



Sunday Evening Service
March 30, 2025

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Worship – March 30, 2025
Presider: Elder David Bacon

Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:9-11

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

Leader Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not;

People **Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"**

Leader Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

People **Behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.**

Leader He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms;

People **He will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.**

Prayer of Invocation

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

(Words: Joachim Neander 1680; Translator: Catherine Winkworth 1863; Music: Anonymous 1665)

Praise to the Lord,
The Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him for
He is thy health and salvation!

*All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.*

Praise to the Lord,
Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings,
Yea, so gently sustaineth!

*Hast thou not seen how all your longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?*

Praise to the Lord,
Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee.
Surely His goodness and
Mercy here daily attend thee.

*Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriend thee.*

Praise to the Lord,
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
Come now with praises before Him.

*Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.*

Approach My Soul

(Words & Music: Jordan Kauflin and Laura Story)

Approach my soul the mercy seat where Jesus answers prayer
There humbly fall before his feet for none can perish there
Thy promise is my only plea with this I venture nigh
Thou calls our burdened souls to Thee and such O Lord am I

*Oh wondrous love
Oh boundless grace
Rejoice my soul forever
Christ has made a way*

Bowed down beneath a load of sin by satan sorely pressed
By wars without and fears within I come to Thee for rest
Be Thou my shield and hiding place that sheltered near Thy side
I may my fierce accuser face and tell him Thou hast died

O wondrous love to bleed and die to bear the cross and shame
That guilty sinners such as I might plead Thy gracious name
The tempted soul he tells be still my promised grace receive
'Tis Jesus speaks I must I will I can I do believe
'Tis Jesus speaks I must I will I can I do believe

Call to Confession: Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Prayer of Confession: "The Valley of Vision" by A. Bennett

Lord, high and holy, meek and lowly, You have brought me to the valley of vision, where I live in the depths but see You in the heights; hemmed in by mountains of sin I behold Your glory. Let me learn by paradox that the way down is the way up, that to be low is to be high, that the broken heart is the healed heart, that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit, that the repenting soul is the victorious soul, that to have nothing is to possess all, that to bear the cross is to wear the crown, that to give is to receive, that the valley is the place of vision. Lord, in the daytime stars can be seen from deepest wells, and the deeper the wells the brighter Your stars shine; let me find Your light in my darkness, Your life in my death, Your joy in my sorrow, Your grace in my sin, Your riches in my poverty, Your glory in my valley. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Luke 4:17-19

[Jesus] unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

Congregational 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)

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 & Homily: Psalm 42 "Finding God in Spiritual Dryness"

- Dr. Seulgi Byun

As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God.

²My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

When shall I come and appear before God?

³My tears have been my food
day and night,

while they say to me all the day long,
"Where is your God?"

⁴These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I would go with the throng

and lead them in procession to the house of God
with glad shouts and songs of praise,
a multitude keeping festival.

⁵Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my salvation ⁶and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

⁷Deep calls to deep
at the roar of your waterfalls;
all your breakers and your waves
have gone over me.

⁸By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹I say to God, my rock:
“Why have you forgotten me?
Why do I go mourning
because of the oppression of the enemy?”

¹⁰As with a deadly wound in my bones,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me all the day long,
“Where is your God?”

¹¹Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my salvation and my God.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

James 4:6-8 / ...He gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Song of Thanksgiving

Be Still My Soul

(Words: Kathrina von Schlegel 1700's; Translators: Jane Borthwick 1855; Music: Jean Sibelius 1899)

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain
Leave to thy God to order and provide
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain
Be still my soul thy best thy heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

Be still my soul thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as he has the past
Thy hope thy confidence let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last
Be still my soul the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below

Be still my soul when dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in the vale of tears
Then shalt thou better know his love his heart
Who comes to soothe thy sorrow and thy fears
Be still my soul thy Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away

Be still my soul the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment grief and fear are gone
Sorrow forgot love's purest joys restored
Be still my soul when change and tears are past
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last

Benediction