



**Sunday Evening Communion Service  
September 15, 2024**

*"If you believe what you like in the gospels, and reject what you don't like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself."*

*- Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD)*

# Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Evening Communion Worship – September 15, 2024

Presider: Reverend Matt Koerber

## Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:6-8

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

Leader A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"

People **All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.**

Leader The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass.

People **The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.**

## Prayer of Invocation

### Crown Him With Many Crowns #295

Crown him with many crowns,  
The Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heav'nly 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.

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 his 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,  
Absorbed in prayer and praise:  
His reign shall know no end;  
And round his pierced feet  
Fair flow'rs 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.

### **Stricken Smitten and Afflicted #257**

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
See him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;  
Yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,  
David's Son, yet David's Lord;  
By his Son God now has spoken:  
'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like his?  
Friends thro' fear his cause disowning,  
Foes insulting his distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound him,  
None would interpose to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced him  
Was the stroke that Justice gave.

*(continued on next page)*

Ye who think of sin but lightly  
Nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view its nature rightly,  
Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed,  
See who bears the awful load;  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,  
Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation,  
Here the refuge of the lost;  
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,  
His the name of which we boast.  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,  
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded  
Who on him their hope have built.

## **Call to Confession: Jeremiah 23:28-29**

Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. "What has straw in common with wheat?" declares the LORD. "Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

## **Prayer of Confession: Psalm 51:6-12**

Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

## **Silent Confession**

## Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

## 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)*

#### Jesus What a Friend for Sinners #498

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!

Jesus! lover of my soul;

Friends may fail me, foes assail me,

He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Hallelujah, what a Friend!

Saving, helping, keeping, loving,

He is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness!

Let me hide myself in him;

Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,

He, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

Jesus! what a help in sorrow!

While the billows o'er me roll,

Even when my heart is breaking,

He, my comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! what a guide and keeper!

While the tempest still is high,

Storms about me, night o'ertakes me,

He, my pilot, hears my cry.

Jesus! I do now receive him,

More than all in him I find;

He hath granted me forgiveness,

I am his, and he is mine.

## Scripture & Homily: Luke 24:13-27

### "Inerrancy Part 2: Christ as the Focus and End Point of Scripture"

- Elder Dave Snoke

**T**hat very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup>But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." <sup>25</sup>And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup>And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.** \_\_\_\_\_

## Additional Scripture

Matthew 21:33-40 / "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"

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Luke 11:49 / Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,'

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1 Corinthians 4:9 / For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men.

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Ephesians 2:17-21 / And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

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Hebrews 9:22-24 / Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

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Hebrews 10:1-4 / For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

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# Communion

*City Reformed Church invites all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sins and trust Christ alone for salvation, and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel, to receive Holy Communion with us. Parents with non-communicating children are encouraged to bring their children forward during communion. The elders will lay a hand on their head and briefly pray for them as they serve you.*

*Communion is served with wine and with grape juice. The wine is placed in the two outer circles of the communion tray, and the grape juice is placed in the inner circle. Because Jesus used wine during the first communion service, we believe using real wine is beneficial. However, participants are welcome to choose. There is also gluten-free bread available on each plate.*

*Please join us in song as we celebrate Christ dwelling with his church in the sacrament of communion.*

## Song of Communion

### **Break Thou the Bread of Life #146**

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
As thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;  
Throughout the sacred page I seek thee, Lord,  
My spirit pants for thee, O living Word.

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,  
As thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace, my All in all.

Thou art the Bread of Life, O Lord, to me,  
Thy holy Word the truth that saveth me;  
Give me to eat and live with thee above;  
Teach me to love thy truth, for thou art love.

O send thy Spirit, Lord, now unto me,  
That he may touch mine eyes, and make me see:  
Show me the truth concealed within thy Word,  
And in thy Book revealed I see the Lord.

## Benediction