



**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**September 29, 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](mailto:office@cityreformed.org) or visit our website: [cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org).

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## Reflections

"The problem with Christianity is not that it has been tried and found wanting, but that it has been found difficult and left untried."

– G.K. Chesterton

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## About Us

### Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM  
Winchester Thurston Auditorium  
5059 Ellsworth Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
LIVESTREAM: [tinyurl.com/CRPCLive](http://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](mailto:office@cityreformed.org)  
[cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org)

### Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)  
OR [cityreformed.org/give](http://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 29, 2024

Presider: Elder Dave Snoko

## Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:1-8

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

Leader Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

People **Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.**

Leader A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

People **Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.**

Leader And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

People **A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"**

Leader All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass.

People **The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.**

## Prayer of Invocation

## **Praise to the Lord the Almighty**

*(Words: Joachim Neander 1680; Translator: Catherine Winkworth 1863; Music: Traditional German Melody)*

Praise to the Lord,  
The Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him for  
He is thy health and salvation!

*All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;  
Praise Him in glad adoration.*

Praise to the Lord,  
Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings,  
Yea, so gently sustaineth!

*Hast thou not seen how all your longings have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?*

Praise to the Lord,  
Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee.  
Surely His goodness and  
Mercy here daily attend thee.

*Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
If with His love He befriend thee.*

Praise to the Lord,  
O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
Come now with praises before Him.

*Let the Amen sound from His people again,  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.*

## Isaiah 2 | Come Let Us Walk In The Light

*(Words & Music: Daniel Snoke 2019)*

Come to the mountain of the LORD,  
A home for the nations.  
Come to the hill above all hills,  
Greater than kingdoms.  
People from all the earth will flow  
Into his presence.

*Come let us walk in the light of the LORD.  
Come let us walk in the light of the LORD.*

Let us go up to meet with God  
And follow his pathway.  
Let the LORD teach us in the Word  
That goes out from Zion.  
The Law of the LORD will be the light  
That leads us to worship.

Bring your dispute before the LORD,  
And look for his justice.  
Bring to our God your love for war;  
Replace it with mercy.  
Nations will lay their weapons down  
And take up forgiveness.

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 27:4–9

## **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

## **Call to Confession: Isaiah 40:21-23**

Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

## **Prayer of Confession: "The Valley of Vision" by A. Bennett**

Lord, high and holy, meek and lowly, You have brought me to the valley of vision, where I live in the depths but see You in the heights; hemmed in by mountains of sin I behold Your glory. Let me learn by paradox that the way down is the way up, that to be low is to be high, that the broken heart is the healed heart, that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit, that the repenting soul is the victorious soul, that to have nothing is to possess all, that to bear the cross is to wear the crown, that to give is to receive, that the valley is the place of vision. Lord, in the daytime stars can be seen from deepest wells, and the deeper the wells the brighter Your stars shine; let me find Your light in my darkness, Your life in my death, Your joy in my sorrow, Your grace in my sin, Your riches in my poverty, Your glory in my valley. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 40:10-11**

Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

### **Missions Moment: Dave Culmer, MTW Bulgaria**

## **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](http://cityreformed.org/give)) or sent via mail (3929 Coleman St., 15207).*

## Apostles' Creed

*(Words & Music: Traditional Sacred Heart Melody)*

I believe in God the Father,  
Maker of all heav'n and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, our Savior,  
God's own Son of matchless worth;  
By the Spirit was conceivéd,  
Of the virgin Mary born,  
He in whom I have believéd;  
God Almighty, Three in One.

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Crucified for me he died.  
Laid within the grave so silent,  
Gates of hell he opened wide;  
For the stone sealed tomb was empty;  
On the third day He arose;  
Into heaven made his entry,  
Mighty conquer'r of his foes.

At God's right hand he is seated,  
Till his coming, as he said;  
Final judgement will be meted  
To the living and the dead;  
I confess the Holy Spirit,  
Who was sent through Christ the Son.  
To apply salvation's merit:  
God, the Spirit Three in one.

I believe the church of Jesus,  
Universal e'er remains;  
We are one through all the ages  
In communion of the saints.  
I believe sins are forgiven,  
That our bodies will be raised.  
To eternal life in glory,  
Ever let his name be praised.



# Pastoral Prayer

*We welcome children ages 4-7 to participate in hearing the Word of the Lord as preached by Pastor Matt. If a drawing is presented at the end of the service, you will receive a lollipop!*

## **Sermon: Colossians 1:21-29**

### **"Paul's Ministry Part 1: God's Power Through Human Effort"**

- Reverend Matt Koerber

**A**nd you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup>he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, <sup>23</sup>if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

<sup>24</sup>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, <sup>25</sup>of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup>the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

<sup>28</sup>Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup>For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Additional Scripture

Isaiah 40:27-31 / Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

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John 15:4-5 / Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

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1 Corinthians 15:10 / But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

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## Creedal Response: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 35. What is sanctification?

**A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.**

# Songs of Thanksgiving

## May the Mind of Christ My Savior

*(Words: Kate Wilkinson 1925; Music: Daniel Snoko 2018)*

May the mind of Christ my Savior  
Live in me from day to day  
By his love and pow'r controlling  
All I do, all I say

May the Word of God dwell richly  
In my heart from hour' to hour  
So that all may see I triumph  
Only through his love and pow'r  
Only through his love and pow'r

May the love of Jesus fill me  
As the waters fill the sea  
Him exalting self removing  
This is my victory

May the peace of God my Father  
Rule my life in ev'rything  
That I may be quick to comfort  
All the sick and sorrowing  
All the sick and sorrowing

May his beauty rest upon me  
As I seek the lost to win  
And may they forget the channel  
Seeing him only him

May I run the race before me  
Strong and brave to face the foe  
Looking only unto Jesus  
As I onward with him go

## Crown Him With Many Crowns

*(Words: Matthew Bridges 1951; Music: George Job Elvey 1868)*

Crown Him with many crowns  
The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns  
All music but its own  
Awake my soul and sing  
Of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of life  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save  
His glories now we sing  
Who died and rose on high  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of love  
Behold His hands and side  
Rich wounds yet visible above  
In beauty glorified  
No angel in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight  
But downward bends each burning eye  
At mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of peace  
Whose pow'r a scepter sways  
From pole to pole  
That wars may cease  
And all be prayer and praise  
His reign shall know no end  
And round His pierced feet  
Fair flowers of paradise extend  
Their fragrance ever sweet

Crown Him the Lord of years  
The Potentate of time  
Creator of the rolling spheres  
Ineffably sublime  
All hail Redeemer hail  
For Thou hast died for me  
Thy praise shall never never fail  
Throughout eternity

## **Benediction**

*At tonight's Worship Service, Reverend Joseph Bianco will be preaching from Galatians 4:1-7, "Adoption - Children of God."*

# Announcements

[www.cityreformed.org/events](http://www.cityreformed.org/events)

<p><b>College Shuttle</b> Sundays <b>NO SHUTTLE THIS WEEK (September 29)</b></p>	<p><b>9:30AM- PPU:</b> 201 Wood St; Contact: Daphne: drriddl@pointpark.edu <b>9:45AM- PITT:</b> 4024 O'Hara St; Contact: Rebekka: rjh152@pitt.edu or David: DGT12@pitt.edu</p>
<p><b>Newcomers Lounge</b> After AM Worship Sunday, Sept 29 &amp; Sunday, October 6</p>	<p>If you're visiting our church and would like to connect with other leaders/members after the service, please join us in room G8 for a dedicated welcoming space. Coffee, refreshments, and a warm smile will be provided!</p>
<p><b>Fall Women's Bible Study</b> 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, strengthened through Christ." Meeting at Cathy Taylor's home in Churchill. Contact Cathy Taylor for more information at lawyerdad5@aol.com</p>
<p><b>North of the City Picnic</b> Sunday, October 6, after service</p>	<p>We're organizing a picnic so people who live to the north of Pittsburgh can get to know each other better! Come after church to Fall Run Park in Shaler. Main dish will be provided but please bring a side to share. RSVP to Alex and Kathryn Watt: watts@alexcwatt.com.</p>
<p><b>Men's Prayer Breakfast</b> 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: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/CRPCPrayerBreakfast">https://tinyurl.com/CRPCPrayerBreakfast</a></p>
<p><b>Artists' Workshop</b> Saturday, October 12 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>We are starting a group for visual artists of all mediums to come together for community, critique and support. We will meet quarterly throughout the year. Childcare will be available but limited so please let us know if that's needed. Email Camden at camdenbianco@gmail.com.</p>
<p><b>Women's Brunch</b> Saturday, October 19 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>Women of all ages are invited to a brunch hosted by the Women's Council at the Greenfield building on Saturday, October 19. Come hear testimonies of God's faithfulness in the lives of our sisters in Christ, enjoy yummy food, and greet old and new friends. Surprise book giveaway to all who attend! We are especially eager to include college women! Please sign up here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/WomensBrunchCRPC2024">https://tinyurl.com/WomensBrunchCRPC2024</a> so we can prepare for you and coordinate food and rides.</p>

# Regular Events

[www.cityreformed.org/events](http://www.cityreformed.org/events)

<p><b>Agora Forum:</b> Every other Monday 7:00 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. The next meeting is October 7. We will be continuing our series on civil government. Dr. Snoke will lead the discussion. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)</p>
<p><b>Global Missions Prayer:</b> Mondays @ 9:00 PM</p>	<p>Join our church this week, September 30th, in prayer for missions partners. We will be praying for City Presbyterian in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Held on Zoom: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024">https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024</a>.</p>
<p><b>Women's Bible Study:</b> Tuesdays, 9:45 AM - 12:00 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><b>Bean Sprouts Ministry:</b> 3rd Wednesday 12 PM</p>	<p>Although many of us are retired, anyone who is free for lunch once a month is welcome. Next meeting will be October 16th. Contact Joe Stehle for more information: joestehle@gmail.com.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday Prayer Meetings:</b> 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: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer">https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer</a>.</p>
<p><b>Youth Group:</b> Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>We will continue look at Christ's miracles in the Gospels and recognize the greatest of Christ's miracles, the resurrection. We invite all MS and HS students to join us. Next date is October 2nd. Hope to see you there!</p>
<p><b>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group:</b> Bi-Weekly Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Meets on the North Side and Squirrel Hill. Fall study: Jesus' 7 "I Am" statements in the book of John. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com.</p>
<p><b>Mommies' Discipleship Group:</b> 2nd &amp; 4th Thursdays 7:00-9:00 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><b>Grief Share:</b> Thursdays, 6:00-8:00 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](http://cityreformed.org/collegestudents)

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

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

## Leadership

### Elders

**Rev. Matthew Koerber:**  
[pastormatt@cityreformed.org](mailto:pastormatt@cityreformed.org)

**Rev. Joseph Bianco:**  
[joseph@cityreformed.org](mailto:joseph@cityreformed.org)

**Rev. John McCombs:**  
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**Rev. Nameun Cho:**  
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**David Bacon:**  
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**Ben Chidester:**  
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**Luke Kephart:**  
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**Craig Kozminski:**  
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**Joe Stehle:**  
[joestehle@gmail.com](mailto:joestehle@gmail.com)

**Dave Snoke:**  
[snoke@hey.com](mailto:snoke@hey.com)

### Women's Ministry Council

**Debbie Bacon:** [dpasewark@gmail.com](mailto:dpasewark@gmail.com)

**Sarah Cho:** [sarahjycho@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjycho@gmail.com)

**Amanda Moore:** [mooreae1@gmail.com](mailto:mooreae1@gmail.com)

**Sandy Snoke:** [sandy@cityreformed.org](mailto:sandy@cityreformed.org)

**Irene Winkler:** [renew77@gmail.com](mailto:renew77@gmail.com)

**Sarah Winkler:** [sarahditch@gmail.com](mailto:sarahditch@gmail.com)

### Deacons

**Neil Friedrich:** [njfried@gmail.com](mailto:njfried@gmail.com)

**Bill Gould:** [wwgould@verizon.net](mailto:wwgould@verizon.net)

**Cyril Isaac:** [dukecyrillus@gmail.com](mailto:dukecyrillus@gmail.com)

**Don McMillan:** [donmcmillan697@gmail.com](mailto:donmcmillan697@gmail.com)

**Bob Simonelli:** [simonellir1756@gmail.com](mailto:simonellir1756@gmail.com)

**Daniel Toney:** [danielrtoney@gmail.com](mailto:danielrtoney@gmail.com)

**Jeff Winkler:** [jeffreypwinkler@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreypwinkler@gmail.com)