



Sunday Morning Worship
October 30, 2022

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

"My conscience is captive to the Word of God....In truth you cannot read too much in Scripture; and what you read you cannot read too carefully, and what you read carefully you cannot understand too well, and what you understand well you cannot teach too well, and what you teach well you cannot live too well."

– Martin Luther

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM
Winchester Thurston Auditorium
5059 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh PA, 15213

LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

Sunday Evening Service

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

Church Office

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

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)

Welcome Information:



Morning Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning All-Age Worship – October 30, 2022

Presider: Elder David Bacon

Call to Worship: Psalm 100

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

Leader Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

People **Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!**

Leader Know that the LORD, he is God!

People **It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

People **For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.**

Prayer of Invocation

Behold Him

(Words & Music: Mitch Wong & Paul Baloche 2019)

He who was before there was light

Walked across the pages of time

He who made every living thing

Behold Him

He who heard humanity's cry

Left His throne to wake as a child

He became like the least of us

Behold Him

(continued on next page)

*Jesus Son of God Messiah
The Lamb the roaring Lion
Oh be still and behold Him*

He who dined with sinners and saints
Healed the blind the lost and the lame
Even now He is in our midst
Behold Him
He who chose a criminal's end
Paid with blood to settle our debt
Buried death as He rose to life
Behold Him

*Jesus Son of God Messiah
The Lamb the roaring Lion
Oh be still and behold Him
Jesus Alpha and Omega
Our God the risen Savior
Oh be still and behold Him*

Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Worthy worthy worthy
To receive all praise

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 55:6-11

Isaiah 55 | So Shall His Word

(Words & Music: Liz Vice & Sandra McCracken)

So shall his Word that goes out, that goes out
Shall not return, not return empty

*It shall make a name for the LORD
It shall make a name for the LORD
Let the Light make a name for the LORD
In the dark*

Come all who thirst, laborers, lay it down
Come seek the Lord while he may be found

We shall go out, out with joy led in peace
Join in the song all creation sing

*We shall make a name for the LORD
We shall make a name for the LORD
Let the Light make a name for the LORD
In the dark*

How Great Thou Art

(Words & Music: Carl Gustav Boberg 1949)

Oh Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

*Then sings my soul, my Savior, God, to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior, God, to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art*

And when I think that God his son not sparing
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God, how great Thou art

Call to Confession: Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Prayer of Confession: (Prayer of St. Augustine, 397 A.D.)

Great are you, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is your power, and infinite is your wisdom. And man desires to praise you, for he is a part of your creation; he bears his mortality about with him and carries the evidence of his sin and the proof that you resist the proud. Still he desires to praise you, this man who is only a small part of thy creation. You have prompted him, that he should delight to praise you, for you have made us for yourself and restless is our heart until it comes to rest in you.

Who will bring me to rest in you? Who will send you into my heart so to overwhelm it that my sins will be blotted out and I may embrace you, my only good? Tell me, by your mercy, O Lord, my God, what you are to me. Say to my soul, "I am your salvation." I will hasten after that voice, and I will lay hold of you. Hide not your face from me. Even if I die, let me see your face lest I die.

The house of my soul is too narrow for you to come into me; let it be enlarged by you. It is in ruins; you must restore it. There is much about it which must offend your eyes; I confess and know it. But who will cleanse it? To whom shall I cry but to you? I do not contend in judgement with you, who are truth itself; and I would not deceive myself, lest my iniquity lie even to itself. I do not, therefore, contend in judgement with you, for if you, Lord, would mark iniquities, who could stand?

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Baptism: Deacon John Claus & Conner Spiri Claus

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Please use offering bags or direct giving online or via mail (cityreformed.org/give; 3929 Coleman St., 15207).

Laden with Guilt

(Music: Sandra McCracken 2001; Words: Isaac Watts 1766)

Laden with guilt and full of fears,
I fly to thee my Lord.
And not a glimpse of hope appears,
But in thy written word
The volumes of my Father's grace,
Does all my griefs assuage.
Here I behold my Savior's face,
In every page.

This is the field where hidden lies
The pearl of price unknown.
That merchant is divinely wise,
Who makes the pearl his own.
Here consecrated water flows,
To quench my thirst of sin;
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,
No danger dwells within.

(continued on next page)

This is the judge that ends the strife,
Where wit and reason fail.
My guide to everlasting life,
Through all this gloomy vale.
Oh may thy counsels, mighty God,
My roving feet command,
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to thy right hand.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Luke 8:4-19

"The Heart of the Reformation: The Word of God"

- Elder Dave Snoko

And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, ⁵“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. ⁷And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. ⁸And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

⁹And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, ¹⁰he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ ¹¹Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for

a while, and in time of testing fall away. ¹⁴And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

¹⁶“No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. ¹⁷For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light. ¹⁸Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away.”

¹⁹Then his mother and his brother came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Additional Scripture

Deuteronomy 6:6-7/ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Matthew 4:4, 6:18-19/ But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Lay Up Treasures in Heaven "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal...

Mark 7:9-13, 12:24/ And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban"' (that is,

given to God)— then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do." ... Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God?"

John 10:36/ ...do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?

Eph 2:19-20/ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

2 Peter 3:15-16/ And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.

Scriptural Response: Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 155. How is the Word made effectual to salvation?

A. The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching, of the Word an effectual means of enlightening, convincing, and humbling sinners; of driving them out of themselves and drawing them to Christ; of conforming them to his image and subduing them to his will; of strengthening them against temptations and corruptions; of building them up in grace; and of establishing their hearts in holiness and comfort through faith to salvation.

Sermon Outline:

Introduction: the centrality of the Bible in Reformed thinking

I. We are Bible-focused because we are Jesus-focused

II. How to read the Bible

A. Read it all!

B. Listen to the wisdom of the historical church

C. Look for God's character, and the heart of Jesus, not just rules and advice

D. Let it confront you and change you

III. Taking the Bible to the world

A. Jesus tells us there will be opposition, hypocrisy, and shallowness—don't be surprised

B. There is power in the Word— don't just summarize it

Songs of Thanksgiving

Holy Spirit

(Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend 2006)

Holy Spirit living Breath of God
Breathe new life into my willing soul
Let the presence of the risen Lord
Come renew my heart and make me whole
Cause Your word to come alive in me
Give me faith for what I cannot see
Give me passion for Your purity
Holy Spirit breathe new life in me

Holy Spirit come abide within
May Your joy be seen in all I do
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin
In each thought and deed and attitude
Kindness to the greatest and the least
Gentleness that sows the path of peace
Turn my strivings into works of grace
Breath of God show Christ in all I do

(continued on next page)

Holy Spirit from creation's birth
Giving life to all that God has made
Show Your power once again on earth
Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways
Let the fragrance of our pray'rs arise
Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see

To God Be The Glory

(Words: Fanny Crosby 1875; Music: W. Howard Doane 1875)

To God be the glory great things He has done
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the life gate that all may go in

*Praise the Lord praise the Lord
Let the earth hear His voice
Praise the Lord praise the Lord
Let the people rejoice
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give him the glory, great things he has done*

O perfect redemption the purchase of blood
To every believer the promise of God
The vilest offender who truly believes
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives

Great things He has taught us
Great things He has done
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder our transport when Jesus we see

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

WT Blackout Dates November 6 & 13	Due to an upcoming production we will be shifting from the auditorium to the gym across the parking lot both of these Sundays. SS rooms will be the same next Sunday, however the 13th, there will be additional shifting.
Daylight Savings Ends November 6	Don't forget to turn back your clocks next week or else you will get to help us set-up.
Annual PPWM Fall 2022 Event	The women of City Reformed are invited to gather with women from the Pittsburgh Presbytery on Saturday, Nov. 12th, from 11:00-1:30 pm at New Life Presbyterian Church in Harrison City, PA for a time of Songs and Stories of Praise and Thanksgiving with guest speaker, Nancy Capper of Faith Presbyterian Church, MD. Lunch will follow. To register: https://www.pcapittsburgh.org/upcoming-events
Reformation Service: TONIGHT, 5:30PM	Please join us as we celebrate Reformation Day with several other congregations. We will be worshipping at Bellefield Presbyterian Church on 5th Ave at 5:30PM.
Building Work Day: November 12, 10am-12pm	If you have any flexibility on November 12th, please join us for our building work day! No skills required - just able and willing workers.

Employment and Volunteer Needs

www.cityreformed.org/employment

Sound Volunteers Needed	If you are interested in serving on sound team for either the morning or evening service, please contact Pat Spallinger at pat@cityreformed.org . Prior experience preferred!
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Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Wednesday Prayer Meetings 8:30-9:30 AM</p>	<p>Join our staff as they pray for our church. Wednesday weekly prayer is held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer</p>
<p>Global Mission Prayer Mondays @9PM</p>	<p>Join our church in prayer for our mission partners We will be praying for Hannah and Trey Nations as they work with China Partnership. Zoom link: https://tinyurl.com/crpcglobalprayer</p>
<p>College Shuttle The college shuttle for Fall semester.</p>	<p>Pickup (details upon request!) 9:30AM- Point Park University 9:45- Pitt Return: 12pm Contact Katelyn (katelyn@cityreformed.org) for more information.</p>
<p>Women's Tuesday morning Bible Study: <i>Standing Alone: Scenes from Elijah and Elisha</i></p>	<p>Come join with other women on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12pm for an eight week Bible study led by Paige Brown of West End Community Church, Nashville, TN. Lectures will be viewed weekly via livestream followed by group discussion at the home of Luda Bates at 3334 Dawson St, Pittsburgh 15213. Childcare is not provided. For more information contact Luda at Luda.bates@gmail.com</p>
<p>Youth Group Wednesday Nights Next mtg: 11/2 (6:30-8:30 pm) EVO 250 S. Pacific Ave., Pittsburgh, PA, 15224.</p>	<p>Calling all 6th-12th graders at City Reformed! Join us at Seeds 4 the City, City Reformed's combined youth group with Fourth Presbyterian Church (EPC) and Seeds of Hope Anglican Church. We'll be meeting at Earthen Vessels Outreach (EVO). Light snacks, fellowship, games, prayer, and a variety of interactions with God's Word fill our time together. Contact Pastor John with questions at john@cityreformed.org, or 412-737-8959. FYI, future dates for our every other Wednesday gatherings are currently, 11/16, 11/30, and 12/14. Hope to see you there!</p>
<p>Church Directory</p>	<p>http://crpc.churchcenter.com/directory -- email: chrissee@cityreformed.org for help accessing!</p>

Groups

College Students please refer to campus ministry contacts below:

- CCO at CMU: Nameun Cho (ncho@ccojubilee.org)
- CCO at PPU: Katelyn Spallinger (kspallinger@ccojubilee.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- Alex Main (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 Adult Women's Fellowship (Katelyn@cityreformed.org)*
- *Informal frisbee (danielrtoney@gmail.com)*
- *Board Game Gatherings (gatcheson@gmail.com)*

Community Groups

Community Groups meet for Bible study, fellowship, and service, and are some of the best opportunities to connect with church life - always open for visitors throughout the year. Please contact Pastor Joseph Bianco (Joseph@cityreformed.org) with any questions, and for a listing of current groups, refer to: **www.cityreformed.org/community-groups**

Sunday

Fox Chapel*- Watson Barker
North Hills**- David Bacon

Monday

Forest Hills*- Adam Schwab

Tuesday

Northside- Joe Bencoter & Nathan Schartner
Friendship**- Michael Hilton
Morningside* - Jeff Winkler
West Hills*- Jonathan Dodd

Wednesday

Regent Square- David Snoke
Baldwin/Greenfield*- Joseph Bianco
East Suburban- Joe Stehle
Near East Suburban- Jim Partridge

Thursday

Shadyside - Ben Chidester

*Childcare provided

** Kid's play area available

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