



Sunday Morning Worship
July 14, 2019

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

I'm an old man, and this is one of my dreams: that my descendants will one day live in a land where people are quick to confess their wrongdoing and forgive the wrongdoing of others and are eager to build something beautiful together.

I believe in the inherent dignity of all human beings. The Bible states clearly that God created men and women in His image from the very beginning. No matter how damaged people become, they still bear that image. No matter how much people have been oppressed or how much they have oppressed others, the part of them made in His image is worth rescuing and restoring.

- John M. Perkins,
"Dream with Me: Race, Love, and the Struggle We Must Win"

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.*
- *Cry Room space is available during the service off the foyer and Board Room.*
- *Children's bulletins are available at the side table for those staying in service.*
- *During the service, children 4 – 7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church.*

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – July 14, 2019

Presider: Reverend John McCombs

Call to Worship: Psalm 68:4-6, 32-35

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

Leader Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him!

People **Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.**

Leader O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord, to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens.

People **Behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

Leader Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies.

People **Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!**

Prayer of Invocation

Arise My Soul Arise

(Words: Charles Wesley 1742; Music: Kevin Twit 1996)

Arise my soul, arise,
Shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice
On my behalf appears.
Before the throne my surety stands,
Before the throne my surety stands,
My name is written on his hands.

(continued on next page)

He ever lives above,
For me to intercede.
His all redeeming love,
His precious blood to plead.
His blood atoned for every race,
His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Arise Echo: Arise
Arise Echo: Arise
Arise All: Arise my soul, arise
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

Five bleeding wounds he bears,
Received on Calvary.
They pour effectual prayers,
They strongly plead for me.
Forgive him, O forgive they cry.
Forgive him, O forgive they cry,
Don't let that ransomed sinner die.

My God is reconciled,
His pardoning voice I hear;
He owns me for his child,
I can no longer fear;
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:13-20

Endless Light

(Words & Music: Karl Cashwell & Dean Ussher 2011)

From the highest throne to the earth below
You laid down Your life for the likes of us
Great is the love of the Saviour

From a wounded heart to a life made whole
Every human heart will declare as one
Great is the love of the Saviour

*Lord of endless light
Let Your glory shine forever
All the earth
All the earth will sing Your praise*

*Hope of every heart
Let Your Name be lifted higher
All our hearts
All our hearts will sing Your praise*

From the mountain heights to the valleys low
All created things given life to show
Jesus we live for Your glory

From the rising sun to the still of night
Every waking moment for Your delight
Jesus we live for Your glory

God be exalted
God be exalted in everything
We live for Your glory
Live for Your glory

My Jesus I Love Thee

(Words: William Featherston 1864; Music: Adoniram Gordon 1876)

My Jesus I love Thee I know Thou art mine
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign
My gracious Redeemer my Savior art Thou
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I'll love Thee in life I will love Thee in death
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

In mansions of glory and endless delight
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

Call to Confession: Psalm 106:4-6

Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people; help me when you save them, that I may look upon the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory with your inheritance. Both we and our fathers have sinned; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness.

Prayer of Confession

Father, forgive us for cutting ourselves from others in so many ways. We try to create our own nests of comfort, feel imposed on if people ask us for help, and want to quickly deal with other people's problems or else avoid them. Although we need rest and safety, we often use these as excuses to not engage with the people you have put into our lives and near to us as neighbors. We thank you that your Son left the comfort of Heaven to engage with us. Fill us to overflowing, so that we may bless those around us through the filling of your Holy Spirit through your Son. 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.

Membership Vows: Susannah Clarke

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

During this song we will pass offering bags through the congregation. We ask that our members and regular attendees 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.

Stricken Smitten and Afflicted

(Words: Thomas Kelly 1804; Music: Unknown 1850)

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
See him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;
Yes my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
David's son, yet David's Lord;
By his Son God now has spoken:
'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, you who hear him groaning,
Was there ever grief like his?
Friends through fear his cause disowning,
Foes insulting his distress;
Many hands were raised to wound him,
None would interpose to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced him
Was the stroke that justice gave.

You who think of sin but lightly
Nor sup-pose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrificed appointed,
See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation,
Here the refuge of the lost;
Christ the Rock of our salvation,
His the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on him their hope have built.

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. The leaders will bring the children to children's church and then back to the worship service after the sermon.

Sermon: Nehemiah 9:1-10, 16-20, 25-27, 30-38

Nehemiah: Restoration After Exile

"Four Characteristics of Honest Confession" - David Snoke

Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads. ²And the Israelites separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. ³And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for a quarter of the day; for another quarter of it they made confession and worshiped the LORD their God. ⁴On the stairs of the Levites stood Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani; and they cried with a loud voice to the LORD their God. ⁵Then the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, "Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

⁶"You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you. ⁷You are the LORD, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham. ⁸You found his heart faithful before you, and made with him the covenant to give to his offspring the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the

Jebusite, and the Gergashite. And you have kept your promise, for you are righteous.

⁹“And you saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea, ¹⁰and performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted arrogantly against our fathers. And you made a name for yourself, as it is to this day...

¹⁶“But they and our fathers acted presumptuously and stiffened their neck and did not obey your commandments. ¹⁷They refused to obey and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them, but they stiffened their neck and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them. ¹⁸Even when they had made for themselves a golden calf and said, ‘This is your God who brought you up out of Egypt,’ and had committed great blasphemies, ¹⁹you in your great mercies did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud to lead them in the way did not depart from them by day, nor the pillar of fire by night to light for them the way by which they should go. ²⁰You gave your good Spirit to instruct them and did not withhold your manna from their mouth and gave them water for their thirst...

²⁵And they captured fortified cities and a rich land, and took possession of houses full of all good things, cisterns already hewn, vineyards, olive orchards and fruit trees in abundance. So they ate and were filled and became fat and delighted themselves in your great goodness. ²⁶“Nevertheless, they were disobedient and rebelled against you and cast your law behind their back and killed your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to you, and they committed great blasphemies. ²⁷Therefore you gave them into the hand of their enemies, who made them

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suffer. And in the time of their suffering they cried out to you and you heard them from heaven, and according to your great mercies you gave them saviors who saved them from the hand of their enemies...

³⁰Many years you bore with them and warned them by your Spirit through your prophets. Yet they would not give ear. Therefore you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.

³¹Nevertheless, in your great mercies you did not make an end of them or forsake them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

³²“Now, therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love, let not all the hardship seem little to you that has come upon us, upon our kings, our princes, our priests, our prophets, our fathers, and all your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria until this day.

³³Yet you have been righteous in all that has come upon us, for you have dealt faithfully and we have acted wickedly. ³⁴Our kings, our princes, our priests, and our fathers have not kept your law or paid attention to your commandments and your warnings that you gave them. ³⁵Even in their own kingdom, and amid your great goodness that you gave them, and in the large and rich land that you set before them, they did not serve you or turn from their wicked works. ³⁶Behold, we are slaves this day; in the land that you gave to our fathers to enjoy its fruit and its good gifts, behold, we are slaves. ³⁷And its rich yield goes to the kings whom you have set over us because of our sins. They rule over our bodies and over our livestock as they please, and we are in great distress.

³⁸“Because of all this we make a firm covenant in writing; on the sealed document are the names of our princes, our Levites, and our priests.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Nehemiah 1:5-6 / And I said, "O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned."

Romans 5:17-19 / For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Sermon Outline

- I. Starts with humble worship of who God is
 - II. Based on sure confidence in God's mercy
 - III. Joined to other people
 - A. Theological basis of corporate imputation of sin
 - B. Alienation as a reaction against jingoism
 - IV. Particular sins are confessed particularly
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Creedal Response Westminster Confession of Faith 15.3-5 (adapted)

Although repentance is not to be rested in as any payment for sin or as any cause of the pardon of sin, which is the act of God's free grace in Christ, yet it is of such necessity to all sinners, that no one may expect pardon without it.

As there is no sin so small that it does not deserve damnation, so there is no sin so great that it can bring damnation on those who truly repent.

People ought not to content themselves with a general repentance, but it is each one's duty to work hard to repent of his particular sins, particularly.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final songs if you are able.

Lead Us Back

(Words & Music: Brooks Ritter & Bobby Gilles 2006)

Falling down upon our knees
Sharing now in common shame
We have sought security
Not the cross that bears your name
Fences guard our hearts and homes
Comfort sings a siren tune
We're a valley of dry bones
Lead us back to life in you

Lord we fall upon our knees
We have shunned the weak and poor
Worshipped beauty courted kings
And the things their gold affords
Prayed for those we'd like to know
Favor sings a siren tune
We've become a talent show
Lead us back to life in you

Lord you've caused the blind to see
We have blinded them again
With our man-made rules and laws
Eager ready to condemn
Now we plead before your throne
Power sings a siren tune
We've been throwing heavy stones
Lead us back to life in you

We're a valley of dry bones
Lead us back to life in you
We've become a talent show
Lead us back to life in you
We've been throwing heavy stones
Lead us back to life in you

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!

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 be preaching "Not Waiting in Vain" on 2 Peter 3:11-18.

Please join us for a time of fellowship after the worship service. If you would like to contact a pastor, please email joseph@cityreformed.org.

Life Together

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

Joint Church Picnic TODAY @ 1-6PM 2399 Tilbrook Rd, Monroeville, PA 15146	Join us <i>TODAY</i> for our summer picnic with Bethany Baptist Church at <i>Monroeville Community Park!</i> Main dish is provided by Bethany. City Reformed: please bring a dish to share!
Ethiopia Medical Missions Team 2020 Info Meeting TODAY @ 12PM <i>Lecture Room</i>	Join us for an informational meeting on signing up and training for the upcoming missions trip! 1/11-19: provide healthcare and share God's word through the ACT Project: ethiopiaact.org . Contact Nameun Cho (nameun@cityreformed.org).
Agora Forum Mon 7/15 @ 7PM <i>G-10 Allen Hall</i> 3941 O'Hara St., 15213	We will look at what tolerance and freedom of religion mean in a historical context and then discuss the rights, duties, and expectations of Christian citizens and magistrates.
Annual Church Campout Fri 7/19 - Sat 7/20 Church Picnic Sat 7/20 @ 11AM <i>Moraine State Park</i> 225 Pleasant Valley Rd, Portersville, PA 16051	Come up anytime after 3PM on Friday to the Five Points group camping area and spend time around the campfire. All food is the campers' responsibility. Pets and alcohol are not permitted. Also, consider a daytrip on Saturday! Picnic lunch ~11AM with games and fellowship. Hot dogs and drinks are provided, please bring a side or dessert to share if you are able. Contact David Bacon (bacon1986@gmail.com).
Group Prayer Thur 7/25 @ 7:30PM 3929 Coleman St. 15207	Pray with us every other Thursday. Have a prayer request but can't come? Contact Elizabeth (elizabethpconley@gmail.com).