



Sunday Morning Worship
December 13, 2020

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

Man's maker was made man,
that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breast;
that the Bread might hunger,
the Fountain thirst,
the Light sleep,
the Way be tired on its journey;
that the Truth might be accused of false witness,
the Teacher be beaten with whips,
the Foundation be suspended on wood;
that Strength might grow weak;
that the Healer might be wounded;
that Life might die.

- Augustine of Hippo

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM

LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

SIGN-UPS: Church Center App (Events)
OR crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations

Church Office

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

Church Center App:



Sunday Evening Communion Service

3929 Coleman St., 15207

SUNDAY 12/20 | 4PM, 5PM & 6PM

SIGN-UPS: Church Center App (Events)
OR crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations

Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)
OR cityreformed.org/give

Mail: Church Office address above "Attn: Allison" (please make checks payable to City Reformed Presbyterian Church)

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – December 13, 2020

Presider: Reverend Derek Bates

Call to Worship: Isaiah 42:1-4

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

Leader Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

People **He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;**

Leader A bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

People **He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.**

Prayer of Invocation

Once In Royal David's City

(Words: Cecil F. Alexander 1848; Music: Henry J. Gauntlett 1849)

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in Heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in Heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

My All in Thee

(Words: Adapted from Charles Wesley; Music: Eric J. Marshall 2012)

When gracious Lord when shall it be
That earth will find her all in Thee
The fullness of Thy promise prove
Seal me with Thy eternal love

Thee only Thee I'm fain to find
I cast the world and sin behind
O my Redeemer hear this plea
And let me find my all in Thee

*Show me Your way my love my Lord
Draw me to grace so strong and sure
I run to Your mercy where I am free
Let me find my all in Thee*

Lord I am blind be Thou my sight
Lord I am weak be Thou my might
A helper of the helpless be
And let me find my all in Thee

Please mend my soul my frame my life
A contrite heart Thou won't despise
Take now this pain and misery
And let me find my all in Thee

Call to Confession: Hebrews 12:1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...

Prayer of Confession

Father, we praise you for your perfection and majesty. You are light and there is no shadow of darkness in you. Your word is truth. Your word never returns void, but it has power to bring change and cause life. Your Son Jesus came to us as truth incarnate and we praise you that you reveal truth to our minds by your Holy Spirit.

But we confess that we are not a truthful people. We manipulate and deceive and distort the truth for our own gain—sometimes in small ways and sometimes in big ways. Forgive us and renew us so that we love your truth. Give us confidence to rest in your promises. Give us enough love to be able to speak truthfully to those around us and in so doing help them to grow. Glorify your truth in our lives. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 12:2

[Look] to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Membership Vows: Emily Costea

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Please direct giving online or via mail (cityreformed.org/give; 3929 Coleman St., 15207).

O Day of Peace - Come to Him

(Words: Carl Daw 1982; Music: Josh Garrels 2016)

O day of peace that dimly shines
Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
Guide us to justice, truth, and love
Delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands,
Our hearts from envy find release,
Till by God's grace our warring world
Shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,
Nor shall the fierce devour the small
As beasts and cattle calmly graze,
A little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love,
All creatures find their true accord
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled,
For all the earth shall know the Lord

Come to Him with all your heart
Come and lay your burdens down

For peace He came to give
And Joy shall be the crown
And Joy shall be the crown

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Philippians 2:1-11

Advent 2020: "An Emptying Humility: On the Incarnation"

- Reverend Namuen Cho

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Isaiah 9:6 / For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

John 1:1-2 / In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:14 / And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 2:9-10 / For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

Hebrews 4:14-16 / Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Creedal Response: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. Christ, the Son of God, became man by taking to himself a true body and a reasoning soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the virgin Mary and born of her, yet without sin.

Song of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final song if you are able.

Who Is This So Weak and Helpless

(Words: William W. How 1867; Music: Christopher Miner 1997)

Who is this, so weak and helpless,
Child of lowly Hebrew maid,
Rudely in a stable sheltered,
Coldly in a manger laid?
'Tis the Lord of all creation,
Who this wondrous path has trod;
He is Lord from everlast—ing,
And to everlasting God.

Who is this, a Man of Sorrows,
Walking sadly life's hard way,
Homeless, weary, sighing, weeping
Over sin and Satan's sway?
'Tis our God, our glorious Savior,
Who above the starry sky
Is for us a place prepar—ing,
Where no tear can dim the eye.

Who is this? Behold him shedding
Drops of blood upon the ground!
Who is this, despised, rejected,
Mocked, insulted, beaten, bound?
'Tis our God, Who gifts and graces
On His church is pouring down;
Who shall smite in holy ven—geance
All His foes beneath His throne.

Who is this that hangs there dying
While the rude world scoffs and scorns,
Numbered with the malefactors,
Torn with nails, and crowned with thorns?
'Tis our God Who lives forever
'Mid the shining ones on high,
In the glorious golden ci—ty,
Reigning everlastingly.

'Tis our God Who lives forever
'Mid the shining ones on high,
In the glorious golden ci—ty,
Reigning everlastingly.

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

If you would like to contact a pastor, please email joseph@cityreformed.org.

Life Together

<p>Open Evening Communion Services INDOORS Sun 12/20: • 4:00PM • 5:00PM • 6:00PM</p> <p>3929 Coleman St., 15207</p> <p>Church Center App</p> 	<p>In-person service held three times INDOORS at GREENFIELD, with communion served all times. Review instructions for attending at: cityreformed.org/evening-service and the "Safe and Sound" guidelines on p. 12-13.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Register on your Church Center App (go to Events), or online: crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations, to help us keep within capacity limits (40/service) and add additional services if needed. If you need assistance signing up, contact Sol@cityreformed.org.• Before attending, self-assess the health and recent activities of you and your household.• Mandatory MASK policy (all over 2 yrs old).• ***You no longer need to check in on your Church Center apps. Instead, CHECK IN WITH A GREETER IN-PERSON when you arrive.***
<p>Attend Morning Service "In-Person" Sundays @ 10:15AM WT, 5059 Ellsworth, 15213</p>	<p>Register on your Church Center App (go to Events), or online: crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations. Contact Sol@cityreformed.org. Morning Service Livestream continues indefinitely.</p>
<p>New Women's Zoom Call Sundays @ 12:30PM Zoom link: tinyurl.com/CRPCwomen</p>	<p>A new woman to City Reformed? We would love to get to see your face and meet you. Please consider joining some of our women leaders on a Zoom call following service TODAY.</p>
<p>City Women's Literary Society: "The Weight of Glory" Tues 12/15 @ 7-8:30PM</p>	<p>Bring your tea and blanket to curl up on Zoom and encourage one another as we discuss C.S. Lewis' 17-page address "The Weight of Glory". Contact Kimberly (ksgirard@gmail.com) with any questions.</p>
<p>Mosaic Community Church Christmas Store 12/15, 12/17, 12/19 Jeanette, PA</p>	<p>Consider praying, volunteering &/or donating new gifts or funds, wrapping supplies, blankets, hats, or gloves for their annual Christmas Store. New gifts are sold for \$1 for families in need so parents' dignity remains, allowing them to take ownership of not only choosing but buying it as well. Extra table for free blankets, hats, gloves. Contact Kelly Bender (kelly.bender7@gmail.com).</p>

<p>Children's Ministry: Christmas Family Care Packages & Care Kits for the Homeless Sun 12/20 @ 12-2PM 3929 Coleman St., 15207</p>	<p>We invite your family to drive by for this special Christmas curbside collection of gifts! Miss Charis and Miss Becki will be giving your family: 1) a gift to RECEIVE ~ a care package to help your family gather together; 2) a gift to GIVE ~ a Homeless Care Kit to give away to someone in need. Contact Charis@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Parenting Seminar by Julie Lowe, <i>Child Proof: Parenting by Faith, Not Formula</i> Fri 2/5 @ 7 - 9PM & Sat 2/6 @ 9AM - 12PM WT, 5059 Ellsworth, 15213</p>	<p>Register on your Church Center App (go to Events) or: tinyurl.com/childproof2021 ~ \$15/person for in-person or live stream attendance ~ Julie Lowe will teach on how to know, love, and disciple our children using biblical principles and practical wisdom. There will be four sessions (two on Friday; two on Saturday), as well as Q&A. Contact: Charis@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Wednesday Morning Prayer @ 8:30AM tinyurl.com/prayCRPC</p>	<p>Join others in the church to pray for the needs of our community and world. Please send prayer requests to prayer@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Bethany Food Bank and Master's Kitchen Service Thurs @ 9AM - 1PM or 4 - 6PM Fri @ 12 - 1PM</p>	<p>Volunteer to help transport and package food with Bethany Community Ministries. Contact Donna at Bethany: 412.251.1227 or any of the Deacons@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Men's Discipleship Committee</p>	<p>MEN who are interested in discipleship through a mentoring relationship, contact Adam (ahs27@pitt.edu).</p>
<p>Volunteer Babysitting: Serve & Connect with Our Church Families!</p>	<p>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, help care for children as families navigate these challenging times! Please complete: tinyurl.com/CityBABYSIT. Contact Becki@cityreformed.org.</p>
<p>Caring for Each Other and the Deacon's List</p>	<p>Please update the deacons if you have needs or if you have abilities and resources to share with others. Contact Nik (nik@alum.wustl.edu) or any of the deacons.</p>
<p>Make Connections via Online Media</p>	<p>As the Covid-19 restrictions limit our ability to connect with other people, we need to work harder to develop healthy relationships through alternative means.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn more about community groups (CGs) contact Joseph (joseph@cityreformed.org) • To learn about how to connect with other women in the church (including small groups or CGs) contact Sandy (sandy@cityreformed.org) • To learn about men's discipleship programs contact Jim (partridge.je6@gmail.com).

"Safe"

"The sixth commandment requires all lawful efforts to preserve our own life and others." – WSC #68

Before we gather*:

- **Are you sick?** Do not attend if you or a family member are sick, if you are awaiting a COVID test result, or if you have COVID-19.
- **Have you been somewhere unsafe?** PA Health Guidelines¹ require either a quarantine or negative test for out-of-state travelers.
- **Have you been exposed?** Do not attend if you have had close contact² with someone who is COVID+. Limit your exposure to others if you have been in medically compromising situations.

When we are together:

- **Wear a mask.**
- **Avoid contact.**
- **Social Distance.**

After we leave:

- **Notify.** If you test positive for COVID and attended a CRPC event during a period 48 hours before the onset of symptoms, please notify the church (sol@cityreformed.org).
- **Trace.** When someone notifies us about a concern for infection, we will trace all potential unsafe contacts at our events and also notify all people who attended the event.

**Contact Dr. Andy Leuenberger (andy@cityreformed.org) for questions about how to apply these guidelines to your situation.*

1 health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx

2 cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact

"... and Sound"

"Since we have a great priest...Draw near... hold fast... meet together..." - Heb. 10:19-25

Sunday AM Worship

- Livestream online. (Join us live at 10:15AM when possible)
- In-person at Winchester Thurston.
- Sign up in advance.
- *If COVID concerns rise, we will decrease our attendance numbers.*

Sunday PM Communion (every other week)

- The PM Service will meet in the Greenfield Chapel.
- Sign up in advance.
- Multiple small and short services. (30 mins)
- Check in at arrival to assist contact tracing.
- Varied seating options.
- Modified process of distributing communion elements.
- *If COVID concerns rise, we will add more (smaller) services.*

Small Groups

- Small groups will be guided by direction from public health leaders.
- Contact Joseph Bianco (joseph@cityreformed.org).

Mentoring

- Women: Contact Sandy Snoke (sandy@cityreformed.org).
- Men: Contact Adam Schwab or Jim Partridge (jim@cityreformed.org).

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. If you are new, we would love to meet you! And, if you would like more information about our ministries, resources, and ways to engage, please fill out the visitor's card below or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Visitor's Card

We would love to get to know you. Please contact us at office@cityreformed.org with the following information.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Date: _____

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request, we will pray for you. Please send prayer requests to Pastor Joseph through prayer@cityreformed.org.
