



**Sunday Evening Communion Service
September 17, 2023**

"And he [Luke] beginneth with doctrine which is, as it were, the soul of the Church. Neither doth he name all manner of doctrine, but the doctrine of the apostles, that is, that which the Son of God had delivered by their hands. Therefore, wheresoever the pure voice of the gospel doth sound, where men continue in the profession thereof, where they exercise themselves in hearing the same ordinarily that they may profit, without all doubt there is the Church."

—John Calvin on Acts 2:42

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Worship – September 17, 2023

Call to Worship: Isaiah 55:1,12

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

Leader Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

People **And he who has no money, come, buy and eat!**

Leader Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

People **For we shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace.**

Leader The mountains and the hills before us shall break forth into singing,

People **And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**

Prayer of Invocation

Come Ye Sinners

(Words: Joseph Hart 1759; Music: Southern Harmony Folk 1835; Arrangement: Daniel Snake 2018)

Come ye sinners, poor and needy
Weak and wounded, sick and sore
Jesus ready stands to save you
Full of pity love and pow'r
He is able, He is able
He is willing doubt no more

Come ye thirsty, come and welcome
God's free bounty, glorify
True belief and true repentance
Ever'y grace that brings you nigh
Without money, without money
Come to Jesus Christ and buy

Let not conscience make you linger
Nor of fitness fondly dream
All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him
This He gives you, this He gives you
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Come ye weary, heavy laden
Bruised and broken by the Fall
If you tarry 'till you're better
You will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous
Sinners Jesus came to call.

Agonizing in the garden
Lo! your Master prostrate lies
On the bloody tree behold Him
Hear Him cry before he dies
"It is finished, it is finished"
Sinner, will not this suffice?

(continued on next page)

Lo! incarnate God ascended
Pleads the merit of His blood
Venture on Him, venture wholly
Let no other trust intrude
None but Jesus, none but Jesus
Can do helpless sinners good.

Saints and angels joined in concert
Sing the praises of the Lamb
While the blissful seats of heaven
Sweetly echo with His name
"Hallelujah, hallelujah!"
Sinners here may do the same.

Psalm 95 | Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down

(Words & Music: Dave Doherty 1980)

Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord
Our God our Maker
Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord
Our God our Maker
For He is our God
And we are the people of His pasture
And the sheep of His hand
Just the sheep of His hand

Call to Confession: Acts 2:37-39

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."

Prayer of Confession: Psalm 25:1-2, 4-7, 11

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long. Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD! For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 25:3a, 8-10

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame... Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

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).

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart

(Words: George Croly 1854; Music: Daniel Snoko 2020)

Spirit of God descend upon my heart
Wean it from sin through all its pulses move
Stoop to my weakness mighty as Thou art
Make me to love Thee as I ought to love
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

I ask no dream no prophet ecstasies
No sudden rending of the veil of clay
No angel vision no revealing skies
Take now the dimness of my soul away
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee God and King
All all Thine own soul heart and strength and mind
I see the cross there teach my heart to cling
O let me seek Thee O and let me find
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear
Come check my rising doubt, my rebel sigh
Teach me the patience of unanswered pray'r
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love
One holy passion filling all my frame
Baptize my life with heav'ns descended Dove
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Scripture & Homily: Acts 2:22-41

"The Gospel Defined"

- Reverend John McCombs

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

⁴²And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Genesis 3:8a / And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...

Exodus 3:2 /And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.

Leviticus 26:12 / And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people.

John 1:14 / And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 14:16-17, 26/ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you... But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

John 16:7, 13-14/ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you...When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Acts 2:1-4, 17-18, 33, 38 / When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance... "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy... Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing... 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..."

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

O God of Our Salvation

(Words & Music: Michael Bleecker and Matt Boswell 2009)

O God of our salvation
Who reigns upon the throne
The sov'reign Father great is He
From Whom all blessings flow

*O God of our salvation
From Whom redemption comes
O Father Son and Spirit
The blessed Three in One*

Behold the Son our Savior
Who for our sin was slain
The Christ Who purchased with His blood
The wretched souls of men

O God the Holy Spirit
Revealing deity
The fount of life and love divine
Throughout eternity

For All the Saints

(Words: William W. How 1864; Music: Christopher Miner 1997)

For all the saints,
Who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith
Before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus,
Be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...

Thou wast their rock,
Their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain
In the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness
Drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Allelu...

O blest communion,
Fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle,
They in glory shine;
Yet all are one in
Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia, Allelu...

The golden evening
brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful
warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm
of paradise the blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...

But lo! There breaks
a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant
rise in bright array;
The King of glory
passes on his way,
Alleluia, Allelu...

(continued on next page)

From earth's wide bounds,
from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father,
Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

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All scripture verses are the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise noted.