



Sunday Morning Worship
Advent Week 2
December 8, 2024

Welcome to City Reformed Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us for worship today. If you would like more information, please contact us at office@cityreformed.org or visit our website: cityreformed.org.

Reflections

"Turning and turning in the widening gyre
The falcon cannot hear the falconer;
Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,"

– W.B. Yeats (1865—1939)

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM
Winchester Thurston Auditorium
5059 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

Church Office

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

Welcome
Information:



Sunday Evening Worship Service

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

Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)
OR cityreformed.org/give
Mail: Church Office address above "Attn:
Bookkeeper" (please make checks
payable to City Reformed Presbyterian
Church)

Morning Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – December 8, 2024

Presider: Reverend Nameun Cho

Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:25-31

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

Leader To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these?

People **He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.**

Leader Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard?

People **The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.**

Leader He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;

People **But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.**

Prayer of Invocation

Who Is This So Weak And Helpless

(Words & Music: William Walsham How and Christopher Miner 1998)

Who is this, so weak and helpless,
Child of lowly Hebrew maid,
Rudely in a stable sheltered,
Coldly in a manger laid?
'Tis the Lord of all creation,
Who this wondrous path has trod;
He is Lord from everlasting,
And to everlasting God.

Who is this, a Man of Sorrows,
Walking sadly life's hard way,
Homeless, weary, sighing, weeping
Over sin and Satan's sway?
'Tis our God, our glorious Savior,
Who above the starry sky
Is for us a place preparing,
Where no tear can dim the eye.

Who is this? Behold him shedding
Drops of blood upon the ground!
Who is this, despised, rejected,
Mocked, insulted, beaten, bound?
'Tis our God, Who gifts and graces
On His church is pouring down;
Who shall smite in holy vengeance
All His foes beneath His throne.

Who is this that hangs there dying
While the rude world scoffs and scorns,
Numbered with the malefactors,
Torn with nails, and crowned with thorns?
'Tis our God Who lives forever
'Mid the shining ones on high,
In the glorious golden city,
Reigning everlastingly.

Amen Amen

(Words & Music: Kate Robins and Neil Robins 2007)

Let every creature rise and bring
Their grateful praises to our King
Angels descend with songs again
And earth repeats a loud amen

Amen amen

Amen amen

I found my life

I found my life in him

Amen amen

Peace like a river from His throne
Will flow to nations yet unknown
His word a light where hope is dim
And tribes unite to cry amen

And in this Child we'll find our rest
And all the meek and lowly blessed
An Infant tongue could sing the hymn
Of hallelujah and amen

Advent Reading: Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7

Joy Joy

(Words & Music: Mason Neely & Isaac Wardell 2009)

Under the baby's head she held
Love, love, sing Emmanuel
Lending at His birth
Peace on all the earth
See His mother Mary weeping
Love, love, love

Over the shepherds, angels tell
Joy, joy called Emmanuel
Born in Bethlehem
Good will unto men
Bend before His cradle singing
Joy, joy, joy

Down from His throne He came to dwell
Light, light, came Emmanuel
Covered in our flesh
Swaddled in our dress
Wise men see His coming chasing
Light, light, light

Onto the ground his blood He spilled
Peace, peace, cried Emmanuel
Sinners dark and vile
God to reconcile
Spilling love and joy and light and
Peace, peace, peace

Call to Confession: Isaiah 40:3

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Prayer of Confession: Based on the Apostle Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:9-14

Father, you have delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of your beloved Son. We look to him alone for redemption, we look to the cross of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask to be filled with the knowledge of your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Help us to walk in a manner that is pleasing to you and help us to be fruitful with good works. Strengthen us with all power according to your glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy. We give you thanks for the inheritance that you have prepared for us. We thank you that you are continuing to work for our good in all things to prepare us for our heavenly inheritance. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 40:1-2a

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned...

Membership Vows: Charlotte Barker, Zachary Chan, & Grace Girard

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Cards and donations can be placed in offering bags. Giving can also be directed online (cityreformed.org/give) or sent via mail (3929 Coleman St., 15207).

All Things New

(Words: Horatius Bonar 1779; Music: Clint Wells 2009)

Come Lord and tarry not
Bring the long-looked-for day
O why these years of waiting here
These ages of delay?

Come for your saints still wait
Daily ascends their sigh
The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come;"
Do you not hear our cry?

*O come and make all things new
Come and make all things new
Come and make all things new
Build up this broken earth
Come and make all things new
All things new*

Come for creation groans
Impatient while you stay
Worn out in labor pains of hope
Still bound by earth's decay

Come for love waxes cold
Its steps are faint and slow
Our faith is pressed by unbelief
Hope's lamp burns dim and low

Pastoral Prayer

At this time, children ages 4-7 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. Please pick them up after the sermon.

Sermon: Colossians 1:13-20; Second Sunday of Advent 2024: "The Supremacy of Christ as Creator and Sustainer"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Notes

Additional Scripture

Romans 8:28 / And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Creedal Response: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 11. What are God's works of providence?

A. God's works of providence are his most holy, wise and powerful acts of preserving and governing all his creatures and all their actions.

Songs of Thanksgiving

All My Ways

(Words & Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Dustin Smith, and Michael Farren 2016)

In days of peace and days of rest
In times of loss and loneliness
Though rich or poor, your word is true
That all my ways are known to you

No trial has come beyond your hand
No step I walk beyond your plan
The path is dark outside my view
Still all my ways are known to you

*And O, what peace that I have found
Wherever I may be
For all my ways are known to you
Hallelujah, they are known to you*

I do not fear the final night
For death will be the door to life
You take my hand and lead me through
For all my ways are known to you

Open up my eyes so I may see
That you have made these ways for me
Open up my eyes so I may see
That you, my God, will walk with me
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

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

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

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Elder Dave Snoke will be preaching from Isaiah 9:1-7, "Jesus as the King: How Much Hope Should We Have for this World?"

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

Nursing Area for Mothers	A private space is now available to nurse babies or pump milk, on the 2nd floor by Room #112. The changing table has now been placed in the corner stairwell by Rm. G9.
Young Adult Women's Christmas Party Saturday, December 14 7 PM Rebecca Pollard's House in Shadyside	Young adult women are invited to a Christmas celebration with food, fellowship, and a white elephant gift exchange (\$10 or less for gifts). Please RSVP to Lindsay if you can attend to help plan for food: lindsay.karr@gmail.com
Sunday School Christmas Party Sunday, December 15 9-10 AM WT Cafeteria	You're invited to our annual Sunday School Christmas party! Join us for food and games, and to celebrate Christ's birth. All ages are welcome! Reach out to Molly or Becki with any questions.
Youth Ministry Christmas Party Wednesday, December 18 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel	We invite all MS and HS students to join us in celebrating the season with Christmas-themed games followed by a white elephant gift exchange! There is a \$10 limit on gifts, but we highly encourage saving the \$10 by creatively regifting a present. Be sure to wrap your gift before arriving!
Daniel Snoke EP Release Concert Friday, December 20 7:30 PM Greenfield Chapel	Daniel Snoke will be giving a free Christmas concert with a mixture of some favorite carols and original songs, including features from his new EP, You Are My Wonder.
Nursery Training January 10 or January 11 Greenfield Chapel	If you serve in the Nursery (or are interested in learning how you can join us in this ministry), please plan to attend our mandatory training on EITHER Friday, January 10th from 7:30-9 PM OR Saturday, January 11th 9-10:30 AM. Reach out to becki@cityreformed.org with any questions!
Women's Ministry Need	We still have an opening for the full-time Women's Ministry Director. The updated job description is listed here: https://tinyurl.com/DirectorWomensMinistry2024 or in print at the welcome table. Please email nameun@cityreformed.org for consideration.

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>College Shuttle: Sundays</p>	<p>9:30AM- PPU: 201 Wood St; Contact: Daphne: drriddl@pointpark.edu 9:45AM- PITT: 4024 O'Hara St; Contact: Rebekka: rjh152@pitt.edu or David: DGT12@pitt.edu</p>
<p>Agora Forum: Every other Monday 7:00 PM 300 Saline Street</p>	<p>We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. We will be discussing Christianity and Culture this Monday. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer: Monday @ 9:00 PM</p>	<p>This week we will be praying for Andrew and Amy on December 9th. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM</p>	<p>The December Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, December 18 at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. The topic will be our Grief Share ministry, hearing a bit about it from some of the participants and seeing a sample of the video material which is a significant part of the program. Contact Joe Stehle: joestehle@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Wednesday Prayer Meetings: 8:30-9:30 AM</p>	<p>All are welcome to join our Wednesday prayer community. We begin with Scripture, move to a general opening prayer of adoration/thanksgiving, then share specific prayer requests and pray through them. Held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer.</p>
<p>Youth Group: Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>We will continue to look at Christ's miracles in the Gospels and recognize the greatest of Christ's miracles, the resurrection. We invite all MS and HS students to join us. Next date is December 18th.</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group: Bi-Weekly Wednesdays 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Meets on the North Side and Squirrel Hill. Fall study: Jesus' 7 "I Am" statements in the book of John. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Mommies' Discipleship Group: 2nd & 4th Thursdays 7:00 - 9:00 PM</p>	<p>Join us for a time of fellowship and encouragement as we pray for one another and study the book of Luke. Contact Sandy for more info: scssnoke@comcast.net.</p>

College Students please refer to campus ministry contacts below:

- CMU: Chris Bollinger (cwbollinger@gmail.com)
- CCO at PPU: Matt Koerber (pastormatt@cityreformed.org)
- RUF at Pitt: Gavin Breeden & Callie Miller (gavin.breeden@ruf.org, callie.miller@ruf.org)
- cityreformed.org/collegestudents

Specialty Groups meet in particular areas of interest for Bible study, fellowship, learning, and service.

- **Agora Forum** (amain8511@gmail.com)
- **Men's New Hope** (Joseph@cityreformed.org)
- **Mommies' Group** (Sandy@cityreformed.org)
- **Wednesday Morning Prayer** (Nameun@cityreformed.org)
- **Men's Discipleship Committee** (mdc@cityreformed.org)
- **Young Women's Discipleship Group** (lindsay.karr@gmail.com)
- **Ultimate Frisbee** (danielrtoney@gmail.com)
- **Board Game Gatherings** (gatcheson@gmail.com)

Leadership

Elders

Rev. Matthew Koerber:
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Rev. John McCombs:
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Women's Ministry Council

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