



"Except then we endeavor to relieve the necessities of our brethren and to offer them assistance, there will not be in us but one part of true conversion."

- John Calvin

Sunday Evening Worship
September 6, 2026

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sunday Evening Worship – September 6, 2026

Presider: Reverend Matt Koerber

Call to Worship: Isaiah 61:1-4

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

Leader The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,

People **To proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;**

Leader To proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

People **To grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning,**

Leader The garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

People **They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.**

Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 72 | Hail to The Lord's Anointed

(Words: James Montgomery 1821; Music: Sandra McCracken 2012)

*Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun,
His reign on earth begun!*

He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong.
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove.
His name shall stand forever,
That name to us is Love.

Holy Spirit

(Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend 2006)

Holy Spirit living Breath of God
Breathe new life into my willing soul
Let the presence of the risen Lord
Come renew my heart and make me whole

Cause your Word to come alive in me
Give me faith for what I cannot see
Give me passion for your purity
Holy Spirit breathe new life in me

Holy Spirit come abide within
May your joy be seen in all I do
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin
In each thought and deed and attitude

Kindness to the greatest and the least
Gentleness that sows the path of peace
Turn my strivings into works of grace
Breath of God show Christ in all I do

Holy Spirit from creation's birth
Giving life to all that God has made
Show your power once again on earth
Cause your church to hunger for your ways

Let the fragrance of our pray'rs arise
Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see

Call to Confession: 1 John 3:16-18

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Prayer of Confession:

Father, give me a generous heart. Thank you that you have poured out blessings on me, spiritual blessings in Christ, the fellowship of the saints, my body which you have made well, and the sure hope of heaven, where my body will be renewed. Teach me to not be miserly and small in heart, but to love others in hospitality, friendship, and generosity. Help your Church to rejoice together in what you have given us, as we are one in your Spirit.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 3:19-20

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

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)

Stronger

(Words & Music: Ben Fielding & Reuben Morgan 2007)

There is Love that came for us
Humbled to a sinner's cross
You broke my shame and sinfulness
You rose again victorious

Faithfulness none can deny
Through the storm and through the fire
There is truth that sets me free
Jesus Christ who lives in me

*You are stronger, you are stronger
Sin is broken, you have saved me
It is written, "Christ is risen"
Jesus you are Lord of all*

No beginning and no end
You're my hope and my defense
You came to seek and save the lost
You paid it all upon the cross

Scripture & Homily: Philemon 8-21

"What does the Bible say about slavery?"

- Elder Dave Snoke

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Additional Scripture

Deuteronomy 5:15 / You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

Deuteronomy 23:15 / "You shall not give up to his master a slave who has escaped from his master to you."

Deuteronomy 24:7 / "If a man is found stealing one of his brothers of the people of Israel, and if he treats him as a slave or sells him, then that thief shall die. So you shall purge the evil from your midst."

Leviticus 25:39 / "If your brother becomes poor beside you and sells himself to you, you shall not make him serve as a slave."

Notes

Song of Thanksgiving

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

(Words: Kate Wilkinson 1925; Music: Daniel Snoke 2018)

May the mind of Christ my Savior
Live in me from day to day
By his love and pow'r controlling
All I do, all I say

May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour' to hour
So that all may see I triumph
Only through his love and pow'r
Only through his love and pow'r

May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea
Him exalting self removing
This is my victory

May the peace of God my Father
Rule my life in ev'rything
That I may be quick to comfort
All the sick and sorrowing
All the sick and sorrowing

May his beauty rest upon me
As I seek the lost to win
And may they forget the channel
Seeing him only him

May I run the race before me
Strong and brave to face the foe
Looking only unto Jesus
As I onward with him go

Benediction



9/9	Youth Group begins
9/13	Sunday School begins Sundays @ the Knauers' (HS)
9/19	Women's Ministry Brunch
9/20	Welcome Picnic & CG Fair
9/26	Daniel Snoke Concert
10/2-3	Membership Class
10/10	Men's Prayer Breakfast
10/17	Missions Dinner
11/8	Women's Mentor Lunch
11/14	Thanksgiving Dinner

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

Sundays at the Knauers' (HS Only) Sunday, September 13th 12PM - 2:30PM	All HS students are invited to the Knauers' home after Morning Worship for fellowship and games. Lunch will be provided!
Women's Brunch Saturday, September 19th 10AM-12PM 300 Saline Street	Women of all ages are invited to a brunch hosted by the Women's Council at the Saline St. building on Saturday, September 19. Come hear testimonies of God reminding sisters of the joy of their salvation. Enjoy yummy food while greeting old and new friends. We are especially eager to include college women! Register: https://tinyurl.com/2026CRPCWomensBrunch so we can prepare.
ALL Church Welcome Picnic and Community Group Fair Sunday, September 20th After service, WT Gym	We are hosting a CG Fair and Welcome Picnic September 20th immediately following morning worship. Connect with new folks at CRPC while enjoying a feast-filled lunch of chicken, sides and desserts provided by our new 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!