



**Sunday Evening Communion  
Worship Service  
January 21, 2024**

*"The relationship between the people of God in the Old Testament and the people of God in the New Testament is better described in terms of an organic development rather than either separation or replacement. During most of the Old Testament era, there were essentially three groups of people: the gentile nations, national Israel, and true Israel (the faithful remnant)...The church is distinct from national Israel, just as the true Israel in the Old Testament was distinct from national Israel even while being part of national Israel. The remnant group was part of the whole but could also be distinguished from the whole by its faith. However, if we are talking about true Israel, there really is no distinction. The true Israel of the Old Testament became the nucleus of the true church on the day of Pentecost."*

*—Keith Mathison, Ligonier Ministries*

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Evening Communion Worship – January 21, 2024

Presider: Reverend Matt Koerber

## Call to Worship: Psalm 22:24-27

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

Leader You who fear the LORD, praise him!

People **All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

Leader For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

People **From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.**

Leader The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!

People **All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.**

## Prayer of Invocation

## Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken Trinity Hymnal #345

Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken  
Formed thee for his own abode:  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
What can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply thy sons and daughters,  
And all fear of want remove;  
Who can faint, while such a river  
Ever flows their thirst t'assuage?—  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,  
Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring,  
See the cloud and fire appear  
For a glory and a cov'ring,  
Showing that the Lord is near:  
Thus deriving from their banner  
Light by night and shade by day,  
Safe they feed upon the manna  
Which he gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city  
I, through grace, a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in thy name:  
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,  
All his boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasure  
None but Zion's children know.

## **There Is A Fountain** **Trinity Hymnal #253**

There is a fountain filled with blood,  
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,  
Lose all their guilty stains: (3x)  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,  
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see  
That fountain in his day;  
And there have I, as vile as he,  
Washed all my sins away: (3x)  
And there have I, as vile as he,  
Washed all my sins away.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream  
Your flowing wounds supply,  
Redeeming love has been my theme,  
And shall be till I die: (3x)  
Redeeming love has been my theme,  
And shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song  
I'll sing your pow'r to save,  
When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue  
Lies silent in the grave: (3x)  
When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue  
Lies silent in the grave.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood  
Shall never lose its pow'r,  
Till all the ransomed church of God  
Be saved, to sin no more: (3x)  
Till all the ransomed church of God  
Be saved to sin no more.

## **Call to Confession: Romans 1:16-17**

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

## **Prayer of Confession:**

Gracious Heavenly Father, you are compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. You call all people to yourself and desire all people to be saved. You have included us as ambassadors in your plan of redemption, but we confess that we have failed to act as your ambassadors in many ways. We confess our fear of man. We confess the ways we allow others' opinions of ourselves to drive our actions. We confess those times we have been ashamed of the gospel, either outwardly or inwardly. We confess our timidity and diffidence in loving unbelievers. We pray for your redemptive work in our lives as you make us more into the image of Jesus. Help us to live by faith, we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon: Romans 10:1-4**

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

## **Cporate 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](http://cityreformed.org/give); 3929 Coleman St., 15207)*

## **I Need Thee Every Hour** **Trinity Hymnal #674**

I need thee ev'ry hour,  
Most gracious Lord;  
No tender voice like thine  
Can peace afford.

*I need thee, O I need thee,  
Ev'ry hour I need thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior,  
I come to thee.*

I need thee ev'ry hour;  
Stay thou near by;  
Temptations lose their pow'r  
When thou art nigh.

I need thee ev'ry hour,  
In joy or pain;  
Come quickly, and abide,  
Or life is vain.

I need thee ev'ry hour;  
Teach me thy will,  
And thy rich promises  
In me fulfil.

I need thee ev'ry hour,  
Most Holy One;  
O make me thine indeed,  
Thou blessed Son.

## Scripture & Homily: Ephesians 2:11-22

"How Are Israel and the Church Related?"

- Elder Dave Snoke

**T**herefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—<sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup>And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup>in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

**Leader** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

## Additional Scripture

Isaiah 4:2-5 / In that day the branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and honor of the survivors of Israel. And he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem, when the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and cleansed the bloodstains of Jerusalem from its midst by a spirit of judgment and by a spirit of burning. Then the Lord will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory there will be a canopy.

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Romans 10:11-13, 11:13-18, 11:25-27 / For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches. But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree, do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you... Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, "The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob"; "and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins."

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2 Peter 1:3-4 / His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

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# Communion

*City Reformed Church invites all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sins and trust Christ alone for salvation, and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel, to receive Holy Communion with us. Parents with non-communing children are encouraged to bring their children forward during communion. The elders will lay a hand on their head and briefly pray for them as they serve you.*

*Communion is served with wine and with grape juice. The wine is placed in the two outer circles of the communion tray, and the grape juice is placed in the inner circle. Because Jesus used wine during the first communion service, we believe using real wine is beneficial. However, participants are welcome to choose. There is also gluten-free bread available on each plate.*

*Please join us in song as we celebrate Christ dwelling with his church in the sacrament of communion.*

## Notes

# Songs of Communion

## When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Trinity Hymnal #252

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God:  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

## Doxology Trinity Hymnal #731

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
(repeat)  
Amen

## Benediction

**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)*

## Employment and Volunteer Needs

[www.cityreformed.org/employment](http://www.cityreformed.org/employment)

### Women's Ministry Need

Full-time: We have posted a job description of the new opening on the website. If you or someone you know would like to be considered for the position, please email [nameun@cityreformed.org](mailto:nameun@cityreformed.org).

## Leadership

### Elders

**Rev. Matthew Koerber:**  
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### Women's Ministry Council

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