



Sunday Morning Worship
December 9, 2018

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. Please stop by the Welcome Table in the foyer - we would love to meet you! If you would like more information, please fill out one of the info cards on the table, refer to our print newsletter, *City This Month*, or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Reflections

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

- Isaiah 53:3

Please speak to an usher or greeter if you have any questions about the nursery and children's programs.

- *There is a nursery for children infant – 3 during the service.*
- *A Cry Room is available during the service off the foyer.*
- *During the service, children 4 – 7 have the option to be dismissed to attend Children's Church.*
- *Children's bulletins are available at the side table for those staying in service.*

Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Morning Worship – December 9, 2018
Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: I John 1:1-3

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

Leader That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—

People **The life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—**

Leader That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us;

People **And indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.**

Prayer of Invocation

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

(Words: Liturgy of St. James, (4th Century); Melody: 17th Century French; Arrangement: Daniel Snoko 2011)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

(continued on next page)

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

Scripture Reading: Psalm 86:1-7

My All in Thee

(Words & Music: Eric J. Marshall 2012; Words: adapted from Charles Wesley)

When gracious Lord when shall it be
That earth will find her all in Thee
The fullness of Thy promise prove
Seal me with Thy eternal love

Thee only Thee I'm fain to find
I cast the world and sin behind
O my Redeemer hear this plea
And let me find my all in Thee

*Show me Your way my love my Lord
Draw me to grace so strong and sure
I run to Your mercy where I am free
Let me find my all in Thee*

Lord I am blind be Thou my sight
Lord I am weak be Thou my might
A helper of the helpless be
And let me find my all in Thee

Please mend my soul my frame my life
A contrite heart Thou won't despise
Take now this pain and misery
And let me find my all in Thee

Once in Royal David's City

(Words: Cecil F. Alexander 1848; Music: Henry J. Gauntlett 1849)

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in Heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in Heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Call to Confession: 1 John 1:5-7

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Prayer of Confession

Great God in Heaven, we cry out with the prophet Isaiah, "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" You are perfect in holiness and your glory reveals our sin and imperfections. Our lips are unclean. We speak words and hurt others and we have slandered your name. These words are the overflow of our hearts and we stand exposed before you. What is more, we are part of a sinful people. Our society and our relationships are characterized by malice and selfishness and greed. We are a people with unclean lips. We pray, Lord, that you forgive us and heal our sins. Help us to love each other instead of consuming each other. We pray that the love of Christ would be worked out in our lives and in our church.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 1:8-10

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Testimony: Jonathan Durstenfeld, North Africa

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

During this song we will pass offering bags through the congregation. We ask that our members and regular attendees will thoughtfully consider their contribution as an act of worship - a response to God's grace in our lives. Those who are not a regular part of our church are not expected to participate in the offering.

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

*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*

Holy child of mystery
Please set ablaze our hearts
With grace unending love so pure
And pierce the ancient dark

As the tide of heaven's wrath
Is washed beneath the sea
A Living Stream shall quench our thirst
For all eternity

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. The leaders will bring the children to children's church and then back to the worship service after the sermon.

Sermon: John 1:1-18

Christmas 2018: Names of Jesus

"What's in a Name?" - Reverend Nate Keisel

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Notes

Lined area for notes, consisting of 20 horizontal lines.

Additional Scripture

Hebrews 1:1-4 / Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Creedal Response: Westminster Larger Catechism

Q47. How did Christ humble himself in his conception and birth?

A. Christ humbled himself in his conception and birth, in that, being from all eternity the Son of God, in the bosom of the Father, he was pleased in the fullness of time to become the son of man, made of a woman of low estate, and to be born of her; with various circumstances of more than ordinary abasement.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final songs if you are able.

God With Us

(Words & Music: Leslie Jordan 2012)

You have come to bring peace
To be love, to be nearer to us
You have come to bring life
To be light, to shine brighter in us.
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

*Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our redemption
God with us, You are God with us.*

You have come to be hope
To this world for Your honor and name.
You have come to take sin
To bear shame and to conquer the grave.
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

You are here and
You are holy
We are standing
In Your glory (Lord)

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Endless Light

(Words & Music: Karl Cashwell & Dean Ussher 2011)

From the highest throne to the earth below
You laid down Your life for the likes of us
Great is the love of the Saviour

From a wounded heart to a life made whole
Every human heart will declare as one
Great is the love of the Saviour

*Lord of endless light
Let Your glory shine forever
All the earth
All the earth will sing Your praise*

Hope of every heart
Let Your Name be lifted higher
All our hearts
All our hearts will sing Your praise

From the mountain heights to the valleys low
All created things given life to show
Jesus we live for Your glory

From the rising sun to the still of night
Every waking moment for Your delight
Jesus we live for Your glory

God be exalted
God be exalted in everything
We live for Your glory
Live for Your glory

Prayer

Announcements

At the beginning of announcements parents are dismissed to pick up their children from nursery.

Benediction

Tonight's Evening Service: Dave Naemun will be preaching "A King Revealed" on Matthew 2:1-12.