



Sunday Morning Worship
May 17, 2026

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

"To have found God and still to pursue Him is the soul's paradox of love."

– A.W. Tozer

About Us

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10:15AM
Winchester Thurston Auditorium
5059 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

LIVESTREAM: tinyurl.com/CRPCLive

Church Office

3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
Hours (new!):

- Tuesday - Thursday 9AM - 3PM
- Friday 9AM - 12PM

Phone: 412-720-7014
Email: office@cityreformed.org
Website: cityreformed.org

Sunday Evening Worship Service

5:30PM
Greenfield Chapel
3929 Coleman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

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 Worship – May 17, 2026

Presider: Elder Ben Chidester

Call to Worship: Jeremiah 29:11-14

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

Leader For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD,
plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and
a hope.

People **Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I
will hear you.**

Leader You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your
heart.

People **I will be found by you, declares the LORD,**

Leader And I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the
nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the
LORD,

People **And I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you
into exile.**

Prayer of Invocation

Joyful Joyful We Adore You

(Words: Henry van Dyke 1907; Melody: Ludwig van Beethoven 1824)

Joyful joyful we adore you
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before you
Op'ning to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

All your works with joy surround you
Earth and heav'n reflect your rays
Stars and angels sing around you
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and mountain
Flow'ry meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising you eternally

You are giving and forgiving
Ever blessing ever blest
Well-spring of the joy of living
Ocean-depth of happy rest
Loving Father, Christ our Brother
May Your Spirit in us shine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to Your joy divine

Mortals join the mighty chorus
With the morning stars began
God's own love is reigning o'er us
Humble love binds all in him
Christ we echo ever singing
Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music we are bringing
In the triumph song of life

Your Glory Reigns (Psalm 57)

(Luke Bennett, Jenna Miller, Meredith Reed, John Remaniak, Daniel Snoke 2024)

Glorious refuge from storms of sorrow
You are our hiding place
Divine protection from winds of trouble
Shielded in your embrace

*We will sing to you O Lord
Every nation tribe and tongue
Oh awake- our souls- to praise your name
Above the earth your glory reigns*

A shore of safety from waves of suff'ring
You lift us from the deep
A voice of truth when evil's pursuing
Eternal rest we reap
Eternal rest we reap

Sent down from heaven your glory to us
Rescued us from our sin
Exalted Savior merciful ruler
In heaven and on earth

Above the earth your glory reigns
Above the earth your glory reigns

Scripture Reading: Psalm 104:31-34

How Great Thou Art

(Words & Music: Carl Gustav Boberg 1949)

Oh Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

*Then sings my soul, my savior, God, to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art
Then sings my soul, my savior, God, to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art*

And when I think that God his son not sparing
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God, how great thou art

Call to Confession: Revelation 2:1, 3-5

To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: "The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands...

I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first."

Prayer of Confession:

Father, You are the lover of the loveless. You give grace to the selfish and extend mercy to the rebellious. We confess our hearts are often cold. We know that Jesus called us to love you with our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We confess that we fall short of this. Forgive us and help us. Help us to see Jesus – that we may encounter his love and compassion. Help us to see our sin - that we may cry out for your mercy. Help us to see your glory – that we may give our lives to you. Rekindle love in our hearts. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our 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).

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

(Words: George Matheson 1882; Music: Christopher Miner 1997)

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O light that follows all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

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 118.

Sermon: Psalm 63 "Hunger for God"

- Pastor Matt Koerber

A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.

³ Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

⁴ So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.

⁵ My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

⁶ when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

⁷ for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.

⁸ My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.

⁹ But those who seek to destroy my life
shall go down into the depths of the earth;

¹⁰ they shall be given over to the power of the sword;
they shall be a portion for jackals.

Additional Scripture

Jeremiah 29:10 / "For thus says the LORD: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place."

Matthew 7:7-8 / Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

John 4:23 / But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

John 17:3 / And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

1 Peter 1:8-9 / Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Congregational Response: Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q1. What is the main purpose of mankind?

A. Mankind's main purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever.

Songs of Thanksgiving

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

Fairest Lord Jesus

(Words: Unknown; Music: Silesian Folk Melody)

Fairest Lord Jesus ruler of all nature
O Thou of God and Man the Son
Thee will I cherish Thee will I honor
Thou my soul's glory joy and crown

Fair are the meadows fairer still the woodlands
Robed in the blooming garb of spring
Jesus is fairer Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing

Fair is the sunshine fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host
Jesus shines brighter Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav'n can boast

Beautiful Savior Lord of all the nations
Son of God and Son of Man
Glory and honor praise adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Reverend Joseph Bianco will be continuing the series in Joshua, preaching from Joshua 11:1–23, "Is God a God of War?"

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

<p>Capital Campaign Update</p>	<p>Friday, May 22: Info Packet email Sunday, May 24: Q&A <i>after</i> AM service Sunday, May 31: Q&A <i>before</i> AM service Sunday, June 7: Congregational Meeting with vote <i>after</i> AM service</p>
<p>Membership Class May 22nd - 23rd 300 Saline Street</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 Bible Study Leaders Training May 30th 9AM - 12PM 300 Saline Street</p>	<p>Have you ever considered leading a Women's Bible Study? Join us for Women's Bible Study Leaders Training! This training is required for any woman who wants to lead a Bible Study at City, but open to anyone. See Debbie Bacon for details, and register at https://tinyurl.com/WomensBibleStudyLeaderTraining</p>
<p>High School Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 31st WT</p>	<p>Celebrate and pray for our HS graduates as a church family during Morning Worship, recognizing the accomplishments of our covenant children! Our HS graduates and their families are invited to a lunch in the WT cafeteria immediately after Morning Worship.</p>
<p>Ethiopia Missions BP Clinic Sunday, May 31st WT</p>	<p>Join us after service Sunday 5/31 to get your blood pressure taken by future youth triage support, Abiel Bates and Zachary Chan, under Dr. Stephen Chan's clinical oversight. Come support our youth missionaries as they practice for the clinics and learn more about how they'll be serving in Ethiopia this summer.</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@alexcwatt.com).</p> <p>Notary needed to help with notarizing provider documentation to get Ethiopian Medical Licenses. Contact Tracy Partridge (partridge.ta@gmail.com).</p>
<p>Parents' Night Out (HS) Saturday, June 13th 5PM - 8PM 300 Saline St</p>	<p>The Youth Ministry is hosting a Parents' Night Out to raise support for our short-term mission trip in June. More info to come (including a registration), but save the date for now!</p>
<p>Rainforest Falls VBS July 20-24th 10AM - 12:30PM</p>	<p>VBS registration open for adult & youth volunteers & children attendees age 4 to rising 5th graders! Special need for Decorating Team to plan & supervise decorations, no need to attend VBS to help. Contact Debbie Bacon for info or visit cityreformed.org/vbs</p>

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

College Shuttle Sundays	Shuttle will be on pause for the summer, starting May 10th.
Agora Forum Biweekly Mondays, 7PM, Allen Hall G-10	Next meeting is 5/25. Allen Hall G-10 (on Pitt's campus.) Contact Alex Main: amain8511@gmail.com
Global Missions Prayer Mondays @ 9:00 PM	This week we will be praying for Jon and Vicky. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/cityreformedglobalprayer
Bean Sprouts 3rd Wednesday 12:00 PM	The next Bean Sprouts meeting will be Wednesday, May 20th at noon in the Greenfield Chapel. Contact Joe Stehle: joestehle@gmail.com .
Wednesday Prayer Meetings 8:30-9:30 AM	Please join us for Scripture reading, adoration, thanksgiving, and sharing prayer requests. Held on Zoom at: https://tinyurl.com/crpcwednesdayprayer .
Youth Group Biweekly Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM Greenfield Chapel	An opportunity for MS and HS students to connect with God through His Word & connect with one another through games, Bible teaching, discussion, & prayer. On break for the summer; will resume in the fall.
Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group Wednesdays, 7:00 PM	Meets biweekly on the North Side. Contact Lindsay Karr for more info: lindsay.karr@gmail.com .
Men's New Hope Bi-Weekly Wednesdays	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.
Thursday Women's Bible Study 1:00-3:00 PM	Studying Psalms. Thursdays from 1:00-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's House. Contact Cathy Taylor (lawyerdad5@aol.com).
Mommies' Discipleship 2nd and 4th Thursdays 7 PM - 9 PM	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.
Young Adults Fellowship	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.
Ultimate Frisbee Thursdays	Ultimate frisbee group meets Thursday evenings. All skill levels are welcome! Contact Dan Toney (danielrtoney@gmail.com)

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

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

Sunday:

Fox Chapel - Watson Barker
North Hills - David Bacon

Monday:

Forest Hills - Adam Schwab
Morningside - James Lettow

Tuesday:

Shaler - Dan Toney
Bellevue/North Side - Joe Bencotter
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

Rev. Joseph Bianco:

joseph@cityreformed.org

Rev. John McCombs:

john@cityreformed.org

Rev. Nameun Cho:

nameun@cityreformed.org

David Bacon:

bacon1986@gmail.com

Ben Chidester:

benwhidester@gmail.com

Luke Kephart:

lakephar@gmail.com

Craig Kozminski:

craigkozminski@gmail.com

Andy Leuenberger:

ahleuenberger@gmail.com

Joe Stehle:

joestehle@gmail.com

Dave Snoke:

snoke@hey.com

Women's Ministry Council

Debbie Bacon: dpasewark@gmail.com

Amanda Moore: mooreae1@gmail.com

Irene Winkler: renew77@gmail.com

Linda Kephart: lindaskep@gmail.com

Jamie Dodd: jamie.l.dodd@gmail.com

Samantha Philip: samantharaephilip@gmail.com

Deacons

Neil Friedrich: njfried@gmail.com

Bill Gould: wwgeochem@gmail.com

Cyril Isaac: dukecyrillus@gmail.com

Don McMillan: donmcmillan697@gmail.com

Kyle McMillan: kyle.mcmillan90@gmail.com

Nik Melchior: nik@alum.wustl.edu

Daniel Toney: danielrtoney@gmail.com

Jeff Winkler: jeffreypwinkler@gmail.com

John Bugay III: johnbugayiii@gmail.com