



**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**Advent Week 3**  
**December 14, 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](mailto:office@cityreformed.org) or visit our website: [cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org).

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## Reflections

"We, then, following the holy Fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man..."

– Chalcedonian Creed (A.D. 451)

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## About Us

### Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM

Winchester Thurston Auditorium

5059 Ellsworth Ave

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

LIVESTREAM: [tinyurl.com/CRPCLive](http://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](mailto:office@cityreformed.org)

[cityreformed.org](http://cityreformed.org)

### Donations

Online: Church Center App (Give)

OR [cityreformed.org/give](http://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 – December 14, 2025

Presider: Reverend Nameun Cho

## Call to Worship: John 1:1-2, 14, 16-18

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

**Leader** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**People** He was in the beginning with God...

**Leader** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth...

**People** For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

**Leader** For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

**People** No one has ever seen God; God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## Prayer of Invocation

## **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: Romans 8:18-25**

## My All in Thee

*(Music: Eric J. Marshall 2012; Words: adapted from Charles Wesley 2012)*

When gracious Lord when shall it be  
That earth will find her all in Thee  
The fullness of Thy promise prove  
Seal me with thy eternal love

Thee only thee I'm fain to find  
I cast the world and sin behind  
O my Redeemer hear this plea  
And let me find my all in thee

*Show me your way  
My love my Lord  
Draw me to grace  
So strong and sure  
I run to your mercy where I am free  
Let me find my all in thee*

Lord I am blind be thou my sight  
Lord I am weak be thou my might  
A helper of the helpless be  
And let me find my all in thee

Please mend my soul my frame my life  
A contrite heart thou won't despise  
Take now this pain and misery  
And let me find my all in thee

## Wait for the Lord

*(Taizé)*

Wait for the Lord  
Whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord  
Keep watch, take heart.

## **Call to Confession: Matthew 11:27-30**

"All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 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:**

Lord, you are creator, sustainer, and redeemer. All things were made for your glory and by your power they are held together. You are perfect in holiness, power and wisdom. You have called us to come to yourself in humility. You exalt the lowly and give rest to the weary.

But we confess that we are slow to trust you. We continue to grasp for control of our own lives. We seek refuge, power and escape in the created things of the world instead of from you. Forgive us and renew us. Teach us to trust you with all our hearts. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon: John 11:25-26**

Jesus said... "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."

## **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](http://cityreformed.org/give)) or sent via mail (3929 Coleman St., 15207).*

## Our Souls In Stillness Wait

*(Words & Music: Marty Haugen 1982)*

*For you, oh Lord, our souls in stillness wait---  
Truly our hope is in you.*

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory,  
Your radiance shines in all who look to you;  
Come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.

O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits;  
Our thirsty hearts are yearning for your word;  
Come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts.

O Root of Life, implant your seed within us,  
And in your advent, draw us near to you,  
Our hope reborn in dying and in rising.

O Key of Knowledge, guide us in our journey;  
We ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain;  
Open to us the pathway to your peace.

# Pastoral Prayer

*At this time, children ages 4-6 are invited to continue their worship at Children's Church. Parents, please have your children meet the teachers at the back of the sanctuary and pick them up after the sermon from Children's Church in room 115.*

## **Sermon: Hebrews 1:1-4 & Hebrews 4:14-16**

### **"Christ Our Mediator Part 2: Truly God, Truly Human"**

- Reverend Matt Koerber

#### **Hebrews 1:1-4**

**L**ong ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

#### **Hebrews 4:14-16**

**S**ince then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Leader** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.



## Additional Scripture

Hebrews 5:1-3 / For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people.

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Hebrews 5:7-10 / In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

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## Creedal Response: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 38. Why was it necessary that the mediator should be God?

**A. It was necessary that the mediator should be God**

- so that he might sustain and keep the human nature from sinking under the infinite wrath of God and the power of death;
- so that he might give worth and effectiveness to his sufferings, obedience, and intercession;
- and so that he might satisfy God's justice, procure his favor, purchase a special people, give his Spirit to them, conquer all their enemies, and bring them to everlasting salvation.

Q 39. Why was it necessary that the mediator should be a man?

**A. It was necessary that the mediator should be man**

- so that he might represent our nature, performing obedience to the law and suffering and making intercession for us in our nature;
- so that he might have a fellow-feeling of our infirmities;
- and so that we might receive the adoption of sons and have comfort and access with boldness to the throne of grace.



# Songs of Thanksgiving

## 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

## O Sing A Song of Bethlehem

*(Words: Louis F. Benson 1889; Music: English Traditional Unknown)*

O sing a song of Bethlehem,  
Of shepherds watching there,  
And of the news that came to them  
From angels in the air.  
The light that shone on Bethlehem  
Fills all the world today.  
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth  
The angels sing alway.

O sing a song of Nazareth,  
Of sunny days of joy;  
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath,  
And of the sinless boy.  
For now the flowers of Nazareth  
In every heart may grow.  
Now spreads the fame of his dear name  
On all the winds that blow.

O sing a song of Galilee,  
Of lake and woods and hill,  
Of him who walked upon the sea  
And bade its waves be still.  
For though, like waves on Galilee,  
Dark seas of trouble roll,  
When faith has heard the Master's word,  
Falls peace upon the soul.

O sing a song of Calvary,  
Its glory and dismay,  
Of him who hung upon the tree,  
And took our sins away.  
For he who died on Calvary  
Is risen from the grave,  
And Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored,  
Is mighty now to save.

The light that shone on Bethlehem  
Fills all the world today.  
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth  
The angels sing alway.

## Benediction

*At tonight's Worship Service, Elder Ben Chidester will be preaching from Isaiah 9:1-7 "Our Beloved Eternal King."*

# Announcements

[www.cityreformed.org/events](http://www.cityreformed.org/events)

<b>Congregational Meeting</b> TODAY WT Auditorium	Immediately after the morning service. Please join for an important update regarding the 300 Saline St. building. All are welcome, members encouraged to attend to vote.
<b>RUF at Pitt</b> Thursdays, 9 PM David Lawrence Hall, 104	RUF Large Group Worship and Bible Study is meeting on Thursdays in David Lawrence Hall Room 104 this semester at Pitt. All college students welcome!
<b>Women's Bible Study</b> Tuesdays 9:45 AM-11:45 AM Greenfield Chapel	Scenes from the Final Week, a Bible Study by Paige Brown. Restarts January 20. Tuesdays from 9:45 am - 11:45 am at Greenfield Chapel. Childcare is provided. Contact Tracy ( <a href="mailto:partridge.ta@gmail.com">partridge.ta@gmail.com</a> ) or Luda ( <a href="mailto:luda.bates@gmail.com">luda.bates@gmail.com</a> )
<b>Medical Missions Opportunity, Ethiopia</b>	City Reformed will be sending a medical mission team to Ethiopia from June 27-July 5. If you would like more information, please contact Alex Watt ( <a href="mailto:alex@alexcwatt.com">alex@alexcwatt.com</a> , 724-858-8031) with any questions.
<b>Youth Ministry Christmas Party</b> December 17 6:30PM-8:30PM Greenfield Chapel	All MS and HS students are invited to join us for Christmas-themed games and white elephant gift exchange! There is a \$10 limit on gifts, but we also encourage saving the \$10 by creatively regifting a present. Be sure to wrap your gift before arriving!
<b>Homecoming Service</b> December 21	During our December 21st Worship Service, we will be recognizing our returning college students.
<b>Christmas Eve Service</b> December 24, 4:30 PM Greenfield Chapel 3929 Coleman Street	Join us for our annual candlelight service! Additional parking available at Greenfield Elementary School. If you are able to help volunteer for the service, please contact Nameun Cho, <a href="mailto:nameun@cityreformed.org">nameun@cityreformed.org</a> .

# Regular Events

[www.cityreformed.org/events](http://www.cityreformed.org/events)

<b>College Shuttle</b> Sundays	<p><b>9:30AM - PPU:</b> 201 Wood St; Contact Amy: amy@cityreformed.org</p> <p><b>9:40AM - Duquesne University:</b> 1015 Forbes Ave; Contact Nameun: nameun@cityreformed.org</p> <p><b>9:55AM - PITT:</b> 4024 O'Hara St; Contact Gavin: gavin.breeden@ruf.org</p> <p><b>**No shuttle service: 11/30, 12/21-1/4 due to holidays</b></p>
<b>Agora Forum</b> Biweekly Mondays, 7PM, 300 Saline Street	We discuss theology and popular culture topics from a Christian perspective. Contact Alex Main (amain8511@gmail.com)
<b>Global Missions Prayer</b> Mondays @ 9:00 PM	This week we are praying for the Jones at City Presbyterian. Held on Zoom: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/cityreformedglobalprayer">https://tinyurl.com/cityreformedglobalprayer</a>
<b>Bean Sprouts</b> 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM	The next Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, December 17th at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. Contact Joe Stehle: <a href="mailto:joestehle@gmail.com">joestehle@gmail.com</a> .
<b>Wednesday Prayer Meetings</b> 8:30-9:30 AM	Please join us for Scripture reading, adoration, thanksgiving, and sharing prayer requests. Held on Zoom at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer">https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer</a> .
<b>Youth Group</b> Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel	This is an opportunity for our MS & HS students to connect with God through His Word & with one another through games, Bible teaching, discussion, & prayer. Youth Group will resume on January 7th
<b>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group</b> Biweekly Wednesdays, 7:00 PM	Meets on the North Side. Current study: Psalms 31-60. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: <a href="mailto:lindsay.karr@gmail.com">lindsay.karr@gmail.com</a> .
<b>Men's New Hope</b> Bi-Weekly Wednesdays	A ministry for men struggling with various kinds of sexual sin where we practice accountability, scripture reading, and book work. If you are interested in joining, you'll need to first meet with the group leader. Please contact <a href="mailto:joseph@cityreformed.org">joseph@cityreformed.org</a> for more information.
<b>Thursday Women's Bible Study</b> 1:00-3:00 PM	Women's Bible study on Growing Older and Wiser Thursdays from 1:00-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's House. Contact Cathy Taylor for more info at lawyerdad5@aol.com
<b>Young Adults Fellowship</b>	Young Adults Fellowship is a monthly time of fellowship, food, and connection for young adults at City. Contact Michele Kloes, <a href="mailto:michele.kloes@gmail.com">michele.kloes@gmail.com</a> , for more info.
<b>Ultimate Frisbee</b> Thursdays	Ultimate frisbee group meets Thursday evenings. All skill levels are welcome! Contact Dan Toney ( <a href="mailto:danielrtoney@gmail.com">danielrtoney@gmail.com</a> ) for more information.

**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, and Abbay Kocsis (gavin.breeden@ruf.org, callie.miller@ruf.org, abbay.kocsis@ruf.org)
- [cityreformed.org/collegestudents](http://cityreformed.org/collegestudents)

**Community Groups** meet for Bible study, fellowship, and service. Contact Elder Ben Chidester ([ben@cityreformed.org](mailto:ben@cityreformed.org)) or visit our website at [www.cityreformed.org/community-groups/](http://www.cityreformed.org/community-groups/)

**Sunday:**

Fox Chapel A - Watson Barker  
Fox Chapel B - Damon Claus  
North Hills - David Bacon

**Monday:**

Forest Hills - Adam Schwab  
Morningside - James Lettow

**Tuesday:**

Shaler - Dan Toney  
Bellevue/North Side - Joe Benscoter  
Squirrel Hill - Ben Chidester

**Wednesday:**

Friendship - Michael Hilton  
Greenfield - Max Winters  
Regent Square - Dave Snoke

**Thursday:**

Shadyside - Chris Bollinger  
West Hills - Jon Dodd

**Friday:**

East Suburban - Joe Stehle

## Leadership

### Elders

**Rev. Matthew Koerber:**

[pastormatt@cityreformed.org](mailto:pastormatt@cityreformed.org)

**Rev. Joseph Bianco:**

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**Rev. John McCombs:**

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**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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**Joe Stehle:**

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**Dave Snoke:**

[snoke@hey.com](mailto:snoke@hey.com)

### Women's Ministry Council

**Debbie Bacon:** [dpasewark@gmail.com](mailto:dpasewark@gmail.com)

**Amanda Moore:** [mooreae1@gmail.com](mailto:mooreae1@gmail.com)

**Irene Winkler:** [renew77@gmail.com](mailto:renew77@gmail.com)

**Sarah Winkler:** [sarahditch@gmail.com](mailto:sarahditch@gmail.com)

**Linda Kephart:** [lindaskep@gmail.com](mailto:lindaskep@gmail.com)

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