



Sunday Morning Worship
April 13, 2025

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

"And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.'"

– *Matthew 21:9-11*

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 – April 13, 2025

Presider: Elder Ben Chidester

Call to Worship: Hebrews 7:22, 23-26, 4:14-16

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

Leader Jesus [is] the guarantor of a better covenant... he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.

People **Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.**

Leader For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens...

People **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.**

Leader 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.

People **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.**

Prayer of Invocation

What the Lord Has Done in Me

(Words & Music: Reuben Morgan 1998)

*Hosanna hosanna
To the Lamb that was slain
Hosanna hosanna
Jesus died and rose again*

Let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Let the blind say I can see
It's what the Lord has done in me

Into the river I will wade
There my sins are washed away
From the heaven's mercy stream
Of the Savior's love for me

I will rise from waters deep
Into the saving arms of God
I will sing salvation songs
Jesus Christ has set me free

Scripture Reading: Psalm 118

The reading of Psalm 118 will be accompanied by this refrain:

Hosanna

(Words & Music: Israel Houghton, Sidney Mohede, and M. Sidney 2010)

Hosanna, in the highest
Let our King be lifted up
Hosanna

Solid Rock (My Hope Is Built)

(Words: Edward Mote 1834; Music: William Batchelder Bradbury 1863)

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' Name

When darkness veils His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

His oath His covenant His blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my Hope and Stay

When He shall come with trumpet sound
O may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

Call to Confession: Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Prayer of Confession:

Father, we confess that we need you. You are holy and you have called us to be holy. And yet, we are far short of that standard. We don't have good deeds to bribe you and to win your favor, because even the best things that we do are tainted by selfishness. An honest look at your law tells us that we are guilty. If we were to stand before you on our own we would be condemned.

And so we look to Jesus. The savior who stood in our place. He was perfect in holiness and he fulfilled the law. But he was condemned in our place. By his death our debt was paid. He was cursed, and so the curse was lifted from us.

Press this truth on our hearts. Cause us to rejoice in the gospel, that we would prize this truth above all other things. Shape us and change us we pray, Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 9:13-14

For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

WMC Installation: Linda Kephart

Questions to the Women's Ministry Council Member

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
2. Are you fully acquainted with the purpose of the ministry to which you have been elected?
3. Do you promise to faithfully perform all the duties of this ministry, as unto the Lord?
4. Will you support the other council members, the goals and the activities of our Women's Ministry with your presence, your prayers, and your physical and mental energies?

Questions to the Congregation

1. Do you gratefully acknowledge the willingness of these women to serve you and City Reformed Presbyterian Church in their elected capacities?
2. Will you support these members of the Women's Ministry Council with your cooperation, encouraging words, and prayers?

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).

All Sufficient Merit

(Words & Music: Bethany Barnard, Bryan Fowler, and Shane Barnard 2023)

All sufficient merit shining like the sun
A fortune I inherit by no work I have done
My righteousness I forfeit at my savior's cross
Where all sufficient merit did what I could not

In love he condescended eternal now in time
A life without a blemish the Maker made to die
The law could never save us our lawlessness had won
Until the pure and spotless Lamb had finally come

*It is done it is finished
No more debt I owe
Paid in full all sufficient
Merit now my own*

I lay down my garments any empty boast
Good works now all corrupted by the sinful host
I'm dressed in my Lord Jesus a crimson robe made white
No more fear of judgment his righteousness is mine

All sufficient merit firm in life and death
The joy of my salvation shall be my final breath
When I stand accepted before the throne of God
I'll gaze upon my Jesus and thank him for the cross
Yes I'll thank him for the cross

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: John 17 "Jesus Prays for Us"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

"I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction,

that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Creedal Response: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 25. How does Christ carry out the office of a priest?

A. Christ carries out the office of a priest in offering up himself as a sacrifice one time, to satisfy divine justice and to reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.

Notes

Songs of Thanksgiving

Before the Throne of God Above

(Words: Charitie Lees Bancroft; Music: Vikki Cook 1997)

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me

My name is graven on his hands
My name is written on his heart
I know that while in heav'n he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see him there
Who made an end to all my sin

Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me
To look on him and pardon me

Behold him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace

One with himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with his blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

His Mercy Is More

(Words & Music: Matt Boswell & Matt Papa 2016)

Praise the Lord

His mercy is more

Stronger than darkness new every morn

Our sins they are many his mercy is more

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing he counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many his mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many his mercy is more

What riches of kindness he lavished on us
His blood was the payment his life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many his mercy is more

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Elder Ben Chidester will be preaching from Acts 19:1, 8-41, "The Flower Fades but the Word of the Lord Stands Forever."

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Roses</p>	<p>Abigail Engle Chidester, born to Ben and Emily on March 15th Mira Mai Pollard, born to Stephen and Rebecca on March 31st Giovanna Priya Sonbare, born to Susannah and Diraj on April 3rd</p>
<p>Recognizing Graduates</p>	<p>Are you graduating this Spring? Please send us a note at chrissie@cityreformed.org so that we can acknowledge your accomplishments and give you a gift! We will honor our graduates Sunday, April 27th.</p>
<p>Easter Services: April 18 & 20</p>	<p>Easter season is a wonderful time to invite friends to join us at church. We will have a few additional services Easter weekend:</p> <p>Good Friday: 7PM @ 1st Baptist, Oakland * Nursery will be available for children ages 18 months - 3 years</p> <p>Easter Sunrise Service: 7:30AM @ Schenley Park Lower Soccer Field</p> <p>Easter Breakfast: 8:45AM @ 300 Saline Street</p> <p>Traditional Sunday Service: 10:15 @ WT Gym</p> <p>Our usual fellowship hour after the service will be canceled. Instead, please join us for Easter breakfast at 300 Saline Street before service!</p>
<p>Easter Weekend Volunteer and Food Signups</p>	<p>Please consider volunteering on Easter weekend. We need people to greet and seat, set up, clean up, bring food and flip pancakes! Register here: https://tinyurl.com/Easter2025SignUp. Contact Amanda Moore (mooreae1@gmail.com) with questions.</p>
<p>Worship in Gymnasium April 20 & 27</p>	<p>Worship services on these Sundays will be relocated to the gymnasium, and the fellowship hour will be cancelled. Please consider helping us tear down our chairs and put away equipment following the service.</p>
<p>Artist Workshop April 26, 3-5 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>The next Artist Workshop will be on April 26th, 3-5pm at the Greenfield chapel. We will discuss the second half of Walking on Water by L'Engle. Bring any artwork you want feedback on including any current work in progress. Childcare available upon request and limited.</p>
<p>Men's Prayer Breakfast May 17 9-10:30 AM</p>	<p>Mark your calendars! Men and young men of City Reformed are invited to the Men's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, May 17th, at 9:00 AM. Join us for food, fellowship, prayer, and a morning of connection. More details regarding our topic and our special guest speaker to follow soon.</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 meet every other Monday at the new building at 7 pm (300 Saline St). The next meeting is April 21st. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer: Monday @ 9:00 PM</p>	<p>We will be praying for MTW Bulgaria this week on April 14th. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM</p>	<p>The April Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, April 16 at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. 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>Youth Group will continue on April 23rd. We invite all middle and high school students to join us as we study God's Word!</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group: Bi-Weekly Wednesdays 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Meets on the North Side and Squirrel Hill. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Thursday Women's Bible Study 1:00-3:00 PM</p>	<p>Women's Bible study on Becoming A Woman of Prayer. Thursdays from 1:00-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's House. Contact Cathy Taylor for more information at lawyerdad5@aol.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>
<p>Young Adults Fellowship</p>	<p>Young Adults Fellowship is a monthly time of fellowship, food, and connection for young adults at City. Contact Claire Josey, clairemjosey@gmail.com, for information on our next gathering.</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

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