



Sunday Morning Communion Service
September 6, 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

"Why do people in church seem like cheerful, brainless tourists on a packaged tour of the Absolute? ... Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we blithely invoke? ...The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies' straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews."

– Annie Dillard

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 Communion Worship – September 6, 2026

Presider: Elder David Bacon

Call to Worship: Hebrews 10:19-25

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

Leader Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,

People **And since we have a great priest over the house of God,**

Leader Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

People **Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.**

Leader And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some,

People **But encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.**

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

King of Kings

(Words & Music: Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, Scott Ligertwood 2018)

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
'Till from heaven you came running
There was mercy in your eyes
To fulfill the Law and Prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

*Praise the Father praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
Now we see that in your suff'ring
You saw glory to behold
Knowing you were our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

For the morning that you rose
All of heaven held its breath
'Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
Then the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are re-stored

Then the Church of Christ was born
And the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By his blood and in his name
In his freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Call to Confession: Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Prayer of Confession:

Father, we have heard your voice speaking to us many times in your word. We have seen the greatness of your salvation in Christ for your people and for our own lives. But we confess that we have not always taken to heart your truth and your love. In our hearts we have questioned your ways and have many times chosen to go our own way. We have responded to your care with faithlessness and disobedience. We have scorned the promise of rest in your presence. Make us a people who respond to you with trust. Make us a people whose hearts remain close to you and who walk in loving obedience to you. Do these things by the power of your Holy Spirit working in us, and lead us by your Spirit into the rest we find only in your presence. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 10:12-14

When Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

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).

All I Have Is Christ

(Words & Music: Jordan Kauflin 2008)

*Hallelujah all I have is Christ
Hallelujah Jesus is my life*

I once was lost in darkest night
Yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life
Had led me to the grave
I had no hope that you would own
A rebel to your will
And if you had not loved me first
I would refuse you still

But as I ran my hell-bound race
Indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state
And led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed
You suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me
Now all I know is grace

Now Lord I would be yours alone
And live so all might see
The strength to follow your commands
Could never come from me
O Father use my ransomed life
In any way you choose
And let my song forever be
My only boast is you

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: Galatians 3:1-9, 13-14

"Core Values #2: We Grow When We Hear with Faith"

- Reverend Matt Koerber

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. ²Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ³Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? ⁴Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? ⁵Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— ⁶just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? ⁷Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” ⁹So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith...

...¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— ¹⁴so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Additional Creedal Statements

WSC Q. 92. What is a sacrament? / A. A sacrament is a holy ordinance instituted by Christ in which, by perceivable signs, Christ and the benefits of the New Covenant are represented, sealed, and applied to believers.

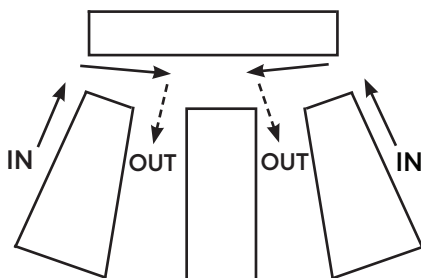
WSC Q. 96. What is the Lord's supper? / A. The Lord's supper is a sacrament in which, by giving and receiving of bread and wine according to Christ's command, his death is shown forth. Worthy receivers are made partakers of his body and blood by faith, not in a bodily or physical manner, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace, with all his benefits.

Communion

City Reformed Church invites all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sins and trust Christ alone for salvation, and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel, to receive Holy Communion with us. Parents with non-communicating children are encouraged to bring their children forward during communion. The elders will lay a hand on their head and briefly pray for them as they serve you.

Communion is served with wine and with grape juice. The wine is placed in the two outer circles of the communion tray, and the grape juice is placed in the inner circle. Because Jesus used wine during the first communion service, we believe using real wine is beneficial. However, participants are welcome to choose.

There is also gluten-free bread available on each plate.



City Reformed Church distributes communion to groups of people who come forward to eat and drink the Lord's Supper together. Please join us in song as we celebrate Christ dwelling with his church in the sacrament of communion. Lines are formed at the front of the room and the entire line will eat and drink at the same time. Not everyone should stand and line up at the same time and it is often better to remain seated until the line progresses. Please notify an usher if you are unable to come forward and need to receive communion in your seat.

Songs of Communion

Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

(Words & Music: Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, & Matthew Merker 2020)

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to him belong
Who holds our days within his hand?
What comes, apart from his command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand

O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good
Where is his grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood

Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, what will we sing?
"Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with him

There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Joy To Be

(Words & Music: Brian Eichelberger & Zach Bolen 2020)

*O the joy to be joy to know
It's when I decrease you fill up my soul
What a joy to see joy to hold
It's when you increase
I want nothing more*

Open my hands humble my heart
All that I have is yours
Color my prayers widen my eyes
Wash me in glorious light

Hasten my ears bridle my tongue
Focus my heart to hear
Settle my pace purge me of pride
Again and again you provide

I Stand Amazed

(Words & Music: Charles H. Gabriel 1905)

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how he could love me
A sinner condemned unclean

For me it was in the garden
He prayed not my will but thine
He would not yield to his own grief
But sweat drops of blood for mine

*How marvelous how wonderful
And my song shall ever be
How marvelous how wonderful
Is my Savior's love for me*

In pity angels beheld him
And came from the world of light
To comfort him in the sorrows
He bore for my soul that night

(continued on next page)

He took my sins and my sorrows
He made them his very own
He bore the burden to Calvary
And suffered and died alone

When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of his love for me

Doxology

(Words: Thomas Ken 1674; Music: Louis Bourgeois 1510)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
(repeat)

Amen

Benediction

***At tonight's Worship Service, Elder Dave Snoke will
be continuing our series in Philemon, preaching from
Philemon 8-21, "What Does the Bible Say About Slavery?"***



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 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 and 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 Starting August 23rd	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
Agora Forum Biweekly Mondays, 7PM, Allen Hall G-10	Discussion group for philosophy, theology, and the broader culture from a Christian perspective. Next mtg: 9/14. Contact Alex Main: amain8511@gmail.com .
Global Missions Prayer Mondays @ 9 PM	This week we will be praying for Jon and Vicky. 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, September 16. 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	Starting 9/9. 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:
john@cityreformed.org

Rev. Nameun Cho:
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Ben Chidester:
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Luke Kephart:
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Craig Kozminski:
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Andy Leuenberger:
ahleuenberger@gmail.com

Joe Stehle:
joestehle@gmail.com

Dave Snoke:
snoke@hey.com

Women's Ministry Council

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