



Sunday Evening Service
May 11, 2025

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

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Presider: Elder Luke Kephart

Call to Worship: Psalm 138:1-6

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

Leader I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

People I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

Leader On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

People All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth,

Leader And they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the LORD.

People For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar.

Prayer of Invocation

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today #277

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today," Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say; Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!
Sing ye heav'ns, and earth, reply. Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell: Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids his rise; Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head; Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise: Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be giv'n; Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now; Alleluia!
Hail, the Resurrection, thou! Alleluia!

Not What My Hands Have Done #461

Not what my hands have done
Can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do
Can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears
Can bear my awful load.

(continued on next page)

Thy work alone, O Christ,
Can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God,
Can give me peace within.
Thy love to me, O God,
Not mine, O Lord to thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest,
And set my spirit free.

Thy grace alone, O God,
To me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.
No other work, save thine,
No other blood will do;
No strength, save that which is divine,
Can bear me safely through.

I bless the Christ of God;
I rest on love divine;
And with unfalt'ring lip and heart,
I call this Savior mine.
This cross dispels each doubt;
I bury in his tomb
Each thought of unbelief and fear,
Each ling'ring shade of gloom.

I praise the God of grace;
I trust his truth and might;
He calls me his, I call him mine,
My God, my joy, my light.
'Tis he who saveth me,
And freely pardon gives;
I love because he loveth me,
I live because he lives.

Call to Confession: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.

Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, the Rock of our Salvation, you are our refuge and shield. Yet when we find ourselves sinking down in the mire of sin or disappointment or fear, we would fly to other securities – of our own ability, or wisdom, or resources. We do not trust that you are a sure enough foundation. Help us to trust that you are a Rock that is sure enough to lift us above any storm and that if we set our faith upon you, we will never be moved. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Jeremiah 31:31-34

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

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)

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down;
When I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown, for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!

Scripture & Homily: Psalm 18

"When God Bowed the Heavens and Came Down"

- Elder Ben Chidester

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, the servant of the LORD, who addressed the words of this song to the LORD on the day when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said:

¹I love you, O LORD, my strength.

²The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

³I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies.

⁴The cords of death encompassed me;
the torrents of destruction assailed me;

⁵the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.

⁶In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I cried for help.

From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him reached his ears.

⁷Then the earth reeled and rocked;
the foundations also of the mountains trembled
and quaked, because he was angry.

⁸Smoke went up from his nostrils,
and devouring fire from his mouth;
glowing coals flamed forth from him.

⁹He bowed the heavens and came down;
thick darkness was under his feet.

¹⁰He rode on a cherub and flew;
he came swiftly on the wings of the wind.

¹¹He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him,
thick clouds dark with water.

¹²Out of the brightness before him
hailstones and coals of fire broke through his clouds.

¹³The Lord also thundered in the heavens,
and the Most High uttered his voice,
hailstones and coals of fire.

¹⁴And he sent out his arrows and scattered them;
he flashed forth lightnings and routed them.

¹⁵Then the channels of the sea were seen,
and the foundations of the world were laid bare
at your rebuke, O LORD,
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.

¹⁶He sent from on high, he took me;
he drew me out of many waters.

¹⁷He rescued me from my strong enemy
and from those who hated me,
for they were too mighty for me.

¹⁸They confronted me in the day of my calamity,
but the Lord was my support.

¹⁹He brought me out into a broad place;
he rescued me, because he delighted in me.

²⁰The LORD dealt with me according to my righteousness;
according to the cleanness of my hands he rewarded
me.

²¹For I have kept the ways of the Lord,
and have not wickedly departed from my God.

²²For all his rules were before me,
and his statutes I did not put away from me.

²³I was blameless before him,
and I kept myself from my guilt.

- ²⁴So the LORD has rewarded me according to my
righteousness,
according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.
- ²⁵With the merciful you show yourself merciful;
with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;
- ²⁶with the purified you show yourself pure;
and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.
- ²⁷For you save a humble people,
but the haughty eyes you bring down.
- ²⁸For it is you who light my lamp;
the Lord my God lightens my darkness.
- ²⁹For by you I can run against a troop,
and by my God I can leap over a wall.
- ³⁰This God—his way is perfect;
the word of the Lord proves true;
he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.
- ³¹For who is God, but the LORD?
And who is a rock, except our God?—
- ³²the God who equipped me with strength
and made my way blameless.
- ³³He made my feet like the feet of a deer
and set me secure on the heights.
- ³⁴He trains my hands for war,
so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.
- ³⁵You have given me the shield of your salvation,
and your right hand supported me,
and your gentleness made me great.
- ³⁶You gave a wide place for my steps under me,
and my feet did not slip.
- ³⁷I pursued my enemies and overtook them,
and did not turn back till they were consumed.
- ³⁸I thrust them through, so that they were not able to rise;

they fell under my feet.

³⁹For you equipped me with strength for the battle;
you made those who rise against me sink under me.

⁴⁰You made my enemies turn their backs to me,
and those who hated me I destroyed.

⁴¹They cried for help, but there was none to save;
they cried to the LORD, but he did not answer them.

⁴²I beat them fine as dust before the wind;
I cast them out like the mire of the streets.

⁴³You delivered me from strife with the people;
you made me the head of the nations;
people whom I had not known served me.

⁴⁴As soon as they heard of me they obeyed me;
foreigners came cringing to me.

⁴⁵Foreigners lost heart
and came trembling out of their fortresses.

⁴⁶The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,
and exalted be the God of my salvation—

⁴⁷the God who gave me vengeance
and subdued peoples under me,

⁴⁸who rescued me from my enemies;
yes, you exalted me above those who rose against me;
you delivered me from the man of violence.

⁴⁹For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations,
and sing to your name.

⁵⁰Great salvation he brings to his king,
and shows steadfast love to his anointed,
to David and his offspring forever.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Deuteronomy 32:4 / The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.

Isaiah 57:15 / For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Matthew 3:16-17 / And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 27:50-51 / And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.

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.

Song of Thanksgiving

Solid Rock (My Hope Is Built) #521

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.

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

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

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.

Benediction