



Sunday Evening Service
February 26, 2023

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Worship – February 26, 2023

Call to Worship: Jeremiah 31:2-6

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

Leader Thus says the LORD: "The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest,

People **The LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.**

Leader Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall adorn yourself with tambourines and shall go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit.

People **For there shall be a day when watchmen will call in the hill country of Ephraim: 'Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God.'**"

Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 104 | Rejoice in All Your Works

(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!

Great Are You Lord

(Words & Music: Leslie Jordan & David Leonard 2012)

You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope You restore
Ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only*

And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord

Call to Confession: Romans 5:6-8

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, you have come to us with tenderness and compassion, but we have turned our backs on your kindness. You offer us peace in your presence and fellowship in your Spirit, but we hastily pursue every other distraction. We fail to believe that you really intend the best for us and grow weary manipulating the details of our lives. Forgive us for our sins and meet us in our weakness. Cause us to see the wonderful plans that you have in store for us. Renew our hearts with a desire for holiness and divine fellowship. Strengthen us that we may trust you in the decisions of our daily lives, and cause your glory to be reflected in our actions. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Corporate 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; 3929 Coleman St., 15207).

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

(Words & Music: Stuart Townend 1995)

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That he should give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon his shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

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I will not boast in anything
No gifts no power no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from his reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

Scripture & Homily

2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4

"Gracious & Intentional Planning"

-Reverend Nameun Cho

For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you. ¹³For we are not writing to you anything other than what you read and understand and I hope you will fully understand— ¹⁴just as you did partially understand us—that on the day of our Lord Jesus you will boast of us as we will boast of you.

¹⁵Because I was sure of this, I wanted to come to you first, so that you might have a second experience of grace. ¹⁶I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia, and to come back to you from Macedonia and have you send me on my way to Judea. ¹⁷Was I vacillating when I wanted to do this? Do I make my plans according to the flesh, ready to say “Yes, yes” and “No, no” at the same time? ¹⁸As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been Yes and No. ¹⁹For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. ²⁰For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. ²¹And it is God who establishes us

with you in Christ, and has anointed us, ²²and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

²³But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming again to Corinth. ²⁴Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith.

^{2:1}For I made up my mind not to make another painful visit to you. ²For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? ³And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. ⁴For I wrote to you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

1 Corinthians 16:5-9 / I will visit you after passing through Macedonia, for I intend to pass through Macedonia, and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may help me on my journey, wherever I go. For I do not want to see you now just in passing. I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

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Hebrews 10:19-25 / Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 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.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

(Words: Thomas Obediah Chisholm Music: William Marion Runyan 1923)

Great is thy faithfulness, O, God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Benediction