

# 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

"Grace is favour, and peace its fruits. The former includes all that is comprehended in the love of God as exercised towards sinners: and the latter all the benefits which flow from that love."

- Charles Hodge

#### 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

#### Church Center App:



#### **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)

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church Sunday Evening Worship – April 24, 2022

Presider: Elder Joe Stehle

### Call to Worship: Psalm 133

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

Leader Behold, how good and pleasant it is

People when brothers dwell in unity!

Leader It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard.

People on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

Leader It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

People For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

# Prayer of Invocation

### Crown Him With Many Crowns

(Words: Matthew Bridges 1951 Music: George Job Elvey 1868)

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own
Awake my soul and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of love
Behold His hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight
But downward bends each burning eye
At mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of peace
Whose pow'r a sceptre sways
From pole to pole
That wars may cease
And all be prayer and praise
His reign shall know no end
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet

Crown Him the Lord of years
The Potentate of time
Creator of the rolling spheres
Ineffably sublime
All hail Redeemer hail
For Thou hast died for me
Thy praise shall never never fail
Throughout eternity

### **Eternal Weight of Glory**

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2013)

Now the days and hours and moments Of our suff'ring seem so long And the toilsome wait and wond'ring Threaten silence to our song Now our pain is real and pressing Where our faith is thin and weak But our hope is set on Jesus And we cling to him our strength

For behold I tell a myst'ry
At the trumpet sound we'll wake
Death is swallowed up in vict'ry
When we meet our King of Grace
Every year we thought was wasted
Every night we cried How long
All will be a passing moment
In our Savior's vict'ry song

Oh eternal weight of glory
Oh inheritance divine
We will see our Lord redeeming
Every past and future time
All our pains will be transfigured
Like the scars of Christ our Lord
We will see the weight of glory
And our broken years restored

We will see our wounded Savior We'll behold him face to face And we'll hear our anguished stories Sung as vict'ry songs of grace

### Call to Confession: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

# Prayer of Confession:

Lord, you are infinite, eternal and unchanging. You are worthy of our time and our attention. You are the most significant and interesting thing in the universe. We should love you with all of our heart, and all of our soul, and all of our mind, and all of our strength. But, we confess that our attention shifts quickly. Your glory does not interest us as it should. Our hearts are divided, our souls are twisted, our minds wander, and we invest little strength in loving you. We easily think about our hobbies and our achievements, but we give little thought to you. Please help us to focus. Change our desires and awaken our passion for what is truly noble and good. May we tremble before your Word and be aware of your power to shake all things by your voice. Help us to worship. Help us to honor you in our mind. Send your Spirit to calm us and direct our focus. Amen.

### Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon: 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.

# **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).

#### Stronger

(Words & Music: Ben Fielding & Reuben Morgan 2007)

There is Love that came for us Humbled to a sinner's cross You broke my shame and sinfulness You rose again victorious

Faithfulness none can deny
Through the storm and through the fire
There is truth that sets me free
Jesus Christ who lives in me

You are stronger, you are stronger Sin is broken, you have saved me It is written, "Christ is risen" Jesus You are Lord of all

No beginning and no end You're my hope and my defense You came to seek and save the lost You paid it all upon the cross

So let Your Name be lifted higher Be lifted higher, be lifted higher

# **Scripture & Homily**

1 Corinthians 1:1-17

"A Messy Church and a Perfect Savior- The introduction of the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians"

- Reverend Joseph Bianco

P aul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— <sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

<sup>10</sup>I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or

"I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ."

<sup>13</sup>Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

### Additional Scripture

Romans 10:12 / For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.

Ephesians 4:5 / one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

James 1:19 / Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

2 Peter 1:16 / For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

### Sermon Outline

Proposition: Jesus saves absolutely.

Fallen condition: In every aspect of our lives (our performance, our jobs, our families, our looks, our souls, etc.) we are tempted to add to the salvation of Jesus.

#### Main Points:

- 1. You really are Christians (even when a mess)
- 2. Christians strive for agreement (because you really are believers)
- 3. Christ is always Savior (Christians can fail big)

Conclusion: Rehearse the Gospel

### 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 glutenfree 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?

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:

### 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.

### **Benediction**