



Sunday Evening Service
September 16, 2018

Welcome to City Reformed on Sunday Evenings

We expect that many people who are with us may not be familiar with Christianity or the way our worship service is structured. Please feel free to stick around after the service and ask questions about who we are and what we do. This Sunday evening service is part of City Reformed Presbyterian Church, which also meets on Sunday mornings in Oakland.

City Reformed Worship Schedule:

Oakland location: (*Lord's Supper on the 1st Sunday of the Month*)

9:00 AM Christian Education (all ages)

10:15 AM Worship Service (Children's Church for kids 4-7)

11:45 AM Food & fellowship

Squirrel Hill location: (*Lord's Supper on the 3rd Sunday of the Month*)

6:30 PM Worship Service

8:00 PM "Grill the Preacher" Q&A, food and fellowship

What kind of Church is City Reformed?

- 1) We have a very high view of the Bible ("inerrancy"). We believe that it is God's good Word to us, and it applies to all of life.
- 2) We are "Gospel-centered"—we preach the good news of grace through Jesus to all people, no matter how deep their problems. The Gospel compels us to engage the city around us, it calls us to renew our minds, it draws us together to be the family of God, and it directs our worship to the living God.
- 3) We are linked to the historic Protestant church ("evangelical") & to other Christians throughout the world.
- 4) We are a part of a denomination called the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). The term "presbyterian" means that we believe in shared leadership in the church & checks and balances on our leaders.

For more information visit www.cityreformed.org.

How do I connect?

We would love to get to know you! Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments after the worship service. If you would like to contact a pastor please send us an email: joseph@cityreformed.org. The best way to meet other members of our congregation is to visit one of our community groups (listed on page 8.) The groups are always open for visitors, and brand new groups form throughout the year.

Evening Service Coordinator:

John McCombs, Assistant Pastor: john@cityreformed.org

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Worship
September 16, 2018

Sin is cosmic treason. Sin is treason against a perfectly pure Sovereign. It is an act of supreme ingratitude toward the One to whom we owe everything, to the One who has given us life itself. Have you ever considered the deeper implications of the slightest sin, of the most minute peccadillo? What are we saying to our Creator when we disobey Him at the slightest point? We are saying no to the righteousness of God. We are saying, “God, Your law is not good. My judgement is better than Yours. Your authority does not apply to me. I am above and beyond Your jurisdiction. I have the right to do what I want to do, not what You command me to do.”

We may dislike giving our attention to God’s wrath and justice, but until we incline ourselves to these aspects of God’s nature, we will never appreciate what has been wrought for us by grace. Even Edwards’s sermon on sinners in God’s hands was not designed to stress the flames of hell. The resounding accent falls not on the fiery pit but on the hands of the God who holds us and rescues us from it. The hands of God are gracious hands. They alone have the power to rescue us from certain destruction.

- R.C. Sproul, *The Holiness of God*

Worship Service

Presider: Reverend John McCombs

Please stand for the call to worship if you are able.

Call to Worship: Revelation 4:4-6, 8-11

Leader: Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind...

People: **And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"**

Leader: And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

People: **"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."**

Prayer of Invocation

ARISE MY SOUL ARISE

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.

Chorus

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.

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 10:10-14

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

What wondrous love is this
O my soul O my soul
What wondrous love is this O my soul
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul for my soul
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul

When I was sinking down
Sinking down sinking down
When I was sinking down sinking down
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul for my soul
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul

To God and to the Lamb
I will sing I will sing
To God and to the Lamb I will sing
To God and to the Lamb
Who is the Great I Am
While millions join the theme
I will sing I will sing
While millions join the theme I will sing

And when from death I'm free
I'll sing on I'll sing on
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be
And thro' eternity I'll sing on I'll sing on
And thro' eternity I'll sing on

And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be
And thro' eternity I'll sing on I'll sing on
And thro' eternity I'll sing on

Call to Confession: Matthew 12:33-37

“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Prayer of Confession: Psalm 25:4-5, 11-12, 16-18

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... For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose... Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 25:14

The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.

Song of Renewal

LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

Let us love and sing and wonder,
Let us praise the Savior's name,
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame,
He has washed us with his blood (3x),
He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who brought us,
Pitied us when enemies.
Called us by his grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes.
He has washed us with his blood (3x),
He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing though fierce temptations
Threaten hard to bear us down.
For the Lord our strong salvation
Holds in view the conqueror's crown
He who washed us with his blood (3x),
Soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store.
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more.
He who washed us with his blood (3x),
Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high.
Here they trusted him before us
Now their praises fill the sky.
You have washed us with your blood (3x),
You are worthy, Lamb of God

Corporate & Pastoral Prayer

Additional Scripture

Proverbs 17:5 Whoever mocks the poor insults his Maker; he who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 22:2 The rich and the poor meet together; the LORD is the Maker of them all.

Proverbs 24:12 If you say, "Behold, we did not know this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?

Proverbs 29:13 The poor man and the oppressor meet together; the Lord gives light to the eyes of both.

Luke 16:15 And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

Romans 3:25 ...whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

Hebrews 9:22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Revelation 2:23 ...and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works.

Revelation 19:1-2 After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

Sermon

Psalm 94

¹O LORD, God of vengeance,
O God of vengeance, shine forth!
²Rise up, O judge of the earth;
repay to the proud what they deserve!
³O LORD, how long shall the wicked,
how long shall the wicked exult?
⁴They pour out their arrogant words;
all the evildoers boast.
⁵They crush your people, O LORD,
and afflict your heritage.
⁶They kill the widow and the sojourner,
and murder the fatherless;
⁷and they say, “The LORD does not see;
the God of Jacob does not perceive.”
⁸Understand, O dullest of the people!
Fools, when will you be wise?
⁹He who planted the ear, does he not hear?
He who formed the eye, does he not see?
¹⁰He who disciplines the nations, does he not
rebuke?
He who teaches man knowledge—
¹¹the LORD—knows the thoughts of man,
that they are but a breath.

¹²Blessed is the man whom you discipline, O LORD,
and whom you teach out of your law,
¹³to give him rest from days of trouble,
until a pit is dug for the wicked.
¹⁴For the LORD will not forsake his people;
he will not abandon his heritage;
¹⁵for justice will return to the righteous,
and all the upright in heart will follow it.
¹⁶Who rises up for me against the wicked?
Who stands up for me against evildoers?
¹⁷If the LORD had not been my help,
my soul would soon have lived in the land of
silence.
¹⁸When I thought, “My foot slips,”
your steadfast love, O LORD, held me up.
¹⁹When the cares of my heart are many,
your consolations cheer my soul.
²⁰Can wicked rulers be allied with you,
those who frame injustice by statute?
²¹They band together against the life of the righteous
and condemn the innocent to death.
²²But the LORD has become my stronghold,
and my God the rock of my refuge.
²³He will bring back on them their iniquity
and wipe them out for their wickedness;
the LORD our God will wipe them out.

“God’s Justice”
- David Snoko

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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 will be served by elders to several people at a time at the front of the Church. When you are ready, please proceed up using the left aisle. At the ushers' guidance, you may move forward to receive the elements as a group. Please return to your seat using the right aisle.

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. There is also gluten-free bread available on each plate.

Songs of Communion

OH LORD YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL

Oh Lord You're beautiful

Your face is all I seek

And when Your eyes are on this child

Your grace abounds to me

Oh Lord, You're merciful

Your love is all we need

And when Your love is with your church

Forgiveness we receive.

JESUS I COME

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,

Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light

Jesus, I come to Thee,

Out of my sickness into Thy health,

Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,

Out of my sin and into Thyself,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,

Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,

Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,

Out of distress into jubilant psalm,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,

Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into Thy blessed will to abide,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,

Out of despair into raptures above,

Upward forever on wings like a dove,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,

Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the joy and light of Thy home,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the depths of ruin untold,

Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,

Ever Thy glorious face to behold,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

DOXOLOGY

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

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction