



Sunday Evening Service
January 4, 2026

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Evening Worship – January 4, 2026

Presider: Reverend Matt Koerber

Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1-5, 8

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

Leader I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

People **My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.**

Leader Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

People **I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.**

Leader Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

People **Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**

Prayer of Invocation

Angels From The Realms Of Glory #218

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth;

*Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star:

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear:

All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising
To th'eternal Three in One:

As With Gladness Men of Old #226

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious God, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly cradle bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that cradle rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

Call to Confession: Romans 7:15–18

For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

Prayer of Confession:

O Lover of the Loveless, it is your will that we should love you with heart, mind, soul, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves. But we are not sufficient for this. There is by nature no pure love in our souls. We cannot love you, lovely as you are, until you first set us free. But by grace we are free and desire to serve you. We believe that you yourself have atoned for our sin and redeemed us through the blood of Jesus, and that our sins are forgiven. With this freedom we want always to obey you, but we cannot do it unless your Spirit draws us nearer and dearer to you and your ways. Order all our ways according to your Holy Word and make your commands the joy of our heart. Make us grow in love for you and our neighbor. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

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)

O The Deep Deep Love of Jesus #535

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
Is the current of thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward,
To thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Spread his praise from shore to shore;
How he loveth, ever loveth,
Changeth never, nevermore;
How he watches o'er his loved ones,
Died to call them all his own;
How for them he intercedeth,
Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Love of ev'ry love the best:
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'Tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to thee.

Scripture & Homily: Luke 8:26-39

"The Mission of Jesus"

- Reverend Gavin Breeden

Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. ³¹And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³²Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned. ³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom

the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Song of Thanksgiving

Angels We Have Heard On High #214

(Unknown 18th Century French Carol)

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Glo--ria in excelsis Deo

Glo--ria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

Benediction