



**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**April 28, 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](http://cityreformed.org).

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## Reflections

And the Church must be forever building, and always decaying, and always being restored.

- T.S. Elliot, "Choruses from the Rock"

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*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 in the foyer and Board Room.*
- *Children's bulletins are available at the side table for those staying in service.*
- *During the service, children 4 – 7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church.*

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – April 28, 2019

Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

## Call to Worship: 2 Corinthians 3:17-4:1, 4:5-6

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

**Leader** Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

**People** **And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.**

**Leader** For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

**People** **Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart...**

**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.**

## Prayer of Invocation

### Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

*(Words: Charles Wesley 1739; Music: John Walsh 1708)*

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

*(continued on next page)*

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Lo! the Sun's eclipse is o'er, Alleluia!  
Lo! He sets in blood no more, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and Heaven, Alleluia!  
Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!  
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!  
Hail, the resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

## **Eastertide Reading: Colossians 3:1-4**

### **In Christ Alone**

*(Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend 2001)*

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my all in all  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless Babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No pow'r of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

## 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

## **Call to Confession: 2 Corinthians 4:7, 16-18**

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us... So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

## **Prayer of Confession**

O God, we confess we have often been apathetic, failing to seek or even care about justice in the affairs that surround us. We have failed to truly love and value mercy as You do, nor extend it to others as You have to us. Our walk before you is frequently characterized by presumption rather than humility. Though we are but jars of clay, you have chosen us to be vessels of Your mercy and grace to a hurting world. Make us to respond to your love by displaying and extending the gospel of grace in word and deed to others with the joy of the Lord as our strength. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon: 2 Corinthians 5:17-19**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

## **Testimony: Andy & Bev Warren, MTW Missionaries to Ethiopia**

## **Corporate Prayer**

# Song of Renewal

*During this song we will pass offering bags through the congregation. We ask that our members and regular attendees thoughtfully consider their contribution as an act of worship - a response to God's grace in our lives. Those who are not a regular part of our church are not expected to participate in the offering.*

## Christ Is Risen

*(Words & Music: Mia Fieldes and Matt Maher 2009)*

Let no one caught in sin  
Remain inside the lie of inward shame  
But fix our eyes upon the cross  
And run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us  
Freely You've bled for us

*Christ is risen from the dead  
Trampling over death by death  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave  
Christ is risen from the dead  
We are one with Him again  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave*

Beneath the weight of all our sin  
You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown  
No burden great can hold You down  
In strength You reign  
Forever let Your church proclaim

O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
The glory of God has defeated the night  
Singing O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
Our God is not dead  
He's alive He's alive

## 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: Nehemiah 1:1-11

### Nehemiah: Restoration After Exile

"Tears and Prayers for a Broken City" - Reverend Matt Koerber

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The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, <sup>2</sup>that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."

<sup>4</sup>As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. <sup>5</sup>And I said, "O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, <sup>6</sup>let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. <sup>7</sup>We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses. <sup>8</sup>Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, <sup>9</sup>but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' <sup>10</sup>They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. <sup>11</sup>O



Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.” Now I was cupbearer to the king.

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Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Additional Scripture

Deuteronomy 30:1-5 / "And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you, and return to the LORD your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you. If your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there he will take you. And the LORD your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed, that you may possess it. And he will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers."

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## Creedal Response: Westminster Larger Catechism

Q100. What does the preface of the Lord's prayer teach us?

**A. The preface of the Lord's prayer, which is, "Our Father who is in heaven," teaches us to draw near to God with a full holy reverence and confidence, and as children who draw near to a father able and ready to help us. Also (in using the plural our), it teaches us that we should pray with and for others.**

# Songs of Thanksgiving

*Please stand for the final songs if you are able.*

## **This I Believe - Apostles' Creed**

*(Words & Music: Ben Fielding & Matt Crocker 2014)*

Our Father everlasting  
The all creating One  
God Almighty  
Through Your Holy Spirit  
Conceiving Christ the Son  
Jesus our Saviour

*I believe in God our Father  
I believe in Christ the Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit  
Our God is three in One  
I believe in the resurrection  
That we will rise again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus*

Our judge and our defender  
Suffered and crucified  
Forgiveness is in You  
Descended into darkness  
You rose in glorious life  
Forever seated high

*I believe in life eternal  
I believe in the virgin birth  
I believe in the saints' communion  
And in Your holy Church  
I believe in the resurrection  
When Jesus comes again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus*

## **I Know That My Redeemer Lives**

*(Words: Samuel Medley 1775; Music: "Duke Street" John Warrington Hatton 1793)*

I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my everlasting Head.

*(continued on next page)*

He lives, my kind, wise, constant Friend,  
Who still will keep me to the end.  
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;  
Jesus, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives to silence all my fears,  
He lives to wipe away my tears  
He lives to calm my troubled heart,  
He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives to bless me with His love,  
He lives to lead for me above.  
He lives to raise me from the grave,  
And me eternally to save.

He lives my hungry soul to feed,  
He lives to help in time of need.  
He lives to comfort me when faint,  
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

He lives to grant me daily breath,  
He lives and I shall conquer death.  
He lives, all glory to His name,  
Jesus unchangeably the same.

## 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 "Living in the Present" on 1 Peter 4:1-11.***