



**Sunday Morning Worship
November 24, 2019**

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. Please stop by the Welcome Table in the foyer - we would love to meet you! If you would like more information, please fill out one of the info cards on the table, refer to our print newsletter, *City This Month*, or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Reflections

They say that Richard Cory owns one-half of this whole town
With political connections to spread his wealth around.
Born into society, a banker's only child
He had everything a man could want, power, grace and style.
But I work in his factory
And I curse the life I'm living
And I curse my poverty
And I wish that I could be
Oh, I wish that I could be
Oh, I wish that I could be Richard Cory.

- "Richard Cory", by Simon and Garfunkel

Please speak to an usher or greeter if you have any questions about the nursery and children's programs.

- *There is a nursery for children infant – 3 during the service.*
- *Cry Room space is available during the service off the foyer and Board Room.*
- *Children's bulletins are available at the side table for those staying in service.*
- *During the sermon, children 4 – 7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church.*

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – November 24, 2019

Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: 2 Corinthians 4:5-11

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

Leader For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

People **For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Leader But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

People **We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;**

Leader Always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

People **For 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.**

Prayer of Invocation

I Know That My Redeemer Lives - Glory Hallelujah

(Words: Samuel Medley 1775; Music: Southern Harmony American Folk Melody 1900s)

I know that my redeemer lives,
Glory hallelujah!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives,
Glory hallelujah!

*Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground,
Glory hallelujah!
The dead's alive and the lost is found,
Glory hallelujah!*

He lives, he lives, who once was dead,
Glory hallelujah!
He lives, my everlasting Head,
Glory hallelujah!

He lives to bless me with his love,
Glory hallelujah!
He lives to plead for me above,
Glory hallelujah!

He lives, all glory to his name,
Glory hallelujah!
He lives my Jesus, still the same,
Glory hallelujah!

Scripture Reading: Psalm 27:1-6

Psalm 27 | The Everlasting

(Words & Music: Fellowship Church 2010)

The Lord is my light and salvation
Whom shall I fear, of whom shall I be afraid?
The Lord is the strength of my life,
Whom shall I fear, of whom shall I be afraid?

I will wait for you, I will wait for you.
I will wait for you, I will wait for you.

I will remain confident in this
I will see the goodness of the Lord
I will remain confident in this
I will see the goodness of the Lord

We set our hope on You.
We set our hope on Your love.
We set our hope on the Lord,
Who is the everlasting God.
You are the everlasting God

Psalm 24 | We Long to See You

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2015)

Almighty God, we long to see you.
Open our hearts and make them pure.
Spirit, we wash our hands in mercy.
Come teach our souls to love your truth.

Call to Confession: 1 John 3:2-3

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Prayer of Confession

Father, you love your people as we are. But you also are working to change us. You have promised that your eternal purposes include forming us into the image of your Son, Jesus Christ. We confess that instead of seeking to grow up into maturity, we are too often content to remain the same. Change seems scary and we value comfort and security too much. Help us to see the glory of the cross and the beauty of our upward call in Christ. Help us to know Jesus better and become more like him. We pray that your love would fill our hearts and lead us to truly love our brothers and sisters. Do this, so that Jesus will be glorified in our lives. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 3:1

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

As offering bags are passed, we ask that members and regular attendees consider contributing as an act of worship. Those who are not a regular part of our church are not expected to participate.

No Longer Slaves

(Words & Music: Jonathan David Helser & Melissa Helser 2014)

You unravel me with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone

*I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God*

From my Mother's womb
You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again into Your family
Your blood flows through my veins

You split the sea so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. The leaders will bring the children to Children's Church and then back to the worship service after the sermon.

Sermon: Matthew 5:1-16

The Gospel of Matthew Part 1

"Kingdom J-Curve" - Reverend Matt Koerber

^{4:17}From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Matthew 16:24-26 / Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?"

Galatians 2:20-21 / I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

Creedal Response: 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.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final songs if you are able.

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.

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.

Man may trouble and distress me,
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.
Life with trials hard may press me;
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me
While Thy love is left to me;
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

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.

The Anthem

(Words & Music: Henry Seeley, Jonathan Hunt, & Liz Webber 2007)

By His stripes we are healed
By His nail pierced hands we're free
By His blood we're washed clean
Now we have the victory

The pow'r of sin is broken
Jesus overcame it all
He has won our freedom
Jesus has won it all

*Hallelujah You have won the victory
Hallelujah You have won it all for me
'Cause death could not hold You down
You are the risen King
Seated in majesty
You are the risen King*

Our God is risen
He is alive
He won the victory
He reigns on high

Prayer

Announcements

At the beginning of announcements parents are dismissed to pick up their children from nursery.

Benediction

Tonight's Evening Service: Reverend Nameun Cho will be preaching "The Slipperiest of Slopes" on Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-13.