



**Sunday Evening Communion Service**  
**August 20, 2023**

*Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.*

*-John 20:21*

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Evening Communion Worship – August 20, 2023

Presider: Elder Andy Leuenberger

## Call to Worship: Isaiah 61:1-4

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

**Leader** The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

**People** **To proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;**

**Leader** To grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

**People** **They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.**

## Prayer of Invocation

# All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

*(Words: Edward Perronet 1780 & Music: Oliver Holden 1793)*

All hail the power of Jesus' name  
Let angels prostrate fall  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race  
Ye ransomed from the fall  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all

Let every kindred every tribe  
On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe  
And crown Him Lord of all  
To Him all majesty ascribe  
And crown Him Lord of all

O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall  
We'll join the everlasting song  
And crown Him Lord of all  
We'll join the everlasting song  
And crown Him Lord of all

## **Glorify Thy Name**

*(Words & Music: Donna Adkins 1976)*

Father we love You  
We worship and adore You  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth

Jesus we love You  
We worship and adore You  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth

Spirit we love You  
We worship and adore You  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth

## **Call to Confession: Philippians 3:17-19**

Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.

## **Prayer of Confession**

Gracious heavenly Father, we confess to you the many ways we have set our minds on earthly things. We live in a day and age where earthly comforts are everywhere and the temptation to indulge is increased. Forgive us where we have given into the appetites of sinful pleasures, even boasting in what is actually shameful. Forgive us for not setting our eyes on the ascended Jesus, seated at the right hand of God the Father. Fix our eyes upon our savior and forgive our sin. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon: Philippians 3:20-21**

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

## **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).*

## Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

*(Words & Music: Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Matthew Merker 2020)*

What is our hope in life and death  
Christ alone Christ alone  
What is our only confidence  
That our souls to Him belong  
Who holds our days within His hand  
What comes apart from His command  
And what will keep us to the end  
The love of Christ in which we stand

*O sing hallelujah  
Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death*

What truth can calm the troubled soul  
God is good God is good  
Where is His grace and goodness known  
In our great Redeemer's blood  
Who holds our faith when fears arise  
Who stands above the stormy trial  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

Unto the grave what will we sing  
Christ He lives Christ He lives  
And what reward will heaven bring  
Everlasting life with Him  
There we will rise to meet the Lord  
Then sin and death will be destroyed  
And we will feast in endless joy  
When Christ is ours forevermore

## Scripture & Homily: Acts 1:1-11

### "The Beginning of the Church"

- Reverend Joseph Bianco

**I**n the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup>And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

## Additional Scripture

Luke 1:3-4 / It seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

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## Notes

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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-communing 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.*

# Songs of Communion

## King of Kings

*(Words & Music: Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, Scott Ligertwood 2018)*

In the darkness we were waiting  
Without hope without light  
'Till from heaven you came running  
There was mercy in your eyes  
To fulfill the Law and Prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

*Praise the Father praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of glory majesty  
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
Now we see that in your suff'ring  
You saw glory to behold  
Knowing you were our salvation  
Jesus for our sake you died

For the morning that you rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
'Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
Then the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are re-stored

*(continued on next page)*

Then the Church of Christ was born  
And the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint  
By his blood and in his name  
In his freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me

## Be Thou My Vision

*(Words: Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1905 & Music: "Slane" )*

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word  
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father I thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and with thee one

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and thou only first in my heart  
High King of Heaven my treasure thou art

High King of Heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision O Ruler of All

## Doxology

*(Words: Thomas Ken 1674; Music: Louis Bourgeois 1510)*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen

## Benediction