



**Sunday Evening Service
December 1, 2019**

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

It is of God's mercy or grace alone that there is a way of escape for sinful men. It is also by God's power alone that sinful men are enabled to make escape from the estate of sin and misery.

- G.I. Williamson, "The Westminster Shorter Catechism: For Study Classes"

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM
Twentieth Century Club
4201 Bigelow Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Oakland)

Church Office (Open Tues - Fri)

3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
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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 – December 1, 2019

Presider: Reverend Matt Koerber

Call to Worship: Matthew 11:28-30

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

Leader Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden,

People **And I will give you rest**

Leader Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle
and lowly in heart,

People **And you will find rest for your souls.**

Leader For my yoke is easy,

People **And my burden is light.**

Prayer of Invocation

O Come To The Altar

(Words & Music: Christopher Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick, & Wade Joye 2015)

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

*O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ*

(continued on next page)

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

O Come O Come Emmanuel

(Words: 1400's French Mass; Music: Veni Emmanuel Chant)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times did give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, Thou Son of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Catechism Readings: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 16. Did all mankind fall in Adam's first transgression?

A. Because the covenant was made with Adam not only for himself, but also for his posterity, all mankind descending from him by natural generation sinned in him and fell with him in his first transgression.

Q. 17. What state did the fall bring for mankind?

A. The fall brought mankind to a state of *sin* and *misery*.

Q. 18. What does the sinfulness of that state into which mankind fell consist of?

A. The sinfulness of that state into which mankind fell consists in the guilt of Adam's first sin, the lack of the righteousness in which he was created, and the corruption of our whole nature; this is commonly called original sin; in addition there are all the actual transgressions which proceed from it.

Q. 19. What is the misery of that state into which mankind fell?

A. All mankind by their fall lost communion with God, are under his wrath and curse, and so are made liable to all the miseries in this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.

Call to Confession: Psalm 53:1-3

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good. God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

Prayer of Confession: Adapted from *The Valley of Vision*

O Lord, my every sense, whole body, mind and heart, causes me to stumble; I can barely open my eyes without envy for those above me, or spite for those below. I covet honor and riches of the mighty, and am proud and unmerciful to the rags of others; if I see beauty, it only causes me lust; if I see deformity, it stirs up loathing and disdain; how quickly does slander, boasting, and reckless speech creep into my heart! You know that all this comes from my corrupt heart, and that my greatest snare is myself. Forgive me for my dull apprehensions, my mean thoughts, my corrupt affections, my low expressions, and my sinful life; what can be expected of dust but levity, of corruption but defilement? Keep me ever mindful of my natural state, but let me not forget my heavenly title, or the grace of Jesus Christ, that can deal with every sin. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Romans 5:17-19

For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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.

Psalm 51 | God Be Merciful To Me

(Words: Richard Redhead 1912; Music: Christopher Miner 1997)

God, be merciful to me,
On Thy grace I rest my plea;
Plenteous in compassion Thou,
Blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within,
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess,
Grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against Thy grace
And provoked Thee to Thy face;
I confess Thy judgment just.
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin;
Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art,
Teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow,
Wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust
By Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice
And in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face,
Blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew,
Make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee,
Let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart,
Steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me,
And return, O God, to Thee.
Savior, all my guilt remove,
And my tongue shall sing Thy love.
Touch my silent lips, O Lord,
And my mouth shall praise accord.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Romans 3:9-26

"The Redemption That Is In Christ Jesus"

- Reverend John McCombs

What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, ¹⁰as it is written:

“None is righteous, no, not one;

¹¹no one understands;
no one seeks for God.

¹²All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
no one does good,
not even one.”

¹³“Their throat is an open grave;
they use their tongues to deceive.”

“The venom of asps is under their lips.”

¹⁴“Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.”

¹⁵“Their feet are swift to shed blood;

¹⁶in their paths are ruin and misery,

¹⁷and the way of peace they have not known.”

¹⁸“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ

for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom 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. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Song of Thanksgiving

Oh Give Thanks To The Lord

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2014)

We were wand'ring in the desert with our souls so starved and weak.
We were hungry for a homeland we did not know how to seek.
But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears;
And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

We were locked out of the garden, and our backs bent down with pain.
In the shadow of death's darkness, we were slaves to sin and blame.
Then we cried out in our labor to the only One who hears,
And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

*Oh give thanks to the LORD for His love endures forever!
We were wandering and lost, and our Father brought us home,
To a safe dwelling place, to a feast of joy and laughter.
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!*

We were fools in our rebellion, with our hunger strike of pride.
We were sick and growing closer to the death we should have died.
Then he heard of our condition, and he called us by our names;
And the God of glory took away our shame.

We were far out on the ocean, making wealth and chasing dreams,
But the waves of great destruction brought us tremb'ling to our knees.
Then we cried like drunken sailors to the only One who hears,
And the God of comfort took away our fears.

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction