



Sunday Morning All-Age Worship
Advent Week 1
November 30, 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

"The exclusion of the weak and insignificant, the seemingly useless people, from a Christian community may actually mean the exclusion of Christ; in the poor brother Christ is knocking at the door. Innumerable times a whole Christian community has broken down because it had sprung from a wish dream... Every human wish dream that is injected into the Christian community is a hindrance to genuine community and must be banished if genuine community is to survive. He who loves his dream of a community more than the Christian community itself becomes a destroyer of the latter, even though his personal intentions may be ever so honest and earnest and sacrificial."

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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 All-Age Worship – November 30, 2025

Presider: Reverend Gavin Breedon

Call to Worship: Psalm 68:4-6, 35 (NIV)

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

Leader Sing to God, sing praise to his name, extol him who rides
on the clouds — his name is the LORD — and rejoice before
him.

People **A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his
holy dwelling.**

Leader God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with
singing, but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

People **You are awesome, O God, in your sanctuary; the God of Israel
gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!**

Prayer of Invocation

Rejoice

(Words & Music: Ben Shive, Bryan Fowler, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Skye Peterson 2022)

Rejoice in the Lord now and always,
Sing it again, we rejoice
Delight in the love he has shown us,
Gratefully lift up your voice
His gentleness among us
Will join our hearts with praise
We gather in his goodness,
A family of grace

*With each breath he's given,
Praise the Lord
In these times we live in,
We will praise the Lord
Throughout ev'ry season, I am sure
We have ev'ry reason
To praise the Lord*

Rejoice and be anxious for nothing,
Praying for all that you need
Come with a song of thanksgiving,
Lay your requests at his feet
His peace will fall upon us
To guard our hearts and minds
In Christ, who reigns eternal,
Shepherd of our lives

Rejoice in the Lord now and always,
Tell of the good he has done
Worship the Lord to remember,
All of the joy yet to come
The hope that burns within us,
The dark cannot destroy
With praise that's never ending,
We say again rejoice

Advent Reading: Isaiah 40:3–5

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

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

(Words & Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard & Charles Wesley 1744)

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;--
From our fears and sins release us:
Let us find our rest in thee;--
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of eve'ry nation,
Joy of eve'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee,
Day-spring from on high, appear;--
Come thou promised Son of Jesse,
Of thy birth we long to hear;--
O'er the hills the angels singing
News glad tidings of a birth
"Go to him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end;--
By his life he brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend;--
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King;--
Born to reign in us forever;
Now thy gracious Kingdom bring;--
By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Call to Confession: Luke 15:1-7

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

Prayer of Confession:

Father, teach us to have your love for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive us for when we are users of people instead of blessing those around us with the blessing you have given us, as you bless. Through your Spirit, bind us together in love with all who are in Christ, encouraging each other to good works and lifting up your name in unity. Thank you for your love overflowing and for your forgiveness of our sins, which allows us to forgive others. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 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."

Corporate Prayer

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. § The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,* the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

§ Christ suffered God's wrath on the cross

* Universal church

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).

Breathe On Me Breath of God

(Words & Music: Edwin Hatch 1886)

Breathe on me breath of God
Fill me with life anew
That I may love what Thou dost love
And do what Thou wouldst do

Breathe on me breath of God
Until my heart is pure
Until my will is one with thine
To do and to endure

Breathe on me breath of God
Till I am wholly Thine
Till all this broken part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine

Breathe on me breath of God
So shall I never die
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity

Pastoral Prayer

We welcome children ages 4-7 to participate in hearing the Word of the Lord as preached by Elder Dave. If a drawing is presented at the end of the service, you will receive a lollipop!

Sermon: 1 Corinthians 1:20-31

"A Church, Not A Club"

- Elder Dave Snoke

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 / Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Luke 14:12-14 / He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

1 John 4:1 / Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Mary's Song (Our King Of Peace)

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2014)

My soul magnifies the Lord
My spirit rejoices in God
My Savior has seen his servant in need
And behold the great things he has done

*Oh behold my Savior has come
And my soul will tell of his praise
For he who is strong has come to the weak
And at last he will reign as our King of Peace*

He scatters the proud and rich
He lifts up the humble and weak
The kings of the earth he casts from their thrones
And the hungry he welcomes to feast

From now to the end of time
The nations will know me as blest
For God has made new his promise of love
And mercy through Abraham's seed

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

There is no evening service tonight.

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

RUF at Pitt Thursdays, 9 PM David Lawrence Hall, 104	RUF Large Group Worship and Bible Study is meeting on Thursdays in David Lawrence Hall Room 104 this semester at Pitt. All college students welcome!
Women's Bible Study Tuesdays 9:45 AM-11:45 AM Greenfield Chapel	Studying Revelation using Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation by Nancy Guthrie. Contact Tracy (partridge.ta@gmail.com) or Luda (luda.bates@gmail.com). Childcare provided.
Christmas Parade December 5, 7PM 3929 Coleman St	Greenfield hosts a Christmas Parade every 1st Friday in December. Join us as we welcome folks into our building immediately following the parade for hot chocolate, Christmas crafts and singing Christmas carols.
RUF at Pitt Christmas Party Food Request December 5	Help us to celebrate the Christmas season and the (almost) end of the semester! Food can be dropped off at the Church of the Ascension (4729 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) 6pm - 6:45pm, Friday Dec 5, or coordinated elsewhere/time if needed. Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/rufchristmas2025 Contact Gavin Breeden (gavin.breeden@ruf.org) or Abbay Kocsis (abbay.kocsis@ruf.org) with questions! Thank you!
Women's Christmas Wreath Making December 6, 10AM-12PM 300 Saline St	Feel free to bring a snack or treat to share, drinks will be provided. The cost per wreath is \$20. You do not need to make a wreath to attend. Register on Planning Center by Nov 23 (https://tinyurl.com/CRPC2025Wreath). Contact Linda (lindaskep@gmail.com)
Young Adult Women's Christmas Party Friday, December 12 7 PM Rebecca Pollard's House (Shadyside)	Young adult women are invited to a Christmas gathering with food, song, and a white elephant gift exchange (\$10 limit for gifts). Please consider bringing an appetizer or dessert to share if you're able. RSVP to Lindsay (lindsay.karr@gmail.com) and Michele (michele.kloes@gmail.com).
Congregational Meeting December 14 WT Auditorium	Immediately after the morning service. Please join for an important update regarding the 300 Saline St. building. All are welcome, members encouraged to attend to vote.
Youth Ministry Christmas Party December 17 6:30PM-8:30PM Greenfield Chapel	All MS and HS students are invited to join us for Christmas-themed games and white elephant gift exchange! There is a \$10 limit on gifts, but we also encourage saving the \$10 by creatively regifting a present. Be sure to wrap your gift before arriving!

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All scripture verses are the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise noted.

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

College Shuttle Sundays	9:30AM - PPU: 201 Wood St; Contact Amy: amy@cityreformed.org 9:40AM - Duquesne University: 1015 Forbes Ave; Contact Nameun: nameun@cityreformed.org 9:55AM - PITT: 4024 O'Hara St; Contact Gavin: gavin.breeden@ruf.org **No shuttle service: 11/30, 12/21-1/4 due to holidays
Agora Forum Biweekly Mondays, 7PM, 300 Saline Street	We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)
Global Missions Prayer Mondays @ 9:00 PM	Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024
Bean Sprouts 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM	The next Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, December 17th at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. Contact Joe Stehle: joestehle@gmail.com.
Wednesday Prayer Meetings 8:30-9:30 AM	Please join us for Scripture reading, adoration, thanksgiving, and sharing prayer requests. Held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer .
Youth Group Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel	This is an opportunity for our MS & HS students to connect with God through His Word & with one another through games, Bible teaching, discussion, & prayer. Our next gathering is December 3rd!
Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group Biweekly Wednesdays, 7:00 PM	Meets on the North Side. Current study: Psalms 31-60. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com .
Men's New Hope Bi-Weekly Wednesdays	A ministry for men struggling with various kinds of sexual sin where we practice accountability, scripture reading, and book work. If you are interested in joining, you'll need to first meet with the group leader. Please contact joseph@cityreformed.org for more information.
Thursday Women's Bible Study 1:00-3:00 PM	Women's Bible study on Growing Older and Wiser Thursdays from 1:00-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's House. Contact Cathy Taylor for more info at lawyerdad5@aol.com
Young Adults Fellowship	Young Adults Fellowship is a monthly time of fellowship, food, and connection for young adults at City. Contact Michele Kloes, michele.kloes@gmail.com , for more info.
Ultimate Frisbee Thursdays	Ultimate frisbee group meets Thursday evenings. All skill levels are welcome! Contact Dan Toney (danielrtoney@gmail.com) for more information.

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, and Abbay Kocsis (gavin.breeden@ruf.org, callie.miller@ruf.org, abbay.kocsis@ruf.org)
- cityreformed.org/collegestudents

Community Groups meet for Bible study, fellowship, and service. Contact Elder Ben Chidester (ben@cityreformed.org) or visit our website at www.cityreformed.org/community-groups/

Sunday:

Fox Chapel A - Watson Barker
Fox Chapel B - Damon Claus
North Hills - David Bacon

Monday:

Forest Hills - Adam Schwab
Morningside - James Lettow

Tuesday:

Shaler - Dan Toney
Bellevue/North Side - Joe Benscoter
Squirrel Hill - Ben Chidester

Wednesday:

Friendship - Michael Hilton
Greenfield - Max Winters
Regent Square - Dave Snoke

Thursday:

Shadyside - Chris Bollinger
West Hills - Jon Dodd

Friday:

East Suburban - Joe Stehle

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

Amanda Moore: mooreae1@gmail.com

Irene Winkler: renew77@gmail.com

Sarah Winkler: sarahditch@gmail.com

Linda Kephart: lindaskep@gmail.com

Deacons

Neil Friedrich: njfried@gmail.com

Bill Gould: wwgould@verizon.net

Cyril Isaac: dukecyrilus@gmail.com

Don McMillan: donmcmillan697@gmail.com

Nik Melchior: nik@alum.wustl.edu

Daniel Toney: danielrtoney@gmail.com

Jeff Winkler: jeffreypwinkler@gmail.com

John Bugay III: johnbugayiii@gmail.com