



"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply."

"Many Christians estimate difficulties in the light of their own resources, and thus attempt little and often fail in the little they attempt. All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on His power and presence with them."

- Hudson Taylor, one of the first missionaries to China in the 1800s

Sunday Evening Service
March 29, 2026

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Worship – March 29, 2026
Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: from Psalm 20

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

Leader May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion! May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans!

People **May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners!**

Leader May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!

People **Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.**

Prayer of Invocation

Solid Rock (My Hope Is Built)

(Words: Edward Mote 1834; Music: William Batchelder Bradbury 1863)

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

When darkness veils his lovely face
I rest on his unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

His oath his covenant his blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

When he shall come with trumpet sound
O may I then in him be found
Dressed in his righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

God With Us

(Words & Music: Leslie Jordan 2012)

You have come to bring peace
To be love, to be nearer to us
You have come to bring life
To be light, to shine brighter in us.
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

*Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our redemption
God with us, You are God with us.*

You have come to be hope
To this world for Your honor and name.
You have come to take sin
To bear shame and to conquer the grave.
Oh Emmanuel, "God with us".

Call to Confession: Ephesians 4:11-14

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Prayer of Confession: from The Valley of Vision

Oh God, I come to You as a sinner with cares and sorrows, to leave every concern entirely to You - every sin which calls for Christ's precious blood. Revive deep spirituality in my heart. Let me live near to the great Shepherd: hear His voice, know its tones, and follow its calls. Keep me from deception by causing me to abide in truth. Keep me from harm by helping me to walk in the power of the Spirit. Give me intense faith in the eternal truth. Take the things that I know in my head and burn them into my heart. Let me never be ashamed of the truth of the gospel, that I may bear its reproach and live in a way that vindicates it. Let me see Jesus as its essence and find in it the power of the Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Ephesians 3:14-19

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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)

Abide

(Words & Music: Aaron Keyes, Aaron Williams, and Jake Fauber)

For my waking breath, for my daily bread
I depend on you, I depend on you
For the sun to rise, for my sleep at night
I depend on you, I depend on you

*You're the Way the Truth and the Life
You're the well that never runs dry
I'm the branch and you are the Vine
Draw me close and teach me to abide*

Where the Spirit leads, as I'm following
I depend on you, I depend on you
For the victories, still in front of me
I depend on you, I depend on you

*You're the Way the Truth and the Life
You're the well that never runs dry
I'm the branch and you are the Vine
Draw me close and teach me to abide*

*Be my strength, my song in the night
Be my all, my treasure, my prize
I am yours, forever you're mine
Draw me close and teach me to abide*

When I pass through death, as I enter rest
I depend on you, I depend on you
For eternal life, to be raised with Christ
I depend on you, I depend on you

Scripture & Homily: Joshua 8:1-29

"When God Calls Us to Act, and When God Calls Us to Wait"

- Elder Dave Snoke

And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear and do not be dismayed. Take all the fighting men with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, and his people, his city, and his land. ²And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its livestock you shall take as plunder for yourselves. Lay an ambush against the city, behind it."

³So Joshua and all the fighting men arose to go up to Ai. And Joshua chose 30,000 mighty men of valor and sent them out by night. ⁴And he commanded them, "Behold, you shall lie in ambush against the city, behind it. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you remain ready. ⁵And I and all the people who are with me will approach the city. And when they come out against us just as before, we shall flee before them. ⁶And they will come out after us, until we have drawn them away from the city. For they will say, 'They are fleeing from us, just as before.' So we will flee before them. ⁷Then you shall rise up from the ambush and seize the city, for the LORD your God will give it into your hand. ⁸And as soon as you have taken the city, you shall set the city on fire. You shall do according to the word of the LORD. See, I have commanded you." ⁹So Joshua sent them out. And they went to the place of ambush and lay between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai, but Joshua spent that night among the people.

¹⁰Joshua arose early in the morning and mustered the people and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai. ¹¹And all the fighting men who were with him went up and drew near before the city and encamped on the north side of Ai, with a ravine between them and Ai. ¹²He took

about 5,000 men and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, to the west of the city. ¹³So they stationed the forces, the main encampment that was north of the city and its rear guard west of the city. But Joshua spent that night in the valley. ¹⁴And as soon as the king of Ai saw this, he and all his people, the men of the city, hurried and went out early to the appointed place toward the Arabah to meet Israel in battle. But he did not know that there was an ambush against him behind the city. ¹⁵And Joshua and all Israel pretended to be beaten before them and fled in the direction of the wilderness. ¹⁶So all the people who were in the city were called together to pursue them, and as they pursued Joshua they were drawn away from the city. ¹⁷Not a man was left in Ai or Bethel who did not go out after Israel. They left the city open and pursued Israel.

¹⁸Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Stretch out the javelin that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand.” And Joshua stretched out the javelin that was in his hand toward the city. ¹⁹And the men in the ambush rose quickly out of their place, and as soon as he had stretched out his hand, they ran and entered the city and captured it. And they hurried to set the city on fire. ²⁰So when the men of Ai looked back, behold, the smoke of the city went up to heaven, and they had no power to flee this way or that, for the people who fled to the wilderness turned back against the pursuers. ²¹And when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had captured the city, and that the smoke of the city went up, then they turned back and struck down the men of Ai. ²²And the others came out from the city against them, so they were in the midst of Israel, some on this side, and some on that side. And Israel struck them down, until there was left none that survived or escaped. ²³But the king of Ai they took alive, and brought him near to Joshua.

²⁴When Israel had finished killing all the inhabitants of Ai in the open wilderness where they pursued them, and all of them to the very last had fallen by the edge of the sword, all Israel returned to Ai and struck it down with the edge of the sword. ²⁵And all who fell that day, both men and women, were 12,000, all the people of Ai. ²⁶But Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction. ²⁷Only the livestock and the spoil of that city Israel took as their plunder, according to the word of the LORD that he commanded Joshua. ²⁸So Joshua burned Ai and made it forever a heap of ruins, as it is to this day. ²⁹And he hanged the king of Ai on a tree until evening. And at sunset Joshua commanded, and they took his body down from the tree and threw it at the entrance of the gate of the city and raised over it a great heap of stones, which stands there to this day.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Proverbs 16:3, 24:27 / Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established... Prepare your work outside; get everything ready for yourself in the field, and after that build your house.

Matthew 6:34 / "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

James 4:13-14 / Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Song of Thanksgiving

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.

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!

Benediction

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Officer and Women's Ministry Council Nominations</p>	<p>The nomination period is now open for all potential elder, deacon, and Women's Ministry Council candidates. If you are a member of City Reformed, please send a list of all of your nominations to pastormatt@cityreformed.org by March 31st.</p>
<p>Baby Bottle Campaign Due TODAY</p>	<p>Join our Baby Bottle Campaign this March! Support the life-saving work of Network of Life/ Women's Choice Network by filling a bottle with cash, coins, or a check made payable to Network of Life, or by giving online at ebottle.org (select City Reformed Presbyterian Church). Please return all physical bottles by Sunday, March 29, full or empty. See networkoflife.org for information.</p>
<p>Medical Missions Opportunity, Ethiopia</p>	<p>CRPC will be sending a medical mission team to Ethiopia 6/27-7/5. For more info, contact Alex Watt (alex@alexchwatt.com).</p>
<p>Thursday PM Women's Bible Study January 15th - early April 6:45 PM - 8:45 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>We are starting a new study on Revelation using the book and video series by Nancy Guthrie, Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation. Contact Tracy (partridge.ta@gmail.com) or Chrissie (chrissie@cityreformed.org).</p>
<p>RUF at Pitt Grad Banquet Food Request Friday, April 24 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM</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 dropped off at Church of the Ascension Fri, April 24, 6:00pm-6:45pm or drop-off arranged with Gavin or Abbay. Sign up here: tinyurl.com/rufgrad2026 or contact Gavin Breeden gavin.breeden@ruf.org or Abbay Kocsis abbay.kocsis@ruf.org</p>
<p>Membership Class May 22nd - 23rd</p>	<p>If you are interested in learning more about City Reformed and/or joining the church, you're invited to attend our next Membership Class! Contact Pastor Joseph Bianco (joseph@cityreformed.org) for info.</p>
<p>Women's Ministry Job Opening</p>	<p>After a period of discernment, we have revised and updated the job description for women's ministry, now with a title of Coordinator for Women's Ministry. The job description can be found on our website. Contact Matt with questions and interest (pastormatt@cityreformed.org)</p>

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>College Shuttle Sundays</p>	<p>9:30AM - PPU: 201 Wood St; Contact Amy: amy@cityreformed.org 9:40AM - Duquesne University: 1015 Forbes Ave; Contact Nameun: nameun@cityreformed.org 9:55AM - PITT: 4024 O'Hara St; Contact Gavin: gavin.breeden@ruf.org</p>
<p>Agora Forum Biweekly Mondays, 7PM, 300 Saline Street</p>	<p>Next meeting: 3/30. Continuing series on apologetics as Daniel Maienschein discusses argument for God from pure math. Contact Alex Main: amain8511@gmail.com</p>
<p>Global Missions Prayer Mondays @ 9:00 PM</p>	<p>This week we are praying for Hannah Nation and China Partnership. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/cityreformedglobalprayer</p>
<p>Bean Sprouts 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM</p>	<p>The next Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, April 15th at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. Contact Joe Stehle: joestehle@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Wednesday Prayer Meetings 8:30-9:30 AM</p>	<p>Please join us for Scripture reading, adoration, thanksgiving, and sharing prayer requests. Held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer.</p>
<p>Youth Group Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel</p>	<p>An opportunity for MS and HS students to connect with God through His Word & connect with one another through games, Bible teaching, discussion, & prayer. Current study: themes of discipline & reproof in Proverbs.</p>
<p>Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group Wednesdays, 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Meets biweekly on the North Side. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com.</p>
<p>Men's New Hope Bi-Weekly Wednesdays</p>	<p>A ministry for men struggling with various kinds of sexual sin. 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 joseph@cityreformed.org for more information.</p>
<p>Thursday Women's Bible Study 1:00-3:00 PM</p>	<p>Turn Your Eyes: A Bible Study on the Psalms. Thursdays from 1:00-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's House. Contact Cathy Taylor (lawyerdad5@aol.com).</p>
<p>Mommies' Discipleship 2nd and 4th Thursdays 7 PM - 9 PM</p>	<p>Meets at the home of Sandy Snoke (scsnoke@comcast.net). Enjoy tea & fellowship with other moms, studying the Sermon on the Mount & praying for one another.</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 Michele Kloes, michele.kloes@gmail.com, for more info.</p>
<p>Ultimate Frisbee Thursdays</p>	<p>Ultimate frisbee group meets Thursday evenings. All skill levels are welcome! Contact Dan Toney (danielrtoney@gmail.com) for more information.</p>