



Sunday Morning Communion Worship
December 4, 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

"Christianity assigns the human body... much richer dignity and value. Humans do not need freedom from the body to discover their true authentic self. Rather we can celebrate our embodied existence as a good gift from God. Instead of escaping from the body, the goal is to live in harmony with it"

- Nancy Pearcey, *Love Thy Body*

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 Communion Worship – December 4, 2022

Presider: Elder Dave Snoke

Call to Worship: John 1:1-2, 14, 16-18

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

Leader In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People **He was in the beginning with God...**

Leader And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth...

People **For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.**

Leader For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

People **No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.**

Prayer of Invocation

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

(Words: Charles Wesley 1739; Music: Felix Mendelssohn 1840)

Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem

*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King*

Come, Desire of nations, come,
Fix in us thy humble home;
Now display thy saving power,
Ruined nature now restore;
Let us Thee, though lost, regain,
Thee, the life, of mortal Man:
O! to all thyself impart,
Give to each believing heart.

Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth

Who Is This So Weak and Helpless

(Words: William W. How 1867; Music: Christopher Miner 1997)

Who is this, so weak and helpless,
Child of lowly Hebrew maid,
Rudely in a stable sheltered,
Coldly in a manger laid?
'Tis the Lord of all creation,
Who this wondrous path has trod;
He is Lord from everlast—ing,
And to everlasting God.

Who is this, a Man of Sorrows,
Walking sadly life's hard way,
Homeless, weary, sighing, weeping
Over sin and Satan's sway?
'Tis our God, our glorious Savior,
Who above the starry sky
Is for us a place prepar—ing,
Where no tear can dim the eye.

Who is this? Behold him shedding
Drops of blood upon the ground!
Who is this, despised, rejected,
Mocked, insulted, beaten, bound?
'Tis our God, Who gifts and graces
On His church is pouring down;
Who shall smite in holy ven—geance
All His foes beneath His throne.

Who is this that hangs there dying
While the rude world scoffs and scorns,
Numbered with the malefactors,
Torn with nails, and crowned with thorns?
'Tis our God Who lives forever
'Mid the shining ones on high,
In the glorious golden ci—ty,
Reigning everlastingly.

Call to Confession: John 1:5-9

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Prayer of Confession:

God of light, you are holy beyond our understanding. There is no darkness in you and sin cannot stand in your presence.

We don't want to deceive ourselves or try to fool you. We confess that we have sinned. We have turned from your ways. We have failed to trust you. We have done things you forbid and we have not done the things you command.

We look to the blood of Jesus to cleanse us from all sin. You have promised that if we confess our sins you will forgive them and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. We know that you do that in Christ. Please give us confidence to rest in your forgiveness. Give us grace to enjoy fellowship with one another. Give us strength to walk in the light as you are in the light. Do this that Jesus would be glorified. In his name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: I John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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).

God With Us

(Words & Music: Leslie Jordan 2012)

You have come to bring peace
To be love, to be nearer to us
You have come to bring life
To be light, to shine brighter in us.
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

*Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our redemption
God with us, You are God with us.*

You have come to be hope
To this world for Your honor and name.
You have come to take sin
To bear shame and to conquer the grave.
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

You are here and
You are holy
We are standing
In Your glory (Lord)

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. Parents please have your children meet the teachers at the back of the sanctuary and pick them up after the sermon from Children's Church.

Sermon: | John 1:1-4, 4:1-3
"Christ in the Flesh"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete...

^{4:1}Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Romans 12:1-2/ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

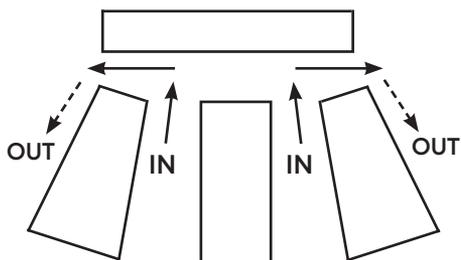
Hebrews 4:14-16/ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 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.

Nicene Creed: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

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.

Songs of Communion

Hallelujah What A Savior - Man of Sorrows

(Words & Music: Philip Paul Bliss 1875)

Man of Sorrows! What a name
For the Son of God, Who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim.

*Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Savior!*

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood;
Sealed my pardon with His blood.

Guilty, vile, and helpless we;
Spotless Lamb of God is He;
Full atonement! Can it be?

(continued on next page)

Lifted up was He to die;
"It is finished!" was His cry;
Now in heav'n exalted high.

When He comes, our glorious King,
All His ransomed home to bring,
Then anew His song we'll sing.

Now Behold The Lamb

(Words & Music: Kirk Franklin 1995)

Now behold the Lamb
The Precious Lamb of God
Born into sin that I may live again
The Precious Lamb of God

*Holy is the Lamb
The Precious Lamb of God
Why You love me so
Lord I shall never know
The Precious Lamb of God*

*Thank You for the Lamb
The Precious Lamb of God
Because of Your grace
I can finish this race
The Precious Lamb of God*

Psalm 72 | Hail to The Lord's Anointed

(Words: James Montgomery 1821; Music: Sandra McCracken 2012)

*Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!*

He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

(continued on next page)

He comes with comfort speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong.
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Are precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove.
His Name shall stand forever,
That Name to us is Love.
The Precious Lamb of God

Doxology

(Words: Thomas Ken 1674; Music: Louis Bourgeois 1510)

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

Tonight's Worship Service: Reverend Joseph Bianco will be continuing a series on Advent, preaching on I John 4:7-21 "How to Love People" *Grill the Preacher immediately following.

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Advent LEGOs: Week 2</p>	<p>If you are 5 years old through 5th grade, come visit our table in the fellowship area after church to crack the LEGO Code, answer the question, and earn a prize! Contact Becki for more info: becki@cityreformed.org</p>
<p>Discipler Schedule Complete!</p>	<p>If you serve in the nursery, check your email! The schedule for January through April has been completed. Thank you for serving the families and children of our church!</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Christmas Party Saturday, Dec 10th</p>	<p>Young adult women, please join us on December 10th at 7pm for a Christmas party at Rebecca Pollard's home. Please bring a Christmas recipe to share and a white elephant gift of no more than \$10. For more information and to RSVP, contact Katelyn Spallinger (katelyn@cityreformed.org).</p>
<p>Meet and Greet with Andrew and Amy: Sunday, Dec 11th</p>	<p>Andrew and Amy will be departing with their family for North Africa early next year. They would love to share more about who they are, the work they will be doing, and how God has been at work in sending them and affirming their plans. Please join us for light refreshments immediately following the service in room G8 at Winchester Thurston.</p>
<p>Night of Prayer with China Partnership: Friday, Dec 9th</p>	<p>China Partnership is hosting a time of prayer for the Chinese church on the anniversary of the arrests of members of the Early Rain Church in 2018. This church, and many others in China, have been experiencing intense persecution. We will be gathering for about an hour to pray through a guided list of needs and concerns. We will be meeting at 5904 Wellesley Avenue, Pittsburgh 15206 at 7:30PM. For more information, please contact Emily Schartner at emilyschartner@gmail.com</p>
<p>Sunday School Activity: December 18th, 9am</p>	<p>Join us on December 18th during the Sunday School hour for a special activity to bring our fall term to a close. All ages are welcome! Contact Becki for more info: becki@cityreformed.org</p>

Employment and Volunteer Needs

www.cityreformed.org/employment

Youth Ministry Need	We are recruiting a man to work part-time with middle and/or high schoolers, discipling young men and building intentional relationships. The position is currently posted as 7hrs/wk, but hours are flexible depending on the situation of the applicant. Applicants should send a note to Nameun@cityreformed.org .
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Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

Agora: Monday, Dec 12, 7PM 3929 Coleman St.	We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. We meet every other Monday at the Greenfield Chapel at 7 pm (3929 Coleman St). The next meeting is December 12. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)
Wednesday Prayer Meetings 8:30-9:30 AM	Join our staff as they pray for our church. Wednesday weekly prayer is held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer
Global Mission Prayer Mondays @9PM	Join our church in prayer for our mission partners We will be praying for Jonathan and Vicki. Zoom link: https://tinyurl.com/crpcglobalprayer
Youth Group Wednesday Nights Next mtg: 12/14 (6:30-8:30 pm) EVO 250 S. Pacific Ave., Pittsburgh, PA, 15224.	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, the last date of this semester 12/14. Hope to see you there!

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)*
- *Women's Discipleship Group (Katelyn@cityreformed.org)*
- *Informal 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

Andy Leuenberger:

ahleuenberger@gmail.com

David Bacon:

bacon1986@gmail.com

Jim Partridge:

partridge.je6@gmail.com

Joe Stehle:

joestehle@gmail.com

Dave Smoke:

smoke@pitt.edu

Women's Ministry Council

Debbie Bacon: dpasewark@gmail.com

Sarah Cho: sarahjycho@gmail.com

Rachael Leuenberger: raleuen@gmail.com

Irene Winkler: renew77@gmail.com

Sandy Snoke: sandy@cityreformed.org

Hannah Westman: hannita44@gmail.com

Sarah Winkler: sarahditch@gmail.com

Deacons

Gary Atcheson: gatcheson@gmail.com

Eric Westman: westman.a.eric@gmail.com

Kyle McMillan: kyle.mcmillan90@gmail.com

Nik Melchior: nik@alum.wustl.edu

Bob Simonelli: simonellir1756@gmail.com

Jeff Winkler: jeffreywpinkler@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.