



**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**March 17, 2019**

# 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](http://cityreformed.org).

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## Reflections

Reflections:

"Somehow we have forgotten that first foremost we are Easter people. As Easter people we have an Easter gospel, a gospel which means good news every week, and indeed every day of the year.

- Derek Tidball

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*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.*
- *Children's bulletins are available at the side table for those staying in service.*
- *During the service, children 4 – 7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church.*

# Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – March 17, 2019

Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

## Call to Worship: 1 Peter 1:3-7

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

Leader Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again  
to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the  
dead,

People **To an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and  
unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are  
being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be  
revealed in the last time.**

Leader In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you  
have been grieved by various trials,

People **So that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious  
than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be  
found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation  
of Jesus Christ.**

## Prayer of Invocation

## Man of Sorrows - Rugged Cross

(Words & Music: Matt Crocker & Brooke Ligertwood 2012)

Man of sorrows Lamb of God  
By His own betrayed  
The sin of man and wrath of God  
Has been on Jesus laid

Silent as He stood accused  
Beaten mocked and scorned  
Bowing to the Father's will  
He took a crown of thorns

*Oh that rugged cross my salvation  
Where Your love poured out over me  
Now my soul cries out hallelujah  
Praise and honor unto Thee*

Sent of heaven God's own Son  
To purchase and redeem  
And reconcile the very ones  
Who nailed Him to that tree

Now my debt is paid  
It is paid in full  
By the precious blood  
That my Jesus spilled  
Now the curse from sin  
Has no hold on me  
Whom the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed

See the stone is rolled away  
Behold the empty tomb  
Hallelujah, "God be praised"  
He's risen from the grave

## In Christ Alone

*(Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend 2001)*

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my all in all  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless Babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No pow'r of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

**Lenten Reading:** Acts 2:29-32

# Stronger

*(Words & Music: Ben Fielding & Reuben Morgan 2007)*

There is Love that came for us  
Humbled to a sinner's cross  
You broke my shame and sinfulness  
You rose again victorious

Faithfulness none can deny  
Through the storm and through the fire  
There is truth that sets me free  
Jesus Christ who lives in me

*You are stronger  
You are stronger  
Sin is broken  
You have saved me  
It is written  
Christ is risen  
Jesus You are Lord of all*

No beginning and no end  
You're my hope and my defense  
You came to seek and save the lost  
You paid it all upon the cross

## **Call to Confession: Romans 6:9-11**

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

## **Prayer of Confession**

Father, we need the forgiveness that is offered in Jesus Christ. We confess that we sin against you and against our neighbors. We cannot do enough good deeds to make up for it. Even our best actions are tainted by selfishness. If we were to stand before you without Jesus we would be lost.

So, we praise you for the grace that is ours in Christ Jesus. We are thankful that he suffered in our place. He was cursed in our place. He was rejected in our place. He lived a righteous life in our place. He died in our place. And he was raised for our salvation.

Draw our eyes back to the cross of Jesus Christ. We know that it is our only hope. Convict us, shape us, renew us, and change us as we understand more deeply the crucifixion of our savior. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon: Romans 8:1-2**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

## **Membership Vows: Candy Taylor**

## **Corporate Prayer**

# Song of Renewal

*During this song we will pass offering bags through the congregation. We ask that our members and regular attendees 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.*

## Before The Throne Of God Above

*(Words: Charitie Lees Bancroft; Music: Vikki Cook 1997)*

Before the throne of God above,  
I have a strong, a perfect plea,  
A great High Priest whose name is Love,  
Who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on His hands,  
My name is written on His heart:  
I know that while in Heav'n He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end to all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died,  
My sinful soul is counted free;  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me,  
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! The risen Lamb,  
My perfect, spotless righteousness;  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
The King of glory and of grace!  
One with Himself, I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased with His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

## 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: 1 Corinthians 15:1-10a

### Of First Importance: The Resurrection

"Witnesses of the Resurrection" - Reverend Matt Koerber

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Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

<sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain.

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Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



## Additional Scripture

Matthew 28:16-17 / Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted.

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## Creedal Response: 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

# Songs of Thanksgiving

*Please stand for the final songs if you are able.*

## Wood and Nails

*(Words & Music: Isaac Wardell, Keith Watts, & Madison Cunningham 2017)*

O humble carpenter down on your hands and knees  
Look on your handiwork and build a house  
So you may dwell in Me  
So you may dwell in Me

*The work was done with nothing but wood and nails  
In Your scar-borne hands  
O show me how to work and praise  
Trusting that I am Your instrument*

O loving laborer with the sweat upon your face  
O build a table that I too may join you  
In the father's place  
Oh in the Father's place

*The kingdom's come and built upon  
Wood and nails gripped with joyfulness  
So send me out within Your ways  
Knowing that the task is finished*

*The dead will rise and give You praise  
Wood and nails will not hold them down  
These wooden tombs we'll break them soon  
And fashion them into flower beds*

*The curse is done the battle won  
Swords bent down into plowshares  
Your scar-borne hands we'll join with them  
Serving at the table You've prepared*

# I Know That My Redeemer Lives - Glory Hallelujah

(Words: Samuel Medley 1775; Music: Southern Harmony American Folk Melody 1900's)

I know that my redeemer lives,  
Glory hallelujah!  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives,  
Glory hallelujah!

*Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground,  
Glory hallelujah!  
The dead's alive and the lost is found,  
Glory hallelujah!*

He lives, he lives, who once was dead,  
Glory hallelujah!  
He lives, my everlasting Head,  
Glory hallelujah!

He lives to bless me with his love,  
Glory hallelujah!  
He lives to plead for me above,  
Glory hallelujah!

He lives, all glory to his name,  
Glory hallelujah!  
He lives my Jesus, still the same,  
Glory hallelujah!

## Prayer

## Announcements

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

## Benediction

***Tonight's Evening Service: Reverend Joseph Bianco will preach "Living As People Who Are Free: Servants and Masters" on 1 Peter 2:18-25. Communion will be served tonight.***

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