



Sunday Evening Service
February 2, 2025

"A throne centers authority. Worship is centering... Worship is a meeting at the center so that our lives are centered in God and not lived eccentrically. We worship so that we live in response to and from this center, the living God. Failure to worship consigns us to a life of spasms and jerks, at the mercy of every advertisement, every seduction, every siren. Without worship we live manipulated and manipulating lives.."

- Eugene Peterson

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Worship – February 2, 2025
Presider: Elder Luke Kephart

Call to Worship: Psalm 97:1-6

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

Leader The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

People **Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

Leader Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around.

People **His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.**

Leader The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the LORD of all the earth.

People **The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.**

Prayer of Invocation

O Worship The King

(Music: Johann Haydn 1700's; Words: Robert Grant 1833)

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love
Our shield and defender the Ancient of Days
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise

O tell of his might and sing of his grace
Whose robe is the light whose canopy space
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite
It breathes in the air it shines in the light
It streams from the hills it descends to the plain
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail
In you do we trust nor find you to fail
Your mercies how tender how firm to the end
Our Maker Defender Redeemer and Friend

O measureless might ineffable love
While angels delight to worship above
The humbler creation though feeble their ways
With true adoration shall all sing your praise

Behold Our God

(Words & Music: Jonathan, Meghan, & Ryan Beird, & Stephen Altrogge 2011)

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Behold our God, seated on His throne
Come, let us adore Him
Behold our King, nothing can compare
Come, let us adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

You will reign forever! (2x)
(Let your glory fill the earth)
You will reign forever! (2x)
(Let your glory fill the earth)

Call to Confession: Isaiah 55:1-2

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food."

Prayer of Confession:

O God most high and most glorious, you are forever at perfect peace. We need to see your greatness, because we are toiling, troubled and distressed. You have no fear of completing your perfect plans for your power knows no limit and your goodness is not stained. You bring order out of chaos and victory where I am defeated. You are the Lord God and you reign in absolute power. We come to you as sinners with cares and sorrows, leaving every concern entirely with you—every sin calling for Christ's precious blood. Revive deep spirituality in our hearts and keep us from deception. Let us live near our great shepherd, hearing his voice, following his call and knowing his peace. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 55:6-7

"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Corporate Prayer

Song of Renewal

We consider tithes & offering as an act of worship within the corporate family of Christ. Please direct giving online or via mail (cityreformed.org/give; 3929 Coleman St., 15207)

Before the Throne of God Above

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

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and 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

Scripture & Homily: Revelation 4:1-11

"Watch the Throne"

- Reverend Gavin Breeden

After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." ²At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. ³And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. ⁴Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. ⁵From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, ⁶and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. ⁸And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!"

⁹And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹“Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Jeremiah 17:12 / A glorious throne set on high from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary.

Psalm 11:4 / The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man.

Psalm 103:19 / The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

Song of Thanksgiving

Salvation Belongs To Our God

(Words & Music: Adrian Howard & Pat Turner 1985)

Salvation belongs to our God
Who sits upon the throne
And unto the Lamb
Praise and glory wisdom and thanks
Honor and power and strength

*Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever, Amen*

And we the redeemed shall be strong
In purpose and unity
Declaring aloud
Praise and glory wisdom and thanks
Honor and power and strength

Benediction