



Sunday Morning Service
September 20, 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

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring love.
Where there is offence, let me bring pardon.
Where there is discord, let me bring union.
Where there is error, let me bring truth.
Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.
Where there is despair, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.
O Lord, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love,
for it is in giving that one receives,
it is in self-forgetting that one finds,
it is in forgiving that one is forgiven,
it is in dying that one awakens to eternal life."

– "Prayer for Peace" attributed to Francis of Assisi (1182-1226 AD)

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

**Welcome
Information:**



Church Office

3929 Coleman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
Hours:

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

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

Morning Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship – September 20, 2026

Presider: Elder Andy Leuenberger

Call to Worship: 2 Corinthians 3:17-18, 4:5-7

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

Leader Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

People And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.

Leader For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

People For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

Leader For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

People But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

Prayer of Invocation

Jesus What a Friend for Sinners

(Words: J. Wilbur Chapman 1910; Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard 1811)

Jesus what a friend for sinners
Jesus lover of my soul
Friends may fail me foes assail me
He my Savior makes me whole

Jesus What a strength in weakness
Let me hide myself in him
Tempted tried and sometimes failing
He my strength my victory wins

*Hallelujah what a Savior
Hallelujah what a Friend
Saving helping keeping loving
He is with me to the end*

Jesus what a help in sorrow
While the billows o'er me roll
Even when my heart is breaking
He my comfort helps my soul

Jesus what a guide and keeper
While the tempest still is high
Storms about me, night has found me
He my pilot hears my cry

Jesus I do now receive him
More than all in him I find
He hath granted me forgiveness
I am his and he is mine

Scripture Reading: Matthew 11:27-30

Come to Me

(Wendell Kimbrough 2017)

You are weighed down you are worried
Child I see you child I know you
Bring your burdens bring your labor
Come to me

*Come to me come to me
Come to me if you are weary
I will give you
I will give you my rest*

I am gentle I am humble
Let me teach you let me show you
Trade your burden mine is easy
Come to me

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

(Words: Joseph M. Scriven 1855; Music: Charles C. Converse 1868)

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer
O what peace we often forfeit
O what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations
Is there trouble anywhere
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden
Cumbered with a load of care
Precious Savior still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Do thy friends despise forsake thee
Take it to the Lord in prayer
In his arms he'll take and shield thee
Thou wilt find a solace there

Call to Confession: 2 Corinthians 7:10

For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Prayer of Confession: Adapted from "Continual Repentance" The Valley of Vision - repentance, Christ's righteousness

O God of Grace, You have imputed my sin to my substitute, and you have imputed his righteousness to my soul, clothing me with a bridegroom's robe and decking me with jewels of holiness. But in my Christian walk I am still in rags; my best prayers are stained with sin; my penitential tears are full of impurity; my confessions of wrong are themselves corrupt; my reception of the Spirit is tainted with selfishness.

I need to repent of my repentance; I need my tears to be washed; I have no robe to cover my sins, no loom to weave my own righteousness; I am always standing clothed in filthy garments, and by grace I am always receiving a change of clothing, for you always justify the ungodly.

Every morning let me wear the righteousness of Christ, every evening return in it, go out to the day's work in it, be married in it, be wound in death in it, stand before the great throne of the judgment in it, enter heaven in it shining as the sun. Grant that I may never lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, and the exceeding wonder of grace. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 2 Corinthians 5:17-19, 21

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation... For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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).

Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

(Words: Henry Lyte 1825; Music: Bill Moore 2001)

Jesus I my cross have taken
All to leave and follow Thee
Destitute despised forsaken
Thou from hence my all shall be
Perish every fond ambition
All I've sought or hoped or known
Yet how rich is my condition
God and heaven are still my own

Let the world despise and leave me
They have left my Savior too
Human hearts and looks deceive me
Thou art not like them untrue
O while Thou dost smile upon me
God of wisdom love, and might
Foes may hate and friends disown me
Show Thy face and all is bright

Man may trouble and distress me
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast
Life with trials hard may press me
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me
While Thy love is left to me
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me
Were that joy unmixed with Thee

Go then earthly fame and treasure
Come disaster scorn and pain
In Thy service pain is pleasure
With Thy favor loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father
I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl and clouds may gather
All must work for good to me

Soul then know thy full salvation
Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station
Something still to do or bear
Think what Spirit dwells within thee
Think what Father's smiles are thine
Think that Jesus died to win thee
Child of heaven canst thou repine

Haste thee on from grace to glory
Armed by faith and winged by prayer
Heaven's eternal days before thee
God's own hand shall guide us there
Soon shall close thy earthly mission
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days
Hope shall change to glad fruition
Faith to sight and prayer to praise

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 115B.

Sermon: 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

"The God of All Comfort"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the church of God that is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia:

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. ⁶If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. ⁷Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

⁸For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. ⁹Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our

hope that he will deliver us again. ¹¹You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Additional Scripture

Acts 24:17 / Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings.

2 Corinthians 9:5 / So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not as an exaction.

2 Corinthians 11:4-6 / For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough. Indeed, I consider that I am not in the least inferior to these super-apostles. Even if I am unskilled in speaking, I am not so in knowledge; indeed, in every way we have made this plain to you in all things.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 / For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

Congregational Response:

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

L: But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

P: **Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

Songs of Thanksgiving

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart

(Words: George Croly 1854; Music: Daniel Snoko 2020)

Spirit of God descend upon my heart
Wean it from sin through all its pulses move
Stoop to my weakness mighty as Thou art
Make me to love Thee as I ought to love
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

I ask no dream no prophet ecstasies
No sudden rending of the veil of clay
No angel vision no revealing skies
Take now the dimness of my soul away
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee God and King
All all Thine own soul heart and strength and mind
I see the cross there teach my heart to cling
O let me seek Thee O and let me find
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear
Come check my rising doubt, my rebel sigh
Teach me the patience of unanswered pray'r
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love
One holy passion filling all my frame
Baptize my life with heav'n's descended Dove
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame
Spirit of God descend upon my heart

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

(Words & Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, & Michael Farren 2018)

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine!
Yet not I but through Christ in me."

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Savior, he will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome!
Yet not I but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price, it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free!
Yet not I but through Christ in me."

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
"Yet not I but through Christ in me."

Benediction

At tonight's Worship Service, Reverend Joseph Bianco will begin a new series, The Final Hours of Darkness: Luke's Account of Christ's Passion, preaching from Luke 22:7-23, "The Passover Lamb"

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

ALL Church Welcome Picnic and Community Group Fair TODAY, After service WT Gym	We are hosting a Welcome Picnic and CG Fair September 20th immediately following morning worship. Connect with new folks at CRPC while enjoying a feast-filled lunch of chicken, sides & desserts provided by our Welcome & Hospitality Committee.
Daniel Snoke & True Fable Concert Saturday, September 26th 6PM-8PM Greenfield Chapel 3929 Coleman Street	Live in concert! Daniel Snoke and special guest True Fable will be showcasing their gifts Saturday night at our Greenfield Chapel. Join us for an evening of songs and refreshments after. If you would be willing to bring some baked goods or appetizers, contact Chrissie at chrissie@cityreformed.org
Membership Class Save the Date: October 2nd-3rd	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.
Men's Prayer Breakfast Saturday, October 10 9-10:30AM	Mark your calendars! Men and young men of City Reformed are invited to the Men's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, October 10th, at 9:00 AM. Join us for food, fellowship, prayer, and a morning of connection. More details regarding our topic and our special guest speaker to follow soon.
Missions Dinner Saturday, October 17th 6PM-8PM 300 Saline St.	Please join us for our 2nd annual missions dinner! International food, worship, prayer, and updates from around the world - you don't want to miss this. You can sign up to bring food at https://tinyurl.com/1017potluck .
Volunteers Needed All Teams	Volunteers needed for all Sunday ministries: setup, tear down, sound, youth, coffee, greeters, & fellowship. If interested email: nameun@cityreformed.org .
RUF @ Pitt DL Hall, Room 104 Thursdays, 9PM	RUF at Pitt Large Group Worship and Bible Study, Thursdays, 9pm, David Lawrence Hall, room 104 on Pitt's campus. All college students are welcome!

Regular Events

www.cityreformed.org/events

College Shuttle Sundays	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.breedon@ruf.org
Agora Forum Biweekly Mondays, 7PM, Allen Hall G-10	Discussion group for philosophy, theology, and the broader culture from a Christian perspective. Next mtg: 9/28. Contact Alex Main: amain8511@gmail.com .
Global Missions Prayer Mondays @ 9 PM	This week we will be praying for the CCO/Daniel and PPU. Held on Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/cityreformedglobalprayer
Women's Bible Study Tuesdays 9:45-11:45AM Saline St.	A 5-7 week study on 1st John. Study taught by Paige Brown. We hope to offer childcare. Contact Luda luda.bates@gmail.com for info on study or babysitting.
Bean Sprouts 3rd Wednesday, 12 PM	The next Bean Sprouts meeting will be on Wednesday, October 21. 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	Studying spiritual maturity in the New Testament, with questions like, "What does it mean to be mature in the Christian life? How do we grow in maturity?"
Young Adult Women's Discipleship Group Wednesdays, 7 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, & book work. If you are interested, email joseph@cityreformed.org to meet with the group leader.
Thursday Women's Bible Study 1 - 3 PM	Studying James: Walking in Wisdom. Thursdays from 1-3:00PM at Cathy Taylor's House. Contact Cathy Taylor (lawyerdad5@aol.com).
Mommies Group 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 PM Sandy Snoke's House	Mommies' discipleship group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. Join us for fellowship, prayer and to explore what God's Word has to teach us about rest. Contact Sandy at scsnoke@comcast.net
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. 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, & Nehara Andrews. (***gavin.breeden@ruf.org, callie.miller@ruf.org, nehara.andrews@ruf.org***)
- ***cityreformed.org/university/***

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
East Suburban - Joe Stehle

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

Leadership

Elders

Rev. Matthew Koerber:
pastormatt@cityreformed.org

Rev. Joseph Bianco:
joseph@cityreformed.org

Rev. John McCombs:
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Women's Ministry Council

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