



Sunday Morning Worship
January 12, 2025

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

"And there is another element of a household, the so-called art of getting wealth, which, according to some, is identical with household management, according to others, a principal part of it; the nature of this art will also have to be considered by us."

– Aristotle, Politics

"God does not need your good works, but your neighbor does."

– Martin Luther (as summarized by Justaf Wingren, Luther on Vocation)

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

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

Sunday Evening Worship Service

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

Church Office

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

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)

Welcome
Information:



Morning Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – January 12, 2025

Presider: Elder David Bacon

Call to Worship: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

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

Leader For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;

People **And he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.**

Leader From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

People **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.**

Leader The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

People **All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;**

Leader That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

People **Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.**

Leader We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

People **For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**

Prayer of Invocation

O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing

(Words & Music: Charles Wesley 1739)

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.

He speaks, and listening to his voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor believe.

To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n;
By saints below and saints above,
The church in earth and heav'n.

Come to Me

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2017)

You are weighed down you are worried
Child I see you child I know you
Bring your burdens bring your labor
Come to me

*Come to me come to me
Come to me if you are weary
I will give you
I will give you my rest*

I am gentle I am humble
Let me teach you let me show you
Trade your burden mine is easy
Come to me

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Eternal Weight of Glory

(Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough 2013)

Now the days and hours and moments
Of our suff'ring seem so long
And the toilsome wait and wond'ring
Threaten silence to our song

Now our pain is real and pressing
Where our faith is thin and weak
But our hope is set on Jesus
And we cling to him our strength

*For behold I tell a myst'ry
At the trumpet sound we'll wake
Death is swallowed up in vict'ry
When we meet our King of Grace*

*Every year we thought was wasted
Every night we cried How long
All will be a passing moment
In our Savior's vict'ry song*

Oh eternal weight of glory
Oh inheritance divine
We will see our Lord redeeming
Every past and future time

All our pains will be transfigured
Like the scars of Christ our Lord
We will see the weight of glory
And our broken years restored

We will see our wounded Savior
We'll behold him face to face
And we'll hear our anguished stories
Sung as vict'ry songs of grace

Call to Confession: Ephesians 2:4-7

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Prayer of Confession:

Father in heaven, we cry out to you for mercy. The Apostle Paul taught us that the core of human sin is to refuse to give honor and thanksgiving to you, the living God. We confess that we are fundamentally a self-centered and thankless people. We are easily self-absorbed and distracted. We have asked you for help, but we often fail to acknowledge you when you answer. We pause together to thank you for your many blessings.

We thank you for our family, our friends, our community and our place in the body of Christ. We pray for those that are outcast. We thank you for homes, food, clothing, and the relative safety and prosperity of our country. We pray for those that are in need. We thank you for the meaningful work that you have called us to do. We pray for those who are unemployed and underemployed. We thank you most of all for our new life in Christ, for sins forgiven, for the presence of your Spirit and the promise of eternal life. We pray for the salvation of our friends, coworkers and neighbors. Convince us that you are merciful and gracious. Remind us that your steadfast love abounds for us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Make us a thankful people, so that you would be glorified. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Baptism & Membership Vows: Shengbei John Guo

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 Sufficient Merit

(Words & Music: Bethany Barnard, Bryan Fowler, and Shane Barnard 2023)

All sufficient merit shining like the sun
A fortune I inherit by no work I have done
My righteousness I forfeit at my savior's cross
Where all sufficient merit did what I could not

In love he condescended eternal now in time
A life without a blemish the Maker made to die
The law could never save us our lawlessness had won
Until the pure and spotless Lamb had finally come

*It is done it is finished
No more debt I owe
Paid in full all sufficient
Merit now my own*

I lay down my garments any empty boast
Good works now all corrupted by the sinful host
I'm dressed in my Lord Jesus a crimson robe made white
No more fear of judgment his righteousness is mine

All sufficient merit firm in life and death
The joy of my salvation shall be my final breath
When I stand accepted before the throne of God
I'll gaze upon my Jesus and thank him for the cross
Yes I'll thank him for the cross

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 3:11, 17, 22-4:1 **"Working for the Lord"**

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹⁷...And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

²²...Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, ²⁴knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. ²⁵For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

^{4:1}Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Leviticus 25:39-43 / "If your brother becomes poor beside you and sells himself to you, you shall not make him serve as a slave: he shall be with you as a hired worker and as a sojourner. He shall serve with you until the year of the jubilee. Then he shall go out from you, he and his children with him, and go back to his own clan and return to the possession of his fathers. For they are my servants, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt; they shall not be sold as slaves. You shall not rule over him ruthlessly but shall fear your God."

Deuteronomy 5:6 / "'I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.'"

Romans 1:1 / Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God.

1 Corinthians 7:20-22 / Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called. Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.) For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ.

Credal Response: Westminster Confession of Faith 16.2

These good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruits and evidences of a true and living faith. By them believers make known their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance, edify their brethren, adorn the profession of the Gospel, stop the mouths of the adversaries, and glorify God, whose workmanship they are, created in Christ Jesus for good works, so that, having their fruit to holiness, they may have the goal, eternal life.

Songs of Thanksgiving

Joy and Toil

(Words & Music: Daniel Snoko & Michael Savisky 2017)

Let us not toil unto our own good
But give us righteousness and thankful work
Remove the mess within us,
Restore your wisdom to us
Let none be driven into deep despair.
Consider God, the works of God.

*Return the joy to us in all our toil
May our work be your delight
Return the joy to us in all our toil
Let our days be made aright*

Let not our eyes contend for riches
But give us just reward and charity
When all our work is weary
When we can't see your beauty
Help us remember God's hand will endure
Consider God, the works of God.

Our labor keep away from evil
Forgive our discontent and selfish pride
Now make our prayers humble
And keep our conscience able
For God's commandments will our work renew
Consider God, the works of God.

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*

Benediction

There will be a commissioning service tonight for the Ethiopia Missions Team. Reverend Nameun Cho will be preaching through Acts 13:1-3; 14:19-28, "To the Ends of the Earth... and Back."

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.
Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study 9:45 AM-12:00 PM Greenfield Chapel	Join us for a 3 week study on the book of Ruth with Paige Brown. We will be meeting Tuesday mornings 9:45-noon January 21st-Feb 4th at the Greenfield building. For more info please contact Luda Bates at 314-229-2023.
Artist Workshop January 25th 3:00-5:00 PM Greenfield Chapel	All artists and visual makers are welcome to join. We will be discussing the first half of Walking on Water by Madeleine L'Engle (Reading isn't necessary for attendance). Bring artwork if you would like feedback. Limited childcare is available upon request. Any questions please email Camden at camdenbianco@gmail.com.
Ethiopia Missions Team January 26 - February 1	We are sending a short-term medical team to Ethiopia in a month! (Jan 26-Feb 1) Our team is 12 people total, seven of whom are from City. Please pray for our trip and consider giving to City with "Ethiopia" designated to support it. Please also consider donating new, small, packable toys for the 100+ children the team will work with; e.g. new stuffies (less than 5") are much beloved! Contact Alex Watt (alex@alexwatt.com) with any questions.
Men's Retreat February 28 - March 1 Ligonier Camp and Conference Center	Mark your calendars, gentlemen! Our annual men's retreat is returning to Ligonier Camp and Conference Center from February 28th to March 1st. Save the date for a time of fellowship, growth, and renewal in a beautiful setting. More details will follow soon!
Welcome Activities Committee (WAC) Please consider joining us!	WAC is dedicated to fostering a warm and inclusive environment for all members of our congregation. Our mission is to create engaging and meaningful activities that provide a sense of belonging and allow everyone to thrive and contribute to Christ's kingdom. For more information, contact WAC@cityreformed.org.

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 meet every other Monday at the new building at 7 pm (300 Saline St). The next meeting is January 13. We will be starting a new series on apologetics. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer: Monday @ 9:00 PM</p>	<p>This week we will be praying for Mission to the World Bulgaria on January 13th. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM</p>	<p>The January Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, January 15 at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. We will start the year reviewing concepts from the book, "A Praying Life," by Paul E. Miller. 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>Youth Group will resume in the new year on January 15th. We invite all middle and high school students to join us as we study God's Word together!</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. Joseph Bianco:
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Rev. John McCombs:
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All scripture verses are the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise noted.