



Sunday Morning Worship
September 15, 2024

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. If you would like more information, please contact us at office@cityreformed.org or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Reflections

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

– Reinhold Niebuhr

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM
Winchester Thurston Auditorium
5059 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

Sunday Evening Worship Service

5:30PM
Greenfield Chapel
3929 Coleman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Church Office

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

Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)
OR cityreformed.org/give
Mail: Church Office address above "Attn: Bookkeeper" (please make checks payable to City Reformed Presbyterian Church)

Welcome Information:



Morning Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – September 15, 2024

Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: Psalm 103:1-5

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

Leader Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

People Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

Leader Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

People Who redeems your life from the pit,

Leader Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

People Who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 103:1 | Bless the Lord

(Words & Music: Taizé: Jacques Berthier 1923-1994)

*Bless the Lord, my soul
And bless God's holy name
Bless the Lord, my soul
Who leads me into life*

Gloria Patri

(Words & Music: Daniel Snoko 2020)

Blessing honor power to the Lord
Father Maker of heaven and the earth

*Glory be to the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning now and evermore will be
Amen*

Blessing honor power to the Lamb
Jesus Lion of Judah come again

Blessing honor Spirit of the Lord
Help us keep us lead us to the Word

O heavens come join us to
Worship the Lord in the
Splendor of holiness

Scripture Reading: Psalm 116:5-9

In Tenderness

(Words & Music: Adoniram Judson Gordon, Nate Garvey, and W. Spencer Walton 2013)

In tenderness he sought me
Weary and sick with sin
And on his shoulders brought me
Back to his fold again
While angels in his presence sang
Until the courts of heaven rang

*Oh the love that sought me
Oh the blood that bought me
Oh the grace that brought me to the fold of God
Grace that brought me to the fold of God*

He died for me while I was sinning
Needy and poor and blind
He whispered to assure me
I've found thee, thou art mine
I'd never heard a sweeter voice
It made my aching heart rejoice

Upon his grace I'll daily ponder
And sing anew his praise
With all adoring wonder
His blessings I retrace
It seems as if eternal days
Are far too short to sing his praise

Call to Confession: Psalm 103:8

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Prayer of Confession:

O Lord, no day of our lives has passed that has not proved us guilty in your sight. Prayers have been uttered from a prayerless heart, praise has often been praiseless sound. We have done things we should not have done, and we have not done things we should have done. If we were to stand before you on our own, we must surely be rejected.

However, all things in Christ plead for our acceptance. By his stripes we are healed, and he was bruised for our iniquities. He has been made sin so that we might be made righteous in you. We pray for your cleansing touch to wash away our corruption, and for your hands to rework our lives anew. We pray these things in Christ's holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 103:11-12

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Cards and donations can be placed in offering bags. Giving can also be directed online (cityreformed.org/give) or sent via mail (3929 Coleman St., 15207).

Be Still My Soul

(Words: Kathrina von Schlegel 1700's; Translators: Jane Borthwick 1855; Music: Jean Sibelius 1899)

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain
Leave to thy God to order and provide
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain
Be still my soul thy best thy heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

Be still my soul thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as he has the past
Thy hope thy confidence let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last
Be still my soul the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below

Be still my soul when dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in the vale of tears
Then shalt thou better know his love his heart
Who comes to soothe thy sorrow and thy fears
Be still my soul thy Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away

Be still my soul the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment grief and fear are gone
Sorrow forgot love's purest joys restored
Be still my soul when change and tears are past
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. Please pick them up after the sermon.

Sermon: Colossians 1:1-14
"Gospel Centered Prayer"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ²To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, ⁶which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, ⁷just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf ⁸and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Deuteronomy 29:29 / "The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law."

Philippians 4:11b-13 / ...For I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-7 / Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.

Creedal Response: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 98. What is prayer?

A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart

(Words: George Croly 1854; Music: Daniel Snoko 2020)

Spirit of God descend upon my heart
Wean it from sin through all its pulses move
Stoop to my weakness mighty as Thou art
Make me to love Thee as I ought to love
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

I ask no dream no prophet ecstasies
No sudden rending of the veil of clay
No angel vision no revealing skies
Take now the dimness of my soul away
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee God and King
All all Thine own soul heart and strength and mind
I see the cross there teach my heart to cling
O let me seek Thee O and let me find
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear
Come check my rising doubt, my rebel sigh
Teach me the patience of unanswered pray'r
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love
One holy passion filling all my frame
Baptize my life with heav'ns descended Dove
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Behold Our God

(Words & Music: Jonathan, Meghan, & Ryan Beird, & Stephen Altrogge 2011)

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

*Behold our God, seated on His throne
Come, let us adore Him
Behold our King, nothing can compare
Come, let us adore Him!*

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

You will reign forever! (2x)
(Let your glory fill the earth)
You will reign forever! (2x)
(Let your glory fill the earth)

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Elder Dave Snoko will be preaching from Luke 24:13-27, "Inerrancy, Part 2: Christ as the Focus and End Point of Scripture."

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Congregational Meeting TODAY, after service</p>	<p>Congregational Meeting following our AM worship service. Today, our congregation will be voting on the purchase of a new building. All members are encouraged to attend. Non-members are welcome, but will not be eligible to vote.</p>
<p>College Shuttle Sundays</p>	<p>9:30AM- PPU: 201 Wood St; Contact: Daphne: drriddl@pointpark.edu 9:45AM- PITT: 4024 O'Hara St; Contact: Rebekka: rjh152@pitt.edu or David: DGT12@pitt.edu</p>
<p>Fall Women's Bible Study Thursdays, 1:00 - 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Women's Bible study happening this fall on Becoming A Woman of Strength, "Our Strength Is A Heart Strength, Strengthen through Christ." Thursdays from 1:00-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's house in Churchill. Contact Cathy Taylor for more information at lawyerdad5@aol.com</p>
<p>Youth Group Starts THIS WEEK (September 18) Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>This is an opportunity for MS and HS students to connect with God in His Word and to connect with one another through games, discussion, and prayer. This semester, we will look at Christ's miracles recorded in the Gospels and recognize that the greatest of Christ's miracles is the resurrection. Hope to see you there!</p>
<p>Welcome Picnic & CG Fair! Sunday, September 22</p>	<p>Our annual picnic and Community Group Fair will be right after the service in the WT gym. If you're looking to connect with a CG, each group will have a table represented. Food and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dessert to share if you are able.</p>
<p>Membership Class Friday, September 27 (7-9:30 PM) and Saturday, September 28 (9 AM-1 PM)</p>	<p>Looking to learn more about our church and/or pursue formal membership? Consider attending our dual-session class in the Greenfield Chapel. Registration is live! For questions, contact nameun@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Men's Prayer Breakfast Saturday, October 12 9:00 AM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>Please join us for a nourishing breakfast and a time of fellowship and spiritual reflection as we explore the topic of caring for others by leading with humility. As it is our intent to feed all of those that attend, we ask that you let us know that you are coming by registering at the following link: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCPrayerBreakfast</p>

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Agora Forum: Every other Monday 7 PM: 3929 Coleman</p>	<p>Agora Forum: We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. We meet every other Monday at the Greenfield Chapel at 7 pm (3929 Coleman St). The next meeting is September 16. We will be continuing our series on civil government. Dr. Snoke will lead the discussion. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer: Mondays @ 9 PM</p>	<p>Join our church this week, September 16th, in prayer for missions partners. We will be praying for Andrew and Amy in North Africa. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024.</p>
<p>Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays, 9:45 AM - 12 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>We are having an 8 week Paige Benton Brown study on the books Joshua and Judges. You can view the content of the study on your own before or in person at 9:45AM and then join for discussion and prayer at 11AM-noon. Contact Luda Bates for more info: luda.bates@gmail.com</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12PM</p>	<p>Although many of us are retired, anyone who is free for lunch once a month is welcome. Next meeting will be September 18th. Contact Joe Stehle for more information: joestehle@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Wednesday Prayer Meetings: 8:30-9:30 AM</p>	<p>All are welcome to join our Wednesday prayer community. We begin with Scripture, move to a general opening prayer of adoration/thanksgiving, then share specific prayer requests and pray through them. Held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer.</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group: Bi-Weekly Wednesdays @ 7 PM</p>	<p>Meets on the North Side and Squirrel Hill. For more info, contact Lindsay Karr (lindsay.karr@gmail.com).</p>
<p>Mommies' Discipleship Group: 2nd & 4th Thursdays 7-9 PM</p>	<p>Join us for a time of fellowship and encouragement as we pray for one another and study the book of Colossians. Contact Sandy for more info: sandy@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Grief Share: Thursdays, 6-8 PM 3929 Coleman Street</p>	<p>If you have lost a loved one and want to work through the grieving process with friends on a similar journey, please join us. Sign up on the Grief Share website (griefshare.org) or see Joe Stehle or Ginny Heasley.</p>

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All scripture verses are the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise noted.

College Students please refer to campus ministry contacts below:

- CMU: Chris Bollinger (cwbollinger@gmail.com)
- CCO at PPU: Matt Koerber (pastormatt@cityreformed.org)
- RUF at Pitt: Gavin Breeden & Callie Miller (gavin.breeden@ruf.org, callie.miller@ruf.org)
- cityreformed.org/collegestudents

Specialty Groups meet in particular areas of interest for Bible study, fellowship, learning, and service.

- **Agora Forum** (amain8511@gmail.com)
- **Men's New Hope** (Joseph@cityreformed.org)
- **Mommies' Group** (Sandy@cityreformed.org)
- **Wednesday Morning Prayer** (Nameun@cityreformed.org)
- **Men's Discipleship Committee** (mdc@cityreformed.org)
- **Young Women's Discipleship Group** (lindsay.karr@gmail.com)
- **Ultimate Frisbee** (danielrtoney@gmail.com)
- **Board Game Gatherings** (gatcheson@gmail.com)

Leadership

Elders

Rev. Matthew Koerber:
pastormatt@cityreformed.org

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