6-10, 16-18

Please stand for the call to worship if you are able.

Leader For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

People **But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.**

Leader We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies....

People **So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.**

Leader For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen.

People **For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.**

Prayer of Invocation

Rejoice In All Your Works - Psalm 104

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2014)

Every mouth that cries for food,
Every lung that yearns for breath,
Every eye that searches through the dark for light—
All creation looks to you
For its breath and for its food.
From the goodness of your hand we're satisfied.

*Oh rejoice in all your works,
King of Heaven, King of Earth!
Every creature you have made declares your praise.
We rejoice in all you've made,
God of all-sustaining grace!
With the mountain, sky, and sea, we sing your praise!*

Every tree that thirsts for rain,
Every bird that seeks its nest,
Every heart that waits in hope to be made glad—
All creation looks to you
For its breath and for its food.
From the goodness of your hand we're satisfied

May the pond'rings of my heart,
And the song upon my lips,
With the chorus of creation join in praise:
To the God who made all things,
To the Spirit who sustains,
To the Son who over all creation reigns!

Scripture Reading: Revelation 21:1-5a

All Things New

(Words: Horatius Bonar 1779, David & Daniel Snoko 2018; Music: Clint Wells 2009)

Come Lord and tarry not
Bring the long-looked-for day
O why these years of waiting here
These ages of delay?

Come for your saints still wait
Daily ascends their sigh
The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come;"
Do you not hear our cry?

*O come and make all things new
Come and make all things new
Come and make all things new
Build up this broken earth
Come and make all things new
All things new*

Come for creation groans
Impatient while you stay
Worn out in labor pains of hope
Still bound by earth's decay

Come for love waxes cold
Its steps are faint and slow
Our faith is pressed by unbelief
Hope's lamp burns dim and low

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.

Call to Confession: James 5:16

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

Prayer of Confession

Father, we are thankful that you have called us to yourself, to walk in your light and to know you as our heavenly Father. We thank you also that you have called us to walk together with one another as fellow pilgrims in this world. We thank you that we have the friendship and fellowship of other believers.

But as we reflect on the words of Jesus, calling us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves - we know that we fall short. We have sinned against our neighbors with the words we say and the words we have failed to say. We have transgressed our neighbor in thought and in deed. We have failed to bear the burdens of others and desperately need your grace. Renew us and change us. Grant us the blessing of love and unity. May we begin to see the depth of your love as we live in love together. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 1 Peter 2:9-10

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Membership Vows: Emma & Drew Blummer, Ben Chidester, Crystal Moran, John & Leah Stuart

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

During this song we will pass offering bags through the congregation. We ask that our members and regular attendees will thoughtfully consider their contribution as an act of worship - a response to God's grace in our lives. Those who are not a regular part of our church are not expected to participate in the offering.

O Praise The Name (Anástasis)

(Words & Music: Benjamin Hastings, Dean Ussher, and Marty Sampson 2015)

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God*

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 may be dismissed for children's church. The leaders will bring the children to children's church and then back to the worship service after the sermon.

Sermon: Acts 28:1-15

Acts Part 3: A Missionary in Chains

"Encouraging Paul" - Reverend Matthew Koerber

After we were brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called Malta. ²The native people showed us unusual kindness, for they kindled a fire and welcomed us all, because it had begun to rain and was cold. ³When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand. ⁴When the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "No doubt this man is a murderer. Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live." ⁵He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. ⁶They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god. ⁷Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days. ⁸It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, healed him. ⁹And when this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. ¹⁰They also honored us greatly, and when we were about to sail, they put on board whatever we needed.

¹¹After three months we set sail in a ship that had wintered in the island, a ship of Alexandria, with the twin gods as a figurehead. ¹²Putting in at Syracuse, we stayed there for three days. ¹³And from there we made a circuit and arrived at Rhegium. And after one day a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. ¹⁴There we found brothers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. ¹⁵And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Acts 23:11 / The following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome."

Acts 27:23-24 / "For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, and he said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.'"

Romans 12:13 / Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2 Corinthians 1:8 / For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself.

Ephesians 4:29 / Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 / Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men.

2 Timothy 4:9-10 / Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.

Hebrews 10:24-25 / And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Credal Response: Westminster Confession of Faith 26.1

All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Head, by His Spirit, and by faith, have fellowship with Him in His graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory. Being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces. They are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as are conducive to their mutual good - both in the inward and outward man.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final songs if you are able.

For All The Saints

(Words: William W. How 1864;; Music: Christopher Miner 1997)

For all the saints,
Who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith
Before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus,
Be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...

Thou wast their rock,
Their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain
In the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness
Drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Allelu...

O blest communion,
Fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle,
They in glory shine;
Yet all are one in
Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia, Allelu...

The golden evening
brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful
warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm
of paradise the blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...

But lo! There breaks
a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant
rise in bright array;
The King of glory
passes on his way,
Alleluia, Allelu...

From earth's wide bounds,
from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father,
Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, Alleluia!

We Will Feast In The House Of Zion

(Words & Music: Sandra McCracken 2015)

*We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more*

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom.

Prayer

Announcements

At the beginning of announcements parents are dismissed to pick up their children from nursery.

Benediction

Tonight's Evening Service: Reverend John McCombs will preach "How Long, O LORD?" from Psalm 13.