



**Sunday Evening Communion Service**  
**March 19, 2023**

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Sunday Evening Communion Worship – March 19, 2023

## **Call to Worship: Psalm 37:3-4, 23-24, 39-40**

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

Leader Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

People **Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart...**

Leader The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way;

People **though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand...**

Leader The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

People **The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.**

## Prayer of Invocation

# Jesus I Am Resting Resting

(Words & Music: David Hampton & Jean Sophia Pigott 1998)

Jesus I am resting resting  
In the joy of what Thou art  
I am finding out the greatness  
Of Thy loving heart  
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee  
And Thy beauty fills my soul  
For by Thy transforming power  
Thou hast made me whole

*Jesus I am resting resting  
In the joy of what Thou art  
I am finding out the greatness  
Of Thy loving heart*

Oh how great Thy loving kindness  
Vaster broader than the sea  
Oh how marvelous Thy goodness  
Lavished all on me  
Yes I rest in Thee Beloved  
Know what wealth of grace is Thine  
Know Thy certainty of promise  
And have made it mine

Simply trusting Thee Lord Jesus  
I behold Thee as Thou art  
And Thy love so pure so changeless  
Satisfies my heart  
Satisfies its deepest longings  
Meets supplies its ev'ry need  
For he wraps me 'round with blessings  
Thine is love indeed

Ever lift Thy face upon me  
As I work and wait for Thee  
Resting 'neath Thy smile Lord Jesus  
Earth's dark shadows flee  
Brightness of my Father's glory  
Sunshine of my Father's face  
Keep me ever trusting resting  
Fill me with Thy grace

## **Psalm 24 | We Long to See You**

*(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2015)*

Almighty God, we long to see you.  
Open our hearts and make them pure.  
Spirit, we wash our hands in mercy.  
Come teach our souls to love your truth.

## **Call to Confession: Deuteronomy 4:29-30**

But from there you will seek the Lord your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul. When you are in tribulation, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, you will return to the Lord your God and obey his voice.

## **Prayer of Confession:**

O God, we confess we have often been apathetic, failing to seek or even care about justice in the affairs that surround us. We have failed to truly love and value mercy as You do, nor extend it to others as You have to us. Our walk before You is frequently characterized by presumption rather than humility. Though we are but jars of clay, You have chosen us to be vessels of Your mercy and grace to a hurting world. Make us respond to Your love by displaying and extending the gospel of grace in word and deed to others with the joy of the Lord as our strength. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon: Deuteronomy 4:4, 31**

But you who held fast to the Lord your God are all alive today... For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.

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

## Come Thou Fount

*(Words: Robert Robinson & Martin Madan; 1760 Music: Unknown)*

Come thou fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace.  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by thy help I'm come,  
And I hope by thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God.  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be.  
Let that grace now like a fetter  
Bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for thy courts above.

# Scripture & Homily

2 Corinthians 4:1-18

"Treasures in Jars of Clay"

-Reverend Nameun Cho

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. <sup>8</sup>We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup>always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. <sup>11</sup>For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup>So death is at work in us, but life in you.

<sup>13</sup>Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, <sup>14</sup>knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with

you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup>as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Additional Scripture

Romans 7:21-25 / So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

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Jude 24-25 / Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

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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-communicating 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

### Abide with Me

*(Words: Henry Francis Lyte 1847; Music: Justin Smith 2007)*

Abide with me fast falls the eventide  
The darkness deepens Lord with me abide  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee  
Help of the helpless abide with me

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile  
And, though rebellious and perverse meanwhile  
Thou hast not left me oft as I left Thee  
On to the close Lord abide with me

I need Thy presence every passing hour  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power  
Who, like Thyself my guide and stay can be  
Through cloud and sunshine abide with me

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless  
Ills have no weight tears lose their bitterness  
Where is thy sting death Where grave thy victory  
I triumph still abide with me

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies  
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee  
In life in death Lord abide with me

## **Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me**

*(Words & Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, & Michael Farren 2018)*

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer  
There is no more for heaven now to give  
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom  
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
For my life is wholly bound to his  
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken  
For by my side the Saviour he will stay  
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing  
For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me  
Through the deepest valley he will lead  
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven  
The future sure the price it has been paid  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon  
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated  
Jesus now and ever is my plea  
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

*(continued on next page)*

With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
For he has said that he will bring me home  
And day by day I know he will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
All the glory evermore to him  
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## **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**

# 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

## Tuesday

Northside- Joe Benscoter & Nathan Schartner

Morningside\*- Jeff Winkler

West Hills\*- Jonathan Dodd

## Wednesday

Near East Suburban- Jim Partridge

Regent Square- David Snoke

Baldwin/Greenfield\*- Joseph Bianco

East Suburban- Joe Stehle

## Thursday

Shadyside - Ben Chidester

Forest Hills\*- Adam Schwab

\*Childcare provided

\*\* Kid's play area available