City Reformed
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"One short sleep past, we wake eternally
And death shall be no more; Death, thou shalt die."

- John Donne, "Death, Be Not Proud"

Sunday Evening Communion Worship
November 22, 2026

Evening Worship Service

City Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sunday Evening Communion Worship – November 22, 2026
Presider: Reverend Joseph Bianco

Call to Worship: Psalm 30:1-5

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

Leader I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

People **O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.**

Leader O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

People **Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.**

Leader For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

People **Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

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

Jesus Lover of My Soul

(Words: Charles Wesley; 1740 Music: Greg Thompson 2000)

Jesus lover of my soul
Let me to Thy bosom fly
While the nearer waters roll
While the tempest still is high
Hide me O my Savior hide
Till the storm is past
Safe into the haven guide
Receive my soul at last

Other refuge have I none
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee
Leave ah leave me not alone
Still support and comfort me
All my trust on Thee is stayed
Help from Thee I bring
Cover my defenseless head
The shadow of Thy wing

Thou O Christ art all I want
More than all in Thee I find
Raise the fallen cheer the faint
Heal the sick and lead the blind
Just and holy is Thy name
I am all unrighteousness
False and full of sin I am
Thou full of truth and grace

Plenteous grace with Thee is found
Grace to cover all my sin
Let the healing streams abound
Make and keep me pure within
Thou of life the fountain art
Let me take of Thee
Spring Thou up within my heart
To all eternity

Call to Confession: Psalm 30:6-7

As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."
By your favor, O Lord,
you made my mountain stand strong;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

Prayer of Confession: Psalm 30:8-10

To you, O Lord, I cry,
and to the Lord I plead for mercy:
"What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me!
O Lord, be my helper!"

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 30:11-12

You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
you have loosed my sackcloth
and clothed me with gladness,
that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

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)

It Is Well With My Soul

(Words: Horatio G. Spafford 1873; Music: Philip P. Bliss 1876)

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea-billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blessed assurance control:
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul!

My sin--O the bliss of this glorious thought!--
My sin not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And Lord, haste the day, when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul!

Scripture & Homily: Luke 24:1-12

"Remember the Words He Spoke to You"

- Elder Ben Chidester

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they
went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared.
[2]And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, [3]but
when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord
Jesus. [4]While they were perplexed about this, behold, two
men stood by them in dazzling apparel. [5]And as they were
frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men
said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?
[6]He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you,
while he was still in Galilee, [7]that the Son of Man must be
delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and
on the third day rise." [8]And they remembered his words, [9]and
returning from the tomb they told all these things to the
eleven and to all the rest. [10]Now it was Mary Magdalene and
Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women
with them who told these things to the apostles, [11]but these
words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe
them. [12]But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and
looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he
went home marveling at what had happened.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Additional Scripture

Luke 9:21-22 / And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

Luke 18:31-33 / And taking the twelve, he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise."

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-communing 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.

Please join us in song as we celebrate Christ dwelling with his church in the sacrament of communion.

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

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.

Amen

Benediction

Announcements

www.cityreformed.org/events

Thanksgiving Day Pairings	If you're in town for the holiday and: a) need a place to go; or, b) have an extra seat at your dinner table register @ **https://crpc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/4007122**. We'll pair folks by the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.
RUF at Pitt Christmas Party Food Request December 4 4729 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 5-5:45pm	Help us to celebrate the Christmas season and the (almost) end of the semester! Food can be dropped off at the Church of the Ascension (4729 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) 5-5:45pm, Friday Dec 4, or coordinated at other times/places if needed. Sign up here: ***https://tinyurl.com/rufchristmas2026*** Contact Gavin Breeden (gavin.breeden@ruf.org) with questions!
RUF @ Pitt O'Hara Student Center Thursdays, 9PM	RUF at Pitt Large Group Worship and Bible Study, Thursdays, 9pm, O'Hara Student Center on Pitt's campus. All college students are welcome!
Capital Campaign Prayer Time 300 Saline Street Tuesday, Dec 8, 7:30PM	Thank you for praying for the Capital Campaign! Over the coming months, church leaders will invite each member to have a conversation about supporting the campaign. Questions? Contact our Campaign Manager, Allison Barker at ***allison@cityreformed.org***. We are hosting a few half-hour times of intentional prayer for the Capital Campaign on these dates; please join us as we seek the Lord together.
Wreath Making Saturday, December 5 10AM-12PM 300 Saline Street, 15207	The women's ministry council is hosting their annual wreath making event at 300 Saline Street. Please register on Church Center to pay and reserve your wreath! **https://tinyurl.com/CRPCWreath2026**
Greenfield WinterFest Saturday, December 5 5:30-8:30PM Greenfield Chapel	We will be opening the doors of our Coleman Street building on the evening of December 5 to participate in the Greenfield WinterFest. Join us in welcoming our neighbors in for caroling, crafting, and cocoa! For more information on the WinterFest, visit www.greenfieldwinterfest.com.
Youth Ministry Christmas Party (MS & HS) Wednesday, December 16 6:30-8:30PM Greenfield Chapel	We invite all MS and HS students to join us in celebrating the season with Christmas-themed games followed by a white elephant gift exchange! There is a $10 limit on gifts, but we highly encourage saving the $10 by creatively regifting a present. Be sure to wrap your gift before arriving!

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
Tuesday (cont.):
Squirrel Hill - Ben Chidester
Greenfield B - Chris Bollinger
Wednesday:
Friendship - Michael Hilton
Greenfield A - Max Winters
Regent Square - Dave Snoke
Thursday:
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:
nameun@cityreformed.org
David Bacon:
bacon1986@gmail.com
Ben Chidester:
benwchidester@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

All requests can be sent to: ***deacons@cityreformed.org***

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