



Sunday Morning Communion Worship
Advent Week 1
December 1, 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

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light.."

– Genesis 1:1-3

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 Communion Worship – December 1, 2024

Presider: Elder Dave Snoke

Call to Worship: John 1:1-3, 14, 16-18

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

Leader In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People **He was in the beginning with God.**

Leader All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

People **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.**

Leader For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

People **For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

Leader No one has ever seen God;

People **The only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.**

Prayer of Invocation

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.

To Thee We Run

(Words & Music: Eric J. Marshall 2012)

When these days of shadow pass
And suffering is no more
A fire in the dark will glow
And Christ our souls restore

Holy child of mystery
Please set ablaze our hearts
With grace unending love so pure
And pierce the ancient dark

*O Light Heaven shine down on earth
O Joy Come and break the curse
We praise the name above every name
A light has come and Christ to Thee we run*

As the tide of heaven's wrath
Is washed beneath the sea
A Living Stream shall quench our thirst
For all eternity

Call to Confession: John 2:24-25

But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Prayer of Confession:

Father, you alone are perfect and holy. We want to believe that we are pretty good people, but in reality our lives are dirty and our thoughts are impure. We sin daily in thought, word, and deed. We would love to cover this up and pretend that it is not true. But your law convicts us. When we see your commandments they become a mirror to us. We see that we are selfish and sinful. We hurt others and we turn from you. We have no hope of being righteous on our own.

So we thank you for Jesus. He is our righteousness. In his death we have life. In his resurrection we have power to put sin to death. By faith we are your children. Make your law clear to our eyes so that sin is clear and Christ is seen to be precious. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: John 3:16-17

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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).

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

(Words: Charles Wesley 1747; Music: Lowell Mason 1839)

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled chest!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest.
Take away our love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
Till with heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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 1:13-20; First Sunday of Advent 2024: "The Supremacy of Christ as the Image of God"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

He 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. ¹⁵His the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Colossians 1:21-22 / And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 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.

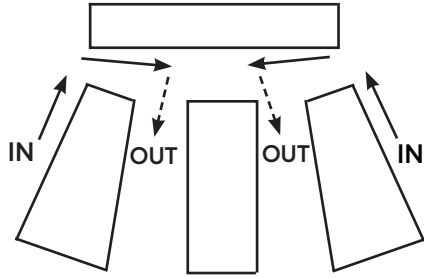
1 John 1:1-4 / That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

Notes

Communion

City Reformed Church invites all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sins and trust Christ alone for salvation, and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel, to receive Holy Communion with us. Parents with non-communicating children are encouraged to bring their children forward during communion. The elders will lay a hand on their head and briefly pray for them as they serve you.

Communion is served with wine and with grape juice. The wine is placed in the two outer circles of the communion tray, and the grape juice is placed in the inner circle. Because Jesus used wine during the first communion service, we believe using real wine is beneficial. However, participants are welcome to choose. There is also gluten-free bread available on each plate.



Please join us in song as we celebrate Christ dwelling with his church in the sacrament of communion.

Songs of Communion

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

(Words: Liturgy of St. James, 4th Century; Music: 17th Century French; Arrangement: Daniel Snoko 2011)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of Light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

Mystery

(Words & Music: Charlie Hall 2008)

Sweet Jesus Christ, my sanity
Sweet Jesus Christ, my clarity

Bread of Heaven, broken for me
Cup of Salvation, held out to drink
Jesus, mystery

*Christ has died and, Christ is risen
Christ will come again*

You Are My Wonder

(Words & Music: Daniel Snoko 2023)

Here I lay down my treasure
A gift in the kingdom all for the King
Heaven wrapped in my burden
Cries out salvation makes me to sing

The gates that hold midnight are breaking apart
The light of the kingdom shines through the dark
Lord of the nations King overall
You are my wonder you are my star

Here I bring him my troubles
The weight that I carry, the sin that I keep
My sorrow rests on his shoulders
The sinless babe suffered, my Prince of Peace

The gates of my hell are breaking apart
The King of the righteous enters my heart
O Lord of my glory help in my fall
You are my wonder you are my all

Here I join in devotion
Shepherds that worship and angels above
His blessed mother has opened
The world to embrace and hold him with love

(continued on next page)

Great Father who clothed your Son in our flesh
Now send us your Spirit and fill up our breath
O Babe in the manger and King at your birth
We sing your praises from all of the earth

The gates that hold midnight are breaking apart
The light of the kingdom shines through the dark
The gates of my hell are breaking apart
The King of the righteous enters my heart
Lord of the nations King overall
You are my wonder you are my star

Doxology

(Words: Thomas Ken 1674; Music: Louis Bourgeois 1510)

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent did thy people free;
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Benediction

No Worship Service this evening.

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Nursing Area for Mothers</p>	<p>A private space is now available to nurse babies or pump milk, on the 2nd floor by Room #112. The changing table has now been placed in the corner stairwell by Rm. G9.</p>
<p>Greenfield Christmas Parade Friday, December 6 7 PM</p>	<p>We are planning to host a Christmas Carol Sing following the parade with hot chocolate, candy canes and crafts. The parade starts around 7pm & ends near our building. Contact chrissie@cityreformed.org for more information.</p>
<p>Women's Christmas Wreath Making Saturday, December 7 10 AM-noon Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>Women of all ages are invited to come for a morning of fellowship at the Greenfield building to decorate a wreath! This event requires pre-registration to order the wreaths; crpc.churchcenter.com by December 1! Drinks will be provided; if you'd like, please consider bringing a snack or treat to share.</p>
<p>RUF at Pitt Christmas Party Food Request Saturday, December 7</p>	<p>Help us to celebrate the Christmas season and the (almost) end of the semester! Food can be delivered to Greenfield Chapel 5-5:45pm, or drop-off with Gavin. Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/rufchristmasfood2024; contact Sarah Gould (gould.sarah.e@gmail.com), or Gavin Breeden (gavin.breeden@ruf.org)</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Christmas Party Saturday, December 14 7 PM Rebecca Pollard's House in Shadyside</p>	<p>Young adult women are invited to a Christmas celebration with food, fellowship, and a white elephant gift exchange (\$10 or less for gifts). Please RSVP to Lindsay if you can attend to help plan for food: lindsay.karr@gmail.com</p>
<p>Daniel Snoke EP Release Concert Friday, December 20 7:30 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>Daniel Snoke will be giving a free Christmas concert with a mixture of some favorite carols and original songs, including features from his new EP, <i>You Are My Wonder</i>.</p>
<p>Women's Ministry Need</p>	<p>We still have an opening for the full-time Women's Ministry Director. The updated job description is listed here: https://tinyurl.com/DirectorWomensMinistry2024 or in print at the welcome table. Please email nameun@cityreformed.org for consideration.</p>

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

<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>Agora Forum: Every other Monday 7:00 PM 300 Saline Street</p>	<p>We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. We will be discussing Christianity and Culture this Monday. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer: Monday @ 9:00 PM</p>	<p>This week we will be praying for Hannah Nation on December 1st. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM</p>	<p>The December Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, December 18 at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. The topic will be our Grief Share ministry, hearing a bit about it from some of the participants and seeing a sample of the video material which is a significant part of the program. Contact Joe Stehle: 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>Youth Group: Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>We will continue to 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 December 4th.</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group: 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>Mommies' Discipleship Group: 2nd & 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 Luke. Contact Sandy for more info: scssnoke@comcast.net.</p>

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

Rev. Joseph Bianco:
joseph@cityreformed.org

Rev. John McCombs:
john@cityreformed.org

Rev. Nameun Cho:
nameun@cityreformed.org

David Bacon:
bacon1986@gmail.com

Ben Chidester:
benwchidester@gmail.com

Luke Kephart:
lakephar@gmail.com

Craig Kozminski:
craigkozminski@gmail.com

Joe Stehle:
joestehle@gmail.com

Dave Snoke:
snoke@hey.com

Women's Ministry Council

Debbie Bacon: dpasewark@gmail.com

Sarah Cho: sarahjycho@gmail.com

Amanda Moore: mooreae1@gmail.com

Sandy Snoke: scssnoke@comcast.net

Irene Winkler: renew77@gmail.com

Sarah Winkler: sarahditch@gmail.com

Deacons

Neil Friedrich: njfried@gmail.com

Bill Gould: wwgould@verizon.net

Cyril Isaac: dukecyrillus@gmail.com

Don McMillan: donmcmillan697@gmail.com

Bob Simonelli: simonellir1756@gmail.com

Daniel Toney: danielrtoney@gmail.com

Jeff Winkler: jeffreypwinkler@gmail.com