



Sunday Evening Worship
February 13, 2022

"Oh, terrible one, I am the most to blame for this. I taught her, as men teach a parrot, to say 'lies of poets' and 'Ungit is a false image.' I never said 'Too true an image of the demon within.' I never told her why the priest got something from the dark house that I never got from my logical sentences. I never told her why people longed for something deep and holy. Of course, I didn't know myself, but I never told her that I didn't know. At least the priest knew that there must be sacrifice. At the heart, at the center, in the ground, there must be sacrifice, dark and strong and costly as blood. Send me away to torture, if torture can cure glibness. I made her think that a prattle of proverbs would do, all thin and clear as water. Of course water is good, and it doesn't cost as much. So I fed her on words."

- C.S. Lewis, from "Til We Have Faces"

Call to Worship: Philippians 2:5-11

Leader Have this mind among yourselves,
which is yours in Christ Jesus, who,
though he was in the form of God, did
not count equality with God a thing
to be grasped, but emptied himself,
by taking the form of a servant, being
born in the likeness of men.

People **And being found in human form,
he humbled himself by becoming
obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.**

Leader Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is
above every name,

People **So that at the name of Jesus every
knee should bow, in heaven and
on earth and under the earth, and
every tongue confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God
the Father.**

Prayer of Invocation

There Is A Fountain

(Words & Music: William Cowper & Lowell Mason 1772)

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains

Dear dying Lamb Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more (3x)
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Your flowing wounds supply
Redeeming love has been my theme
And shall be till I die (3x)
Redeeming love has been my theme
And shall be till I die

When this poor lisp'ing, stamm'ring tongue
Lies silent in the grave
Then in a nobler sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save (3x)
Then in a nobler sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save!

Jesus Lover of My Soul

(Words: Charles Wesley 1740 Music: Greg Thompson 2000)

Jesus lover of my soul
Let me to Thy bosom fly
While the nearer waters roll
While the tempest still is high
Hide me O my Savior hide
Till the storm is past
Safe into the haven guide
Receive my soul at last

Other refuge have I none
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee
Leave ah leave me not alone
Still support and comfort me
All my trust on Thee is stayed
Help from Thee I bring
Cover my defenseless head
The shadow of Thy wing

Thou O Christ art all I want
More than all in Thee I find
Raise the fallen cheer the faint
Heal the sick and lead the blind
Just and holy is Thy name
I am all unrighteousness
False and full of sin I am
Thou full of truth and grace

Plenteous grace with Thee is found
Grace to cover all my sin
Let the healing streams abound
Make and keep me pure within
Thou of life the fountain art
Let me take of Thee
Spring Thou up within my heart
To all eternity

Call to Confession: Romans 5:2-5

Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Prayer of Confession:

Psalm 51:1-7, 10-12, 17

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. 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. 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. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Romans 5:7-10

For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

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

(Words: Anonymous Music: American Folk Southern Harmony)

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 49

"Eternal Hope"

- David Snoke

Hear this, all peoples!
Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
²both low and high,
rich and poor together!
³My mouth shall speak wisdom;
the meditation of my heart shall be
understanding.
⁴I will incline my ear to a proverb;
I will solve my riddle to the music of the lyre.

⁵Why should I fear in times of trouble,
when the iniquity of those who cheat me
surrounds me,
⁶those who trust in their wealth
and boast of the abundance of their riches?
⁷Truly no man can ransom another,
or give to God the price of his life,
⁸for the ransom of their life is costly
and can never suffice,
⁹that he should live on forever
and never see the pit.
¹⁰For he sees that even the wise die;
the fool and the stupid alike must perish
and leave their wealth to others.
¹¹Their graves are their homes forever,
their dwelling places to all generations,
though they called lands by their own names.
¹²Man in his pomp will not remain;
he is like the beasts that perish.
¹³This is the path of those who have foolish
confidence;
yet after them people approve of their
boasts.
¹⁴Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;
death shall be their shepherd,
and the upright shall rule over them in the
morning.
Their form shall be consumed in Sheol, with
no place to dwell.
¹⁵But God will ransom my soul from the power of
Sheol,
for he will receive me.
¹⁶Be not afraid when a man becomes rich,
when the glory of his house increases.
¹⁷For when he dies he will carry nothing away;
his glory will not go down after him.
¹⁸For though, while he lives, he counts himself
blessed
—and though you get praise when you do
well for yourself—
¹⁹his soul will go to the generation of his fathers,
who will never again see light.
²⁰Man in his pomp yet without understanding is
like the beasts that perish.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Additional Scripture

Gen 15:15 / "As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age."

Deuteronomy 18:10-11 / There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead...

2 Chronicles 9:31 / And Solomon slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David his father, and Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

Job 19:25-27 / For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

Isaiah 26:19 / Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead.

Daniel 12:2 / And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Matthew 22:29-32 / But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living."

John 6:53 / So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you."

1 Corinthians 15:16-19 / For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Sermon Outline

I. The Old Testament as well as the New Testament tells us that life after death is real

II. Our hope cannot be in this world

- Priority on heart change, souls with eternal life.
- Work for good but don't put trust in the success of any earthly institution.
- Don't fear the powers of this world.
- We can give up vengeance in the face of injustice.

III. The Bible teaches that God must "ransom" us, for us to have eternal life.

- A (mere) human cannot pay for another human.
- Christianity is at its core a "bloody" religion.

Song of Thanksgiving

Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

(Words: Henry Lyte 1825 Music: Bill Moore 2001)

Jesus I my cross have taken
All to leave and follow Thee
Destitute despised forsaken
Thou from hence my all shall be
Perish every fond ambition
All I've sought or hoped or known
Yet how rich is my condition
God and heaven are still my own

Let the world despise and leave me
They have left my Savior too
Human hearts and looks deceive me
Thou art not like them untrue
O while Thou dost smile upon me
God of wisdom love, and might
Foes may hate and friends disown me
Show Thy face and all is bright

Man may trouble and distress me
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast
Life with trials hard may press me
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me
While Thy love is left to me
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me
Were that joy unmixed with Thee

Go then earthly fame and treasure
Come disaster scorn and pain
In Thy service pain is pleasure
With Thy favor loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father
I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl and clouds may gather
All must work for good to me

Soul then know thy full salvation
Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station
Something still to do or bear
Think what Spirit dwells within thee
Think what Father's smiles are thine
Think that Jesus died to win thee
Child of heaven canst thou repine

Haste thee on from grace to glory
Armed by faith and winged by prayer
Heaven's eternal days before thee
God's own hand shall guide us there
Soon shall close thy earthly mission
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days
Hope shall change to glad fruition
Faith to sight and prayer to praise

Benediction

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. If you are new, we would love to meet you! Please contact us at office@cityreformed.org. If you would like to contact a pastor, please email nameun@cityreformed.org. And, if you would like more information about our ministries, resources, and ways to engage, please visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request, we will pray for you. Please send prayer requests to Pastor Joseph through prayer@cityreformed.org.

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15 AM
Winchester Thurston Auditorium
5059 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh PA, 15213

LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

Sunday Evening Service

5:30 PM
Greenfield Chapel
3929 Coleman Street
Pittsburgh PA, 15207

Church Office

3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
t: 412-720-7014
e: office@cityreformed.org
w: cityreformed.org

Donations

Online: cityreformed.org/give
Mail: to the Church Office address above "Attn: Bookkeeper" (checks payable to City Reformed Presbyterian Church)