



Sunday Morning Worship
May 12, 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.

Reflections

Our anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strengths.

- C.H. Spurgeon

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 space is available during the service in the room 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 – May 12, 2019

Presider: Elder Jim Partridge

Call to Worship: Psalm 46:1-7

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

Leader God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People **Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

Leader Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

People **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

Leader God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

People **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Prayer of Invocation

O God Our Help in Ages Past

(Words: Isaac Watts 1719; Music: William Croft & Tommy Walker 1998)

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

*O God You are
You are our help You are our helper
To all generations You will be
Forever and ever
Our Shield and our Eternal Hope
O Lord You are the Ancient of Days
And worthy of our praise*

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Psalm 25

(Words & Music: Joe Day 2000)

Good and upright
Are you Lord
You teach us sinners
In your ways
Repeat

You guide the humble
In what is right
And instruct them
In your ways
Repeat

All your ways are
Loving, faithful, Lord
To those who
Seek your face
Repeat

You give grace to
The humble hearted
And instruct them
In your ways
Repeat

You guide the humble
In what is right
And instruct them
In your ways
Repeat

Eastertide Reading: Psalm 33:13-22

Psalm 130 | Out of the Depths

(Words & Music: Bob Kauflin 2008)

Out of the depths, O Lord, I cry to You
When I am tempted to despair
Though I might fail to trust Your promises
You never fail to hear my prayer
And if You judged my sin
I'd never stand again
But I see mercy in Your hands

*So more than watchmen for the morning
I will wait for You, my God
When my fears come with no warning
In Your Word I'll put my trust
When the harvest time is over
And I still see no fruit
I will wait, I will wait for You*

The secret mysteries belong to You
We only know what You reveal
And all my questions that are unresolved
Don't change the wisdom of Your will
In every trial and loss
My hope is in the cross
Where Your compassions never fail

Call to Confession: 2 Corinthians 10:13-18

But we will not boast beyond limits, but will boast only with regard to the area of influence God assigned to us, to reach even to you. For we are not overextending ourselves, as though we did not reach you. For we were the first to come all the way to you with the gospel of Christ. We do not boast beyond limit in the labors of others. But our hope is that as your faith increases, our area of influence among you may be greatly enlarged, so that we may preach the gospel in lands beyond you, without boasting of work already done in another's area of influence. "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious heavenly Father, forgive us for boasting in ourselves. We are tempted to believe our strength is our own, the work of our hands our pride, our accomplishments our identity, but these are lies. Let us boast in Christ alone, and forgive us for boasting in ourselves. Strengthen our hands by the work of your Spirit so that work, life, and ministry may be a joy. Bless and keep us in the forgiveness we share in your Son. In Christ we pray, Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Galatians 6:14-16

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

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.

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

(Words & Music: Sandra McCracken 2015)

*We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more*

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom.

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 sermo

Sermon: Nehemiah 2:9-20

Nehemiah: Restoration After Exile

"True Prosperity" - Reverend Joseph Bianco

Then I came to the governors of the province Beyond the River and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent with me officers of the army and horsemen. ¹⁰But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the people of Israel.

¹¹ So I went to Jerusalem and was there three days. ¹²Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. And I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There was no animal with me but the one on which I rode. ¹³I went out by night by the Valley Gate to the Dragon Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that were broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. ¹⁴Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but there was no room for the animal that was under me to pass. ¹⁵Then I went up in the night by the valley and inspected the wall, and I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned. ¹⁶And the officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, and I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest who were to do the work.

¹⁷Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision." ¹⁸And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for

(continued on next page)

the good work. ¹⁹But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they jeered at us and despised us and said, “What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?” ²⁰Then I replied to them, “The God of heaven will make us prosper, and we his servants will arise and build, but you have no portion or right or claim in Jerusalem.”

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Outline

1. **Sermon Introduction:** Continuing Nehemiah series
2. Reading (*This is the word of the Lord...thanks be to God*)
3. Prayer

Proposition: We are all working towards the common goal of building God's kingdom. We must do this through the power of Christ.

Our fallen condition: The prosperity Gospel, making God's power about building my kingdom

Intro: We will look at how Nehemiah goes about God's work in rebuilding the wall of the kingdom of God

Main Points:

1. Inspecting the wall
2. Preparing and planning the work
3. Facing adversity, embracing the God of heaven

Conclusion: Gospel

Additional Scripture

2 Samuel 2:7 / "Now therefore let your hands be strong, and be valiant, for Saul your lord is dead, and the house of Judah has anointed me king over them."

2 Samuel 15:23 / And all the land wept aloud as all the people passed by, and the king crossed the brook Kidron, and all the people passed on toward the wilderness.

Isaiah 51:3 / For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Zechariah 4:6 / Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts."

Luke 14:28 / For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

Romans 6:14 / For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Romans 8:13-14 / For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

2 Corinthians 12:9 / But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Credal Response: Westminster Larger Catechism

Q77. How do justification and sanctification differ?

A. Although sanctification is inseparably joined with justification, yet they differ in the following ways: in justification God *imputes* the righteousness of Christ; in the sanctification of his Spirit, God *infuses* grace and enables it to be put into action. In the former, sin is pardoned; in the latter, it is subdued. The first frees all believers equally from the revenging wrath of God perfectly in this life, so that they never fall into condemnation; the second is not equal in all people, nor is it ever perfect in anyone in this life, but grows toward perfection.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Please stand for the final songs if you are able.

Your Labor Is Not in Vain

(Words & Music: Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach, and Wendell Kimbrough 2017)

Your labor is not in vain
Though the ground underneath you
Is cursed and stained
Your planting and reaping are never the same
But your labor is not in vain

Your labor is not unknown
Though the rocks they cry out
And the sea it may groan
The place of your toil may not seem like a home
But your labor is not unknown

*For I am with you I am with you
I am with you I am with you
For I have called you
Called you by name
Your labor is not in vain*

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth
For all that is old will at last be made new
The vineyards you plant will bear fruit

The houses you labor to build
Will finally with laughter and joy be filled
The serpent that hurts and destroys will be killed
And all that is broken be healed

Take My Life and Let It Be

(Words: Frances R. Haverga 1874; Music: Henri A. Cesar Malan 1823)

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise. (2x)

Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee. (2x)

Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from thee. (2x)

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. (2x)
Take my will and make it thine;

It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne. (2x)

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee. (2x)

Prayer

Announcements

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

Benediction

Tonight's Evening Service: Jonas McLeod will be preaching "Embrace the Better Binding of the Lord" on Exodus 20:1-2.