



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

*"Scripture frequently warns us of the consequences of sin to motivate us to repent. If the desire to escape the consequences of our sins is the only thing that motivates us to repent, however, then we have not truly turned from our sin."*

*—Tabletalk Magazine, April 2024, p. 33*

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Sunday Evening Worship – April 21, 2024  
Presider: Elder Craig Kozminski

## Call to Worship: Psalm 99:1-5, 9

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

Leader The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

People **The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.**

Leader Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!

People **The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

Leader Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!.

People **Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!**

## Prayer of Invocation

## Christ Is Able

(Words: Joseph Hart 1759 Music: Mike Harland & Tommy Walker 2009)

Come ye sinners poor and needy  
Come ye wounded weak and worn  
Jesus ready stands to save you  
Full of pity joined with pow'r

Come ye needy come and welcome  
God's free bounty glorify  
True belief and true repentance  
Ev'ry grace that brings you nigh

*He is able He is able  
Christ is able doubt no more  
Come ye sinners poor and needy  
Christ is able still to save*

Come ye weary heavy laden  
Bruised and broken by the fall  
If you tarry till you're better  
You will never come at all

Come ye ransomed and forgiven  
Come ye rescued from the grave  
Rise and worship Christ our Savior  
For the glory of His name

## Christ Is Risen

*(Words & Music: Mia Fieldes and Matt Maher 2009)*

Let no one caught in sin  
Remain inside the lie of inward shame  
But fix our eyes upon the cross  
And run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us  
Freely You've bled for us

*Christ is risen from the dead  
Trampling over death by death  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave  
Christ is risen from the dead  
We are one with Him again  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave*

Beneath the weight of all our sin  
You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown  
No burden great can hold You down  
In strength You reign  
Forever let Your church proclaim

O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
The glory of God has defeated the night  
Singing O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
Our God is not dead  
He's alive He's alive

## **Call to Confession: 2 Corinthians 7:8-9**

For even if I made you grieve with my letter, I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us.

## **Prayer of Confession:**

Father we ask that you would grant to us repentance. We do not have the strength in ourselves to truly repent of sins that we hold dearly. But we profess that you are almighty and able to do all things, that you can change hearts of stone into living hearts, and that you can change our hearts even in the dark places. Open our eyes, Lord, to where you want us to change, and make us able and willing and joyous in that change. We thank you that we are no longer slaves to sin, but alive and free in you, and we proclaim our faith in the goodness of your ways and the power of your Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon: 2 Corinthians 7:10-11**

For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.

## **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)*

## Rock of Ages

*(Words: Augustus Toplady 1776; Music: Thomas Hastings 1853)*

Rock of Ages cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in thee  
Let the water and the blood  
From thy wounded side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure  
Save from wrath and make me pure

Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill thy law's demands  
Could my zeal no respite know  
Could my tears forever flow  
All for sin could not atone  
Thou must save and thou alone

Nothing in my hand I bring  
Simply to the cross I cling  
Naked come to thee for dress  
Helpless look to thee for grace  
Foul I to the fountain fly  
Wash me Savior or I die

While I draw this fleeting breath  
When mine eyes shall close in death  
When I soar to worlds unknown  
See thee on thy judgment throne  
Rock of Ages cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in thee

## Scripture & Homily: Acts 8:9-25

### "Simony at the Samaritan Pentecost"

- Reverend John McCombs

**B**ut there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. <sup>10</sup>They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." <sup>11</sup>And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. <sup>12</sup>But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. <sup>13</sup>Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

<sup>14</sup>Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, <sup>15</sup>who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, <sup>16</sup>for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>17</sup>Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. <sup>18</sup>Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, <sup>19</sup>saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." <sup>20</sup>But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! <sup>21</sup>You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. <sup>22</sup>Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. <sup>23</sup>For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of

iniquity.” <sup>24</sup>And Simon answered, “Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me.”

<sup>25</sup>Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



## Additional References

Deuteronomy 14:27 / And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

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Luke 9:51-56 / When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. And they went on to another village.

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Acts 1:8 / " But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

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Acts 2:36-41 / Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

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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."

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Ephesians 2:14 / For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

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WSC 87 / Q. What is repentance that leads to life? A. Repentance that leads to life is a saving grace by which a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin and awareness of the mercy of God in Christ, turns from it to God with grief and hatred of his sin, purposing and working constantly for a new obedience.

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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.*

# Songs of Communion

## I Know That My Redeemer Lives

*(Words: Samuel Medley 1775; Music: "Duke Street" John Warrington Hatton 1793)*

I know that my Redeemer lives  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives  
He lives He lives who once was dead  
He lives my everlasting Head

He lives my kind wise constant Friend  
Who still will keep me to the end  
He lives and while He lives I'll sing  
Jesus my Prophet Priest and King

He lives to silence all my fears  
He lives to wipe away my tears  
He lives to calm my troubled heart  
He lives all blessings to impart

He lives to bless me with His love  
He lives to lead for me above  
He lives to raise me from the grave  
And me eternally to save

He lives to grant me daily breath  
He lives and I shall conquer death  
He lives all glory to His name  
Jesus unchangeably the same

## 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.  
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](http://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)*

## Leadership

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