



Sunday Morning Worship
May 11, 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

"I get by with a little help from my friends..."

– Ringo Starr

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 – May 11, 2025

Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: Psalm 133

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

Leader Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell
in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running
down on the beard,

People **On the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his
robes!**

Leader It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

People **For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life
forevermore.**

Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 34 | Gloria

(Words & Music: Mars Hill Music)

I sought for the King.
Then He heard my cry,
And delivered me
From my lonely fears.

They looked unto Him
In His radiance.
All their faces have
Been made unashamed.

Gloria! (4x)
O, taste and see
That the Lord is good
All you people, all you saints
All you children of the King.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 53:3-6

Christ Is Lower Still

(Words & Music: Matt Maher, Kate Bluett, Doe Jones 2023)

Breathe in reach out
Touch the hem of your garment now
Help me heal me
My mind my body and soul

*Let the King descend
Living Word Made Flesh
Lift this heavy heart
To your throne O God
In your wounds I find
Room for all of mine
When from grace I fell
Christ was lower still*

Humbly lowly
Jesus waits in the valley
My savior suffers with me
With him I'll rise again

'Till the earth is filled
Christ is lower still

We lift it all up to you Lord
We lift it all up to you Lord

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

(continued on next page)

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

Call to Confession: Galatians 5:25-26

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

Prayer of Confession: Adapted from Prone to Wander by Barb Duguid & Wayne Houk

God of glory and love, You have loved us from the beginning with a vast and boundless love. You and the Son have called us to love one another as you have loved us, but we confess before you our complete unwillingness to obey this command. Forgive us, Father.

Jesus, we thank you that we can have confidence before the Father because your blood has purified us from our sin. You took on our humanity and loved others on our behalf, forgiving and confronting people around you with sacrificial and generous compassion. Thank you, Jesus, for your shining goodness that dresses us in glory to stand before the King.

Holy Spirit, we need your strength and help to survive our many failures to love others every day. Convict us of our selfishness and pride, and soften our hearts to cherish and love one another. Lead us to see the cross more clearly and more often, where the power of your love is openly displayed, where our sin is crushed and destroyed, and where our names are written in the wounds of our crucified Savior. We come in his name, Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Galatians 3:26-29

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

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).

Promises

(Words & Music: Aaron Moses, Carrington Gaines, Dante Bowe, Keila Alvarado, and Lemuel Marin 2020)

God of Abraham
You're the God of covenant
Of faithful promises
Time and time again
You have proven
You do just what you say

Though the storms may come
And the winds may blow
I'll remain steadfast
And let my heart learn
When you speak a word
It will come to pass

*Great is your faithfulness to me
Great is your faithfulness to me
From the rising sun
To the setting same
I will praise your name
Great is your faithfulness to me*

God from age to age
Though the earth may pass away
Your Word remains the same
Your history can prove
There's nothing you can't do
You're faithful and true

I put my faith in Jesus
My anchor to the ground
My hope and firm foundation
He'll never let me down

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-5 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. Please pick them up after the sermon.

Sermon: 1 Chronicles 11:1-21, 12:38-40 **"David and the Mighty Men"**

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Then all Israel gathered together to David at Hebron and said, "Behold, we are your bone and flesh. ²In times past, even when Saul was king, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the Lord your God said to you, 'You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over my people Israel.'" ³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord. And they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the Lord by Samuel.

⁴And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, that is, Jebus, where the Jebusites were, the inhabitants of the land. ⁵The inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You will not come in here." Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David. ⁶David said, "Whoever strikes the Jebusites first shall be chief and commander." And Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, so he became chief. ⁷And David lived in the stronghold; therefore it was called the city of David. ⁸And he built the city all around from the Millo in complete circuit, and Joab repaired the rest of the city. ⁹And David became greater and greater, for the Lord of hosts was with him.

¹⁰Now these are the chiefs of David's mighty men, who gave him strong support in his kingdom, together with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the Lord concerning Israel. ¹¹This is an account of David's mighty men: Jashobeam, a Hachmonite, was chief of the three. He

wielded his spear against 300 whom he killed at one time.

¹²And next to him among the three mighty men was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite. ¹³He was with David at Paddammim when the Philistines were gathered there for battle. There was a plot of ground full of barley, and the men fled from the Philistines. ¹⁴But he took his stand in the midst of the plot and defended it and killed the Philistines. And the Lord saved them by a great victory.

¹⁵Three of the thirty chief men went down to the rock to David at the cave of Adullam, when the army of Philistines was encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁶David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem. ¹⁷And David said longingly, "Oh that someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem that is by the gate!" ¹⁸Then the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate and took it and brought it to David. But David would not drink it. He poured it out to the Lord ¹⁹and said, "Far be it from me before my God that I should do this. Shall I drink the lifeblood of these men? For at the risk of their lives they brought it." Therefore he would not drink it. These things did the three mighty men.

²⁰Now Abishai, the brother of Joab, was chief of the thirty. And he wielded his spear against 300 men and killed them and won a name beside the three. ²¹He was the most renowned of the thirty and became their commander, but he did not attain to the three...

^{12:38}All these, men of war, arrayed in battle order, came to Hebron with a whole heart to make David king over all Israel. Likewise, all the rest of Israel were of a single mind to make David king. ³⁹And they were there with David for three days, eating and drinking, for their brothers had made

preparation for them. ⁴⁰And also their relatives, from as far as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, came bringing food on donkeys and on camels and on mules and on oxen, abundant provisions of flour, cakes of figs, clusters of raisins, and wine and oil, oxen and sheep, for there was joy in Israel.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Additional Scripture

1 Chronicles 11:22-12:37 / And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was a valiant man of Kabzeel, a doer of great deeds. He struck down two heroes of Moab. He also went down and struck down a lion in a pit on a day when snow had fallen. And he struck down an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits tall. The Egyptian had in his hand a spear like a weaver's beam, but Benaiah went down to him with a staff and snatched the spear out of the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear. These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and won a name beside the three mighty men. He was renowned among the thirty, but he did not attain to the three. And David set him over his bodyguard. The mighty men were Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem, Shammoth of Harod, Helez the Pelonite, Ira the son of Ikkeish of Tekoa, Abiezer of Anathoth, Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite, Maharai of Netophah, Heled the son of Baanah of Netophah, Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah of the people of Benjamin, Benaiah of Pirathon, Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite, Azmaveth of Baharum, Eliahba the Shaalbonite, Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shagee the Hararite, Ahiam the son of Sachar the Hararite, Eliphal the son of Ur, Hephher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite, Hezro of Carmel, Naarai the son of Ezbai, Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Hagri, Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai of Beeroth, the armor-bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah, Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai, Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a leader of the Reubenites, and thirty with him, Hanan the son of Maacah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite, Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite, Jediahel the son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite, Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai, and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite, Eliel, and Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite. Now these are the men who came to David at Ziklag, while he could not move about freely because of Saul the son of Kish. And they were among the mighty men who helped him in war. They were

bowmen and could shoot arrows and sling stones with either the right or the left hand; they were Benjaminites, Saul's kinsmen. The chief was Ahiezer, then Joash, both sons of Shemaah of Gibeah; also Jeziel and Pelet, the sons of Azmaveth; Beracah, Jehu of Anathoth, Ishmaiah of Gibeon, a mighty man among the thirty and a leader over the thirty; Jeremiah, Jahaziel, Johanan, Jozabad of Gederah, Eluzai, Jerimoth, Bealiah, Shemariah, Shephatiah the Haruphite; Elkanah, Isshiah, Azarel, Joezer, and Jashobeam, the Korahites; And Joelah and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham of Gedor. From the Gadites there went over to David at the stronghold in the wilderness mighty and experienced warriors, expert with shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions and who were swift as gazelles upon the mountains: Ezer the chief, Obadiah second, Eliab third, Mishmannah fourth, Jeremiah fifth, Attai sixth, Eliel seventh, Johanan eighth, Elzabad ninth, Jeremiah tenth, Machbannai eleventh. These Gadites were officers of the army; the least was a match for a hundred men and the greatest for a thousand. These are the men who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it was overflowing all its banks, and put to flight all those in the valleys, to the east and to the west. And some of the men of Benjamin and Judah came to the stronghold to David. David went out to meet them and said to them, "If you have come to me in friendship to help me, my heart will be joined to you; but if to betray me to my adversaries, although there is no wrong in my hands, then may the God of our fathers see and rebuke you." Then the Spirit clothed Amasai, chief of the thirty, and he said, "We are yours, O David, and with you, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers! For your God helps you." Then David received them and made them officers of his troops. Some of the men of Manasseh deserted to David when he came with the Philistines for the battle against Saul. (Yet he did not help them, for the rulers of the Philistines took counsel and sent him away, saying, "At peril to our heads he will desert to his master Saul.") As he went to Ziklag, these men of Manasseh deserted to him: Adnah, Jozabad, Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu, and Zillethai, chiefs of thousands in Manasseh. They helped David against the band of raiders, for they were all mighty men of valor and were commanders in the army. For from day to day men came to David to help him, until there was a great army, like an army of God. These are the numbers of the divisions of the armed troops who came to David in Hebron to turn the kingdom of Saul over to him, according to the word of the Lord. The men of Judah bearing shield and spear were 6,800 armed troops. Of the Simeonites, mighty men of valor for war, 7,100. Of the Levites 4,600. The prince Jehoiada, of the house of Aaron, and with him 3,700. Zadok, a young man mighty in valor, and twenty-two commanders from his own fathers' house. Of the Benjaminites, the kinsmen of Saul, 3,000, of whom the majority had to that point kept

their allegiance to the house of Saul. Of the Ephraimites 20,800, mighty men of valor, famous men in their fathers' houses. Of the half-tribe of Manasseh 18,000, who were expressly named to come and make David king. Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, 200 chiefs, and all their kinsmen under their command. Of Zebulun 50,000 seasoned troops, equipped for battle with all the weapons of war, to help David with singleness of purpose. Of Naphtali 1,000 commanders with whom were 37,000 men armed with shield and spear. Of the Danites 28,600 men equipped for battle. Of Asher 40,000 seasoned troops ready for battle. Of the Reubenites and Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh from beyond the Jordan, 120,000 men armed with all the weapons of war.

Creedal Response: Westminster Confession of Faith 26.2

Saints by profession are bound to maintain a holy fellowship and communion in the worship of God and to perform other spiritual services that tend to their mutual edification, including helping each other in outward things, according to their various abilities and necessities. This communion, as God offers the opportunity, is to be extended to all those who call on the name of the Lord Jesus in every place.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Living Stones | 1 Peter 2:1-12

(Words & Music: Daniel Snoko 2019)

May you keep your actions noble
May your neighbors see your love
When they speak about your failure
May they see your deeds and give God glory

*For you, you have been chosen
To be God's holy people
That he builds into his house like living stones
Full of the Spirit*

*And you, you have been chosen
To be God's holy people
That he builds into his house like living stones
Full of the Spirit of peace*

(continued on next page)

If you've seen that God is precious
If you've tasted that he's good
If you struggle with your passion
Come to rest your soul as God's beloved

Come to him, the stone rejected
Come to him and give your life
Put away your sin and slander
Come to Christ the Living Stone of Zion

His mercy calls you
From darkness into his glory
The day of the Lord will come

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

(Words & Music: Sandra McCracken 2015)

*We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things we will say together
We will feast and weep no more*

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld protected gathered up

In the dark of night before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Elder Ben Chidester will be preaching from Psalm 18, "When God Bowed the Heavens and Came Down."

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

Summer Family Devotional Pickup on May 11 and 18	Families of children and youth: We have purchased an on-the-go devotional for you called Road Talk by John Kwasny. When you find yourself on the road this summer, we pray that this devotional would help you to engage in conversations about God's word. Come visit Molly or Becki after service to pick up a copy for your family!
Men's Prayer Breakfast Saturday, May 17 9-10:30 AM 300 Saline Street	Men, and young men of City Reformed, please join us for a nourishing breakfast and a time of fellowship and spiritual reflection. Pastor Derek Bates will be our guest speaker and will lead us through the next topic in our Caring for One Another teaching series! Registration is now open at the following link: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCSpring25PB
Save the Date: VBS July 21-25, 9:30-12:30 300 Saline Street	Get ready to adventure to Alaska for this summer's True North VBS! July 21 - 25, 9:30 to 12:30 at 300 Saline Street. Youth and adult volunteers needed to guide kids ages 4 through rising 5th graders in what it means to TRUST JESUS in this wild world! Registration is open now! https://crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2887119
Pittsburgh Region International Student Ministry (PRISM) You can connect with a student!	PRISM needs connection partners! It's a wonderful opportunity to invest in the life of an international student. You can complete a profile and be matched to a student at https://tinyurl.com/crpc-prism25 . Talk to Bethany Beck or a Missions Committee member to learn more.
Children's Church this Summer	Our Teach Me To Worship class (ages 6-7) will be closed from May through August. Please consider joining this team of teachers, and make sure to smile at the young faces you might see remaining in your row for the sermon!

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

College Shuttle: On Pause	The college shuttle is on pause for the summer and will resume in time for the beginning of the academic year.
Agora Forum: Every other Monday 7:00 PM 300 Saline Street	We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. The next meeting is May 19th. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)
Global Missions Prayer: Monday @ 9:00 PM	We will be praying for PRISM this week on May 12th. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024
Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM	The next Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, May 21st at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. Contact Joe Stehle: joestehle@gmail.com.
Wednesday Prayer Meetings: 8:30-9:30 AM	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 .
Youth Group: Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel	Our final meeting of the year will be a Backyard Bash at the Bacons' house on May 21st! Contact Molly at molly@cityreformed.org for more info.
Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group: Bi-Weekly Wednesdays 7:00 PM	Meets on the North Side and Squirrel Hill. Current study: Psalms 31-60. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com.
Thursday Women's Bible Study 1:00-3:00 PM	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
Mommies' Discipleship Group: 2nd & 4th Thursdays 7:00 - 9:00 PM	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.
Young Adults Fellowship	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.

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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