



Sunday Evening Service
August 3, 2025

"But you may also recall my complaints about a theorem ... which confounded all my attempts to find an adequate proof... hardly a week passed during the last four years where I have not made this or that vain attempt to untie that knot – especially vigorously during recent times. But all this brooding and searching was in vain, sadly I had to put the pen down again. Finally, a few days ago, it has been achieved – but not by my cumbersome search, rather through God's good grace, I am tempted to say. As the lighting strikes the riddle was solved."

- Carl Friederich Gauss

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Evening Worship – August 3, 2025

Presider: Elder Ben Chidester

Call to Worship: Psalm 146:1-8

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

Leader Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

People **I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

Leader Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

People **When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

Leader Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

People **Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;**

Leader Who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

People **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 104 | Rejoice in All Your Works

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2014)

Every mouth that cries for food,
Every lung that yearns for breath,
Every eye that searches through the dark for light—
All creation looks to you
For its breath and for its food.
From the goodness of your hand we're satisfied.

*Oh rejoice in all your works,
King of Heaven, King of Earth!
Every creature you have made declares your praise.
We rejoice in all you've made,
God of all-sustaining grace!
With the mountain, sky, and sea, we sing your praise!*

Every tree that thirsts for rain,
Every bird that seeks its nest,
Every heart that waits in hope to be made glad—
All creation looks to you
For its breath and for its food.
From the goodness of your hand we're satisfied

May the pond'rings of my heart,
And the song upon my lips,
With the chorus of creation join in praise:
To the God who made all things,
To the Spirit who sustains,
To the Son who over all creation reigns!

Goodness Of God

(Words & Music: Ed Cash and Jenn Johnson 2018)

I love you Lord
Oh your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

*All my life you have been faithful
All my life you have been so, so good
With ev'ry breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God*

I love your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known you as a Father
I've known you as a Friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give you everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

Call to Confession: Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Prayer of Confession:

Lord, we so often rely upon our own strength and understanding in our labors. We do not acknowledge you in our ways. We ought to seek the strength and understanding that you provide for our labor, but we are proud and our faith is frail. Forgive us, Lord. Let our labor not be in vain, but rather, make it fruitful for your purposes and your kingdom. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 130:5-8

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

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)

Hold Our Children Fast | Psalm 78

(Words & Music: Daniel Snoke & Naaman Wood 2020)

We regret the things we've lost
And name the failures from our past
We confess the common sin
Of our fathers and our mothers
We won't hide them from our children

*Our hope, it is not in our own strength
Made or lost in the darkness of the past
Oh our hope, it is in your saving pow'r
For in ev'ry age your love will last
And you will hold our children fast*

We refuse to follow God
Or trust his power to provide
We complain and test his grace
But he shows us loving kindness
We won't hide it from our children

Scripture & Homily: Psalm 127 "House Building 101"

- Elder Ben Chidester

Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.

²It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives to his beloved sleep.

³Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

⁴Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.

⁵Blessed is the man
who fills his quiver with them!
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Additional Scripture

Proverbs 16:9 / The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.

2 Samuel 7:8,12-16 / Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel... "When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

Matthew 16:18 / "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Mark 10:29-30 / Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life."

Song of Thanksgiving

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.

Benediction