



Sunday Morning Worship
September 17, 2023

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

"But we, disregarding empty speculations, ought to be satisfied with this one thing, — that the image of God in holiness and righteousness is restored to us for this end, that we may at length be partakers of eternal life and glory as far as it will be necessary for our complete happiness."

- John Calvin

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 Worship – September 17, 2023

Presider: Elder Jim Partridge

Call to Worship: Hebrews 10:19-25

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

Leader 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

People **And since we have a great priest over the house of God,**

Leader 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.

People **Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.**

Leader 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,

People **But encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.**

Prayer of Invocation

Arise My Soul Arise

(Words: Charles Wesley 1742; Music: Kevin Twit 1996)

Arise my soul, arise,
Shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice
On my behalf appears.
Before the throne my surety stands,
Before the throne my surety stands,
My name is written on his hands.

He ever lives above,
For me to intercede.
His all redeeming love,
His precious blood to plead.
His blood atoned for every race,
His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Arise *Echo: Arise*
Arise *Echo: Arise*
Arise *All: Arise my soul, arise*
(Repeat)
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

Five bleeding wounds he bears,
Received on Calvary.
They pour effectual prayers,
They strongly plead for me.
Forgive him, O forgive they cry.
Forgive him, O forgive they cry,
Don't let that ransomed sinner die.

My God is reconciled,
His pardoning voice I hear;
He owns me for his child,
I can no longer fear;
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

(Words: Charles Wesley 1747; Music: Lowell Mason 1839)

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled chest!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest.
Take away our love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
Till with heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Scripture Reading: Genesis 28:10-17 & John 1:51

Your Grace Is Enough

(Words & Music: Matt Maher 2003)

Great is Your faithfulness O God of Jacob
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
Where nothing can keep us apart

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

*For Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me*

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Call to Confession: 2 Corinthians 7:1

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

Prayer of Confession:

Father, you are perfect in holiness and you dwell in unapproachable light. Our every desire is darkened by sin and even our best deeds are far from perfect. Show us Christ our savior, our righteousness, and our Lord. Give us faith to rest in him.

You have called us your children and you have called us to be holy. We can't be holy on our own. We cannot purify our own hearts and we lack strength to do what is right continually. Show us the power of your Spirit to make dead things live. Give us grace to turn from sin and walk each step with Jesus.

You have promised that you will finish this work and make us new in Jesus. But, our hope is often dim as our minds are darkened by the temptations and failures of this present age. Show us the glory of who we will be in Christ. Give us hope that we might think and live differently. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 9:13-15

For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Take a moment and fill out your care card and please use offering bags or direct giving online or via mail (cityreformed.org/give; 3929 Coleman St., 15207).

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!

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 from G8 after the sermon from Children's Church.

Sermon: 2 Peter 1:1-4
"A Faith of Equal Standing"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,
To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with
ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:
²May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge
of God and of Jesus our Lord.

³His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to
life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called
us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴by which he has granted
to us his precious and very great promises, so that through
them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having
escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of
sinful desire.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Matthew 28:19-20 / "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

John 14:1 / "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?"

John 16:33 / "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

1 Corinthians 1:19-21 / For 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. For 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. And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us,

Hebrews 11:13 / These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

Scriptural Response: Hebrews 6:17-18

So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

Songs of Thanksgiving

How Firm a Foundation

(Words: R. Keene & George Keith 1787; Music: American Folk)

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God, I will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of grief shall not thee overflow,
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress."

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply,
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine."

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not, desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to break,
I will never, no, never, no, never forsake."

Psalm 62 | I'll Not Be Shaken

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2015)

For God alone I wait in silence
My soul is still before the Lord
He is my rock and my salvation
My fortress strong I trust in Him

*I'll not be shaken I'll not be shaken
For all my hope is in His love
From God alone comes my salvation
I'll wait and trust His steadfast love*

Put not your hope in gain of riches
Seek not your rest in empty wealth
The rich are weak the poor are mighty
Who turn to God alone for help

Pour out your heart to God our refuge
And trust in Him to hear you cry
No other hope will never fail you
No other love will not run dry

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Reverend John McCombs will be preaching from Acts 2:41-47 "Life in the Spirit."

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>College Shuttle Schedule</p>	<p>9:30AM- PPU: 201 Wood St; Contact: Kaia: kaianoeljohnson@gmail.com 9:45AM- Pitt: 4024 O'Hara St; Contact: Maya: mayakang523@gmail.com or David: DGT12@pitt.edu)</p>
<p>Membership Class: September 22-23 Fri PM & Sat AM</p>	<p>Are you new to City Reformed? Would you like to learn more about our church? Are you interested in becoming a member? Join us as we give a broad overview of our ministry, theology, and church structure! Contact nameun@cityreformed.org for more information</p>
<p>Newcomers Lounge, 9/17 & 9/24</p>	<p>If you're visiting our church and would like to connect with other leaders/members after the service, please join us in room G8 for a dedicated welcoming space. Coffee, refreshments, and a warm smile will be provided!</p>
<p>The Great Race September 24</p>	<p>The Great Race will affect your commute Sunday, Sept 24. Please refer to this map to avoid traffic! https://tinyurl.com/CRPCgreatRace</p>
<p>Building Work Day September 30 9AM-3PM</p>	<p>We will be renovating the Greenfield Chapel, including clearing out the organ and pointing brick. All skill levels are welcome. We are so grateful for you considering spending a couple of hours helping us. For more information, contact Gary: gatcheson@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Personal Bible Study Workshop Greenfield Church October 7 9:20AMm -12PM</p>	<p>Struggling to read the Bible? Our desire for this gift ebbs and flows but as Peter said to Jesus, "to whom shall we go, you have the words of eternal life." Join with women from City for a workshop on personal Bible study led by Callie Miller..</p>
<p>Annual Women's Mentor Program Lunch October 15 After church!</p>	<p>The Women's Discipleship Committee invites women of all ages to join us in the WT cafeteria for homemade soups and desserts and to meet with friends old and new Sunday immediately following the worship service. Also included will be time to learn about the mentor program and to hear the experiences of some of our mentors and mentees. Contact sandy@cityreformed.org for more info.</p>
<p>Men of CRPC! October 14 3PM</p>	<p>SAVE THE DATE! Fall Men's Event at Deer Lakes Park! Disc golf, ultimate frisbee or simply hanging out, grilling of various meats, all free (except you bring your own picnic!).</p>
<p>Thanksgiving Dinner November 11</p>	<p>SAVE THE DATE! We will celebrate & give thanks with one another Nov 11th - Please mark on your calendar. This is one of our favorite events!</p>

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Agora Forum: Every other Monday @ 7PM: 3929 Coleman</p>	<p>We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. The next meeting is September 18. We will begin a new series on "Arguments for an Old Earth", led by Dr. Snoke. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com).</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: Monthly</p>	<p>Although many of us are retired, anyone who is free for lunch, please join us (and bring a friend!) at 12pm once a month. Contact Joe Stehle: joestehle@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Mommies' Discipleship Group: 2nd & 4th Thursdays</p>	<p>Join us for a time of fellowship and encouragement as we pray for one another and study the book of Hebrews. Contact Sandy for more info: sandy@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Men's Discipleship</p>	<p>Please contact Adam Schwab (ahs27@pitt.edu) if you are interested in getting more connected.</p>
<p>Wednesday Prayer Meetings: 8:30-9:30 AM</p>	<p>Join our staff as they pray for our church. Wednesday weekly prayer is held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer.</p>
<p>Global Mission Prayer: Mondays @9PM</p>	<p>Join our church in prayer for our mission partners. This week we will be praying for PRISM. Zoom link: https://tinyurl.com/crpcglobalprayer.</p>
<p>CRPC GriefShare Thursdays @ 6:30 PM 3929 Coleman St.</p>	<p>Contact katrina.campbell.170@gmail.com or check out www.griefshare.org for more information about this biblically-based grief support group. Register at: https://www.griefshare.org/groups/170387</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group</p>	<p>*New Leader & Location*: Wednesdays bi-weekly @ 7PM at Amelia Morrissey's Home on the North Side. For more info, contact Lindsay Karr (lindsay.karr@gmail.com) .</p>
<p>Youth Group Wednesdays @6:30-8:30 PM @ EVO 250 S. Pacific Ave., Pittsburgh, PA, 15224.</p>	<p>All middle and high school youth are welcome to join us, 6th through 12th grade. Please contact Amy Channell (amylee012012@gmail.com), Elizabeth McMillan (elizabeth.mcmillan20@gmail.com) or Pastor John (john@cityreformed.org) for more information. FYI, future fall dates are 9/27, 10/11, 10/25, 11/8, and 12/6</p>

Employment & Volunteer Needs

<p>Sound Director Need</p>	<p>City Reformed is looking for a part-time Sound Director to begin as soon as possible. Job description available, please send resume and interest to Nameun Cho (nameun@cityreformed.org).</p>
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Groups

College Students please refer to campus ministry contacts below:

- CMU: Nameun Cho (nameun@cityreformed.org)
- 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

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)
- **Young Women's Discipleship Group** (lindsay.karr@gmail.com)
- **Ultimate 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:
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David Bacon:
bacon1986@gmail.com

Jim Partridge:
partridge.je6@gmail.com

Joe Stehle:
joestehle@gmail.com

Dave Snoke:
snoke@hey.com

Women's Ministry Council

Debbie Bacon: dpasewark@gmail.com

Sarah Cho: sarahjycho@gmail.com

Rachael Leuenberger: raleuen@gmail.com

Sandy Snoke: sandy@cityreformed.org

Irene Winkler: renew77@gmail.com

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Deacons

Gary Atcheson: gatcheson@gmail.com

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Daniel Toney: danielrtoney@gmail.com