



Sunday Morning Communion Worship
April 6, 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

"Q. What is your only comfort
in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own,
but belong—
body and soul,
in life and in death—
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ"

– Heidelberg Catechism #1

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 Communion Worship – April 6, 2025

Presider: Elder Craig Kozminski

Call to Worship: Isaiah 43:1-3a, 5-7

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

Leader But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;

People **I have called you by name, you are mine.**

Leader When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

People **When you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.**

Leader For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...

People **Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you.**

Leader I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth,

People **Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."**

Prayer of Invocation

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

(Words: John Newton 1774; Music: Laura Taylor 2001)

Let us love and sing and wonder,
Let us praise the Savior's name,
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame,
He has washed us with his blood (3x),
He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us,
Pitied us when enemies.
Called us by his grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes.
He has washed us with his blood (3x),
He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing though fierce temptations
Threaten hard to bear us down.
For the Lord our strong salvation
Holds in view the conqueror's crown
He who washed us with his blood (3x),
Soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store.
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more.
He who washed us with his blood (3x),
Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high.
Here they trusted him before us
Now their praises fill the sky.
You have washed us with your blood (3x),
You are worthy, Lamb of God

Scripture Reading: Psalm 77

The reading of Psalm 77 will be accompanied by the singing of the following refrain:

Psalm 77:1-3 | I Cry Aloud [Refrain]

(Daniel Snoke 2013)

I cry aloud to God
And he will hear my call
When troubles surround
I seek the Lord

My soul will not rest
I seek God and moan;
And when I meditate
My spirit faints

Psalm 90 | O God Our Help In Ages Past

(Words: Isaac Watts 1719; Music: William Croft 1708)

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.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received its 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.

(continued on next page)

Time, like an ever-rolling stream
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our Help in ages past,
Our Hope for years to come,
Be Thou our Guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home!

Call to Confession: 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."

Prayer of Confession: From the Daily Office of the Book of Common Prayer:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 43:25

"I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

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).

Promises

(Words & Music: Aaron Moses, Carrington Gaines, Dante Bowe, Keila Alvarado, and Lemuel Marin 2020)

God of Abraham
You're the God of covenant
Of faithful promises
Time and time again
You have proven
You do just what you say

Though the storms may come
And the winds may blow
I'll remain steadfast
And let my heart learn
When you speak a word
It will come to pass

*Great is your faithfulness to me
Great is your faithfulness to me
From the rising sun
To the setting same
I will praise your name
Great is your faithfulness to me*

God from age to age
Though the earth may pass away
Your Word remains the same
Your history can prove
There's nothing you can't do
You're faithful and true

I put my faith in Jesus
My anchor to the ground
My hope and firm foundation
He'll never let me down

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: John 14:1-3, 15-31 **"Comfort in the Absence of Jesus"**

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also...

¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

²²Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?" ²³Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

²⁵"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with

you. ²⁶But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. ³⁰I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, ³¹but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

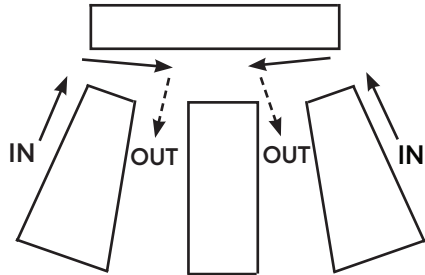
Additional Creedal Statements

Heidelberg Catechism #1 / Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?
A. That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Communion

City Reformed Church invites all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sins and trust Christ alone for salvation, and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel, to receive Holy Communion with us. Parents with non-communing children are encouraged to bring their children forward during communion. The elders will lay a hand on their head and briefly pray for them as they serve you.

Communion is served with wine and with grape juice. The wine is placed in the two outer circles of the communion tray, and the grape juice is placed in the inner circle. Because Jesus used wine during the first communion service, we believe using real wine is beneficial. However, participants are welcome to choose. There is also gluten-free bread available on each plate.



City Reformed Church distributes communion to groups of people who come forward to eat and drink the Lord's Supper together. Please join us in song as we celebrate Christ dwelling with his church in the sacrament of communion. Lines are formed at the front of the room and the entire line will eat and drink at the same time. Not everyone should stand and line up at the same time and it is often better to remain seated until the line progresses. Please notify an usher if you are unable to come forward and need to receive communion in your seat.

Songs of Communion

Abide with Me

(Words: Henry Francis Lyte 1847; Music: Justin Smith 2007)

Abide with me fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens Lord with me abide
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless abide with me

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile
And, though rebellious and perverse meanwhile
Thou hast not left me though I oft left Thee
On to the close Lord abide with me

I need Thy presence every passing hour
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power
Who, like Thyself my guide and stay can be
Through cloud and sunshine abide with me

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death where grave thy victory
I triumph still abide with me

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee
In life in death Lord abide with me

I Want to Know You

(Words & Music: James Proctor, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, & Rich Thompson 2016)

I've tried in vain a thousand ways
My fears to quell my hopes to raise
But what I need your Word has said
Is ever only Jesus

You died you live you reign you plead
There's love in all your words and deeds
This weary heart finds all it needs
In ever only Jesus

*I want to know you Jesus my Lord
King of the Heavens king of my soul
I trade my treasure and all my rewards
Jesus to know you then know you more*

Though some should curse me for your name
I have no fear I have no shame
You stand with me for all my days
My ever only Jesus

Like wave after wave on the ocean
Like all of the sand on the shore
Your beauty and glory are endless
O Jesus I must know you more

My Jesus I Love Thee

(Words: William Featherston 1864; Music: Adoniram Gordon 1876)

My Jesus I love Thee I know Thou art mine
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign
My gracious Redeemer my Savior art Thou
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I'll love Thee in life I will love Thee in death
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

In mansions of glory and endless delight
I'll ever adore Thee with heaven so bright
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

Doxology

(Words: Thomas Ken 1674; Music: Louis Bourgeois 1510)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

(repeat)

Amen

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Reverend Mark Robinson will be preaching from Proverbs 3:5-8, "The Way of Wisdom."

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>RUF at Pitt Grad Banquet Food Request for Saturday, April 12</p>	<p>We are looking for help as we celebrate our RUF at Pitt Senior Class and hear them reflect on God's work in their lives! Food can be delivered to First Baptist Church Sat, April 12, 5:30-6:30pm or drop-off arranged with Gavin. Sign up here: tinyurl.com/rufgrad2025 or contact Gavin Breeden gavin.breeden@ruf.org.</p>
<p>Sunday School Brunch Sunday, April 13 9-10 AM WT Cafeteria</p>	<p>Join us to celebrate the year of Sunday School and showcase what we've learned! The morning will begin with breakfast, followed by a time of fellowship and short presentations by each class. All are invited, including Adult CE! Contribute something for the table by signing up on Church Center: https://tinyurl.com/CRPC-SS-Brunch</p>
<p>Easter Services: April 18 & 20</p>	<p>Easter season is a wonderful time to invite friends to join us at church. We will have a few additional services Easter weekend:</p> <p>Good Friday: 7PM @ 1st Baptist, Oakland * Nursery will be available for children ages 18 months - 3 years</p> <p>Easter Sunrise Service: 7:30AM @ Schenley Park Lower Soccer Field</p> <p>Easter Breakfast: 8:45AM @ 300 Saline Street</p> <p>Traditional Sunday Service: 10:15 @ WT Gym</p> <p>Our usual fellowship hour after the service will be canceled. Instead, please join us for Easter breakfast at 300 Saline Street before service!</p>
<p>Easter Weekend Volunteer and Food Signups</p>	<p>Please consider volunteering on Easter weekend. We need people to greet and seat, set up, clean up, bring food and flip pancakes! Register here: https://tinyurl.com/Easter2025SignUp. Contact Amanda Moore (mooreae1@gmail.com) with questions.</p>
<p>Worship in Gymnasium April 20 & 27</p>	<p>Worship services on these Sundays will be relocated to the gymnasium, and the fellowship hour will be cancelled. Please consider helping us tear down our chairs and put away our equipment following the service.</p>
<p>Artist Workshop April 26, 3-5 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>The next Artist Workshop will be on April 26th, 3-5pm at the Greenfield chapel. We will discuss the second half of Walking on Water by L'Engle. Bring any artwork you want feedback on including any current work in progress. Childcare available upon request and limited.</p>

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 April 7th. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer: Monday @ 9:00 PM</p>	<p>We will be praying for Hannah Nation this week on April 7th. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/CRPCglobalprayer2024</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts Ministry: 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM</p>	<p>The April Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, April 16 at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. 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 continue on April 9th. We invite all middle and high school students to join us as we study God's Word and reflect on Christ's miracles!</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group: Bi-Weekly Wednesdays 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Meets on the North Side and Squirrel Hill. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Thursday Women's Bible Study 1:00-3:00 PM</p>	<p>Women's Bible study on Becoming A Woman of Prayer. Thursdays from 1:00-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's House. Contact Cathy Taylor for more information at lawyerdad5@aol.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>
<p>Young Adults Fellowship</p>	<p>Young Adults Fellowship is a monthly time of fellowship, food, and connection for young adults at City. Contact Claire Josey, clairemjosey@gmail.com, for information on our next gathering.</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)
- **Bean Sprouts** (joestehle@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:

joseph@cityreformed.org

Rev. John McCombs:

john@cityreformed.org

Rev. Nameun Cho:

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David Bacon:

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Ben Chidester:

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Craig Kozminski:

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Dave Snoke:

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Joe Stehle:

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Sarah Winkler: sarahditch@gmail.com

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Deacons

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