



Sunday Evening Service
January 26, 2020

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. Please feel free to stick around after the service and ask questions about who we are and what we do! If you would like more information, please refer to our print newsletter, *City This Month*, or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Reflections

...not only can the sufferings of believers be viewed as Christ's and as being conformed to his death, but also the personal, past-historical sufferings of Christ and the present afflictions of the church are seen together as constituting one whole. Again, certainly not in the sense that the sufferings of the church have some additive atoning, reconciling value.

- Richard Gaffin, theologian and seminary professor, commenting on
Colossians 1:24

...the J-Curve, the idea, frequently articulated by the apostle Paul, that the normal Christian life repeatedly re-enacts the dying and the rising of Jesus. I call it the J-Curve because, like the letter J, Jesus's life first went down into death, then up into resurrection.

- Paul Miller, author and director, see Jesus Ministries

Where in the world is *Carmen Sandiego*?

- Popular '80's mystery video game

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM *Starting February 2020*
Winchester Thurston School
Entrance: 5059 Ellsworth Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Oakland)

Church Office (Open Tues - Fri)

3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
t: 412-720-7014
e: office@cityreformed.org
w: cityreformed.org

Sunday Evening Worship Service

6:00PM
3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207 (Greenfield)

Donations

Online: cityreformed.org/give
Mail: to the Church Office address above
"Attn: Allison" (please make checks payable to
City Reformed Presbyterian Church)

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Worship – January 26, 2020
Presider: Reverend John McCombs

Call to Worship: Philippians 2:5-11

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

Leader Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

People **Who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,**

Leader But emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

People **And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.**

Leader Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

People **So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

Prayer of Invocation

Lion and the Lamb

(Words & Music: Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, & Leeland Mooring 2015)

He's coming on the clouds
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break
As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord almighty

(continued on next page)

*Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him*

*Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sin of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
And every knee will bow before Him*

So open up the gates
Make way before the King of kings
Our God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord almighty

Who can stop the Lord almighty
Who can stop the Lord almighty
Repeat

King of Kings

(Words & Music Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, and Scott Ligertwood 2018)

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
'Till from heaven you came running
There was mercy in your eyes
To fulfill the Law and Prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

*Praise the Father praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
Now we see that in your suff'ring
You saw glory to behold
Knowing you were our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

For the morning that you rose
All of heaven held its breath
'Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
Then the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are re-stored

Then the Church of Christ was born
And the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By his blood and in his name
In his freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Catechism Readings: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 27. What did Christ's humiliation consist of?

A. Christ's humiliation consisted of his being born in a low condition, living under the Law, undergoing the miseries of this life, undergoing the wrath of God and the cursed death of the Cross, and in being buried and continuing under the power of death for a time.

Q. 28. What does Christ's exaltation consist of?

A. Christ's exaltation consists of his rising again from the dead on the third day, ascending to heaven, sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and coming to judge the world on the last day.

Call to Confession: Psalm 25:8-10

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.

Prayer of Confession

Father, we confess that your ways are not our ways. Your Word says that your power is perfected in weakness, but we want your power displayed through our strength. We want the Christian life on our own terms. Forgive us, Father, for such pride and arrogance.

Lord Jesus, you have perfectly modeled dependent faith in the midst of humiliation. Your life of humble submission to your Father's will was all for love. You now reign in exaltation at His right hand and will return in glory to make all things new. Give us eyes to see and hearts to believe this great truth!

Holy Spirit of promise, as you have knit the hearts and lives of your people, the church, into the life of our Saviour by faith, would you enable us to re-enact His dying and rising moment-by-moment, day-by-day, all for His glory. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: James 4:6, 10

But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ...Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We do not take a formal offering in our evening service. If you feel led to contribute as an act of worship, an offering box is available in the back corner of the sanctuary.

His Mercy Is More

(Words & Music: Matt Boswell and Matt Papa 2016)

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness new every morn
Our sins they are many His mercy is more*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

"Do We Have the Wrong Map for the Christian Life?"

- Elder Jim Partridge

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

1 Corinthians 4:7 / For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 / But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Philippians 1:29 / For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake..

Philippians 3:8-11 / Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Colossians 1:24 / Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church...

Song of Thanksgiving

Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

(Words: Henry Lyte 1825; Music: Bill Moore 2001)

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition!
God and heaven are still my own.

(continued on next page)

Let the world despise and leave me,
They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me,
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,
Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,
With Thy favor, loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father,
I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;
All must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation
Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station,
Something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,
Think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee,
Child of heaven, canst thou repine?

Haste thee on from grace to glory,
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee,
God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition,
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction