



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Faithful to the Scriptures
True to the Reformed Faith
Obedient to the Great Commission



Sunday, September 6, 2026
10:30am

Welcome to Christ Community Church

*For God's glory, to make and deploy mature
and equipped disciples of Jesus Christ.*

Free wifi:
CCC Guest >
guest2019

This facility is
equipped with a
hearing
assistance
system. Please
ask a Sound
Technician for a
receiver.

Hymns and
worship songs
are used by
permission.
CCLI # 187771

S - denotes
congregation
Standing

Download the
CCC Simpsonville
app today!



Whether you are a visitor or a member, it is a joy to worship our Lord Jesus Christ with you this morning. Please consider participating in our Discipleship Hour and Community Groups throughout the week as well.

We believe it is right and good for children of all ages to be with the adult community in worship. Please do not hesitate to keep your child with you. However, we do offer Children's Church for 3-5 yr. olds. Those children participating can be dismissed to the children's wing during the song prior to the sermon.

Because we live in a fallen, broken, sinful world, we can come to Sunday morning worship at times with hearts weighed down with burdens, struggles and concerns. It is not God's will that we shoulder these burdens and concerns alone. Each Sunday immediately following the worship service, there are people at the right front of the church who stand ready to listen to your concerns and to pray with you. So, whatever your concern, no matter how big or small, feel free to come, to share and to be prayed for.

Prepare yourself now for the highest calling of the people of God which is the worship of God in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

Building Attendant for today: Bruce Drebenstedt

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

John Calvin: “This might be supposed to mean, what was the current rumor about the Redeemer, who became the Son of Man? But the question is quite different, what do men think about Jesus the Son of Mary?”

John Calvin: “The confession is short, but it embraces all that is contained in our salvation; for the designation Christ, or Anointed, includes both an everlasting Kingdom and an everlasting Priesthood, to reconcile us to God, and, by expiating our sins through his sacrifice, to obtain for us a perfect righteousness, and, having received us under his protection, to uphold and supply and enrich us with every description of blessings.”

William Lane: “Peter’s strong protest was not because he recognized... the unspeakable incongruity between the transcendent majesty of the Son of Man and Jesus’ prophesy of suffering. It was rather the incongruity between “Messiah” and Jesus’ affirmation which accounts for his reaction.”

William Lane: “An inability to accept a suffering Savior involves the refusal of the will of God, whose sovereign disposition of the problem of sin and human rebellion fails to conform to the niceties of human expectation. Jesus shows no inclination to justify the ways of God to men. He simply affirms that the way of the cross is the will of God.”

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Jonathan Williams, Assistant Pastor of Adult Discipleship
- Rev. Paul Sanders, Senior Pastor
- Mr. John Hubbard, leading worship

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Acts 2:36-41, 46-47

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Responding to the Savior

§ Invocation

§ Song of Praise

At Your Name

At Your name the mountains shake and crumble.
At Your name the oceans roar and tumble.
At Your name angels will bow,
The earth will rejoice, Your people cry out.

*Chorus: Lord of all the earth, we shout Your name, shout Your name;
Filling up the skies with endless praise, endless praise.
Yahweh, Yahweh: we love to shout Your name, O Lord!*

At Your name the morning breaks in glory.
At Your name creation sings Your story.
At Your name angels will bow,
The earth will rejoice, Your people cry out.
Chorus

Bridge: There is no one like our God; We will praise You, praise You.
There's no one like our God; We will sing, we will sing!
There is no one like our God; We will praise You, praise You.
There's no one like our God, we will sing!

Chorus

Yahweh, Yahweh: we love to shout Your name, O Lord!

Introduction of New Members

Coy & Libby Tomlinson
Alex & Rachel Reed
Rami & Lauren Kouzeili, with Ever, Gabriel, & Myah

Sacrament of Baptism

Ever Kouzeili, son of Rami & Lauren Kouzeili
Thomas Reed, son of Alex & Rachel Reed
Tripp Reed, son of Alex & Rachel Reed

§ Song of Praise

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Three ways to give: the Giving Box, online through the website, or mail to the church at PO Box 80787, Simpsonville, SC 29680

Prayers of the Church

Matt & Janelle Heiser, Granada, Spain

§ Song of Preparation*

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

*Parents who desire may bring their 3-5 yr. olds to the children's wing for Children's Church.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, in the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, He the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suff'ring, never trace, nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man.

Christ, the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory; grace unmeasured love untold.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, slain by death, the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him. Praise the Lord, He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Mark 8:27-33

²⁷ And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." ³⁰ And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Ben Clarke

"Who Do You Say I Am?"

Week after week we proclaim the Bible because we are convinced it is the inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God. That means that it comes to us from God, so it is true in everything that it claims. Therefore, you can trust it with all of your heart and it will not let you down.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body,

which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Responding to the Savior

Bread and Cup

Please hold elements until all are served so that we may partake together.

§ Song of Response

Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you eat and remember;
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so, with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

If you have a need or would like to find out more about the Gospel, the Post Worship Team stands ready to meet with you and pray. Simply make your way to the front right-hand side of the sanctuary after the Benediction, and a team member will be there to meet with you.

Space for Notes:

Discussion Questions for Community Groups & Families:

Series: Good New Breaking #24 · Mark 8:27-33 · “Who Do You Say I Am?”

1. What was your top takeaway from the sermon this week?
2. Especially for our children and young people:
 - a. If a friend asked you who Jesus is, what would you say to them?
 - b. How does knowing who Jesus is show up in the way that you play sports, or make friends, or talk to others, or your free time?
3. If you were asked by Christ, “who do you say that I am,” how would you answer Him?
4. What are the people that surround you answering regarding who Jesus is?
5. Knowing Peter’s history and looking at his story, what do you believe that you must do in response to knowing Jesus as Lord?
6. How does the cross and the resurrection change history, and more importantly how has it changed your life?
7. What are the crucial truths that you need to be able to articulate concerning who Jesus is and belief in him?
8. Who might God be calling you to reach with the whole story of Jesus as the Christ?

Why Do We Do That?

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

Not all churches handle invitations to the Lord's Table in the same manner. Please understand that while we are not so dogmatic as to condemn those with other practices, we do have convictions for why we administer the Supper in the way we do. What follows is our Church and Denominations view on just who the Lord's Supper is for.

First, the Lord's Supper is for believing people. It is a family meal for believers in the Lord Jesus Christ who have repented of their sins and trust in Christ alone for forgiveness and eternal life. It is a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. If you are an unbeliever visiting with us, we are glad you are here. Consider this day whether or not you are ready to embrace Jesus Christ as He is offered in the Scriptures. See a pastor or elder if you would like to talk about faith and life.

The Supper is also for a prepared people, those who have examined themselves concerning their sins before partaking. 1 Corinthians 11:18, 27-32 warn all participants to carefully examine their heart and life to make certain you are participating in a worthy manner. Are you converted? Is there any sin that you continually live in and refuse to repent from? Is there someone that you have not done all you can to be at peace with by offering and/or requesting forgiveness? These are indications that you have business to attend to before you can come to the table in a worthy manner. If you discern you are not repentant in some area, we encourage you to deal promptly with the sin that is keeping you from such a gift from our Lord that you may with joy participate next month.

Finally, the Supper is also for an informed people, those who are able to discern the body rightly, that is to understand the significance of the holy mystery of Christ crucified and of His body the church. Thus, while we do not require that a person be a member of Christ Community Church to participate, we do ask that each participant be a baptized member of an Evangelical (i.e. Bible believing) Church and that you are in good standing (i.e. you are not running from Church discipline).

Let us also remember that, though we believe, prepare and are informed, our faith is never perfect, our preparation never flawless, and our understanding is never complete. We do not come to the Lord's Table to claim that we are righteous in ourselves, but we come only because God regards us as righteous on the basis of the work of Christ through His incarnation, redemptive death, resurrection, ascension, and intercession in our behalf. Therefore, we encourage weak Christians, struggling disciples, and doubting believers to receive this Sacrament to gain spiritual strength and renewed hope.

Note to those seeking a church home: If you are not from a Bible believing church, yet you desire to connect soon to one but realize it may take a while; and if you have interest in being invited to the Lord's Table with us while you discern your future church home; please see an Elder today to talk more about that possibility.

Note to Parents: To receive communion, a child must be formally examined and received by the governing body of the church to which you belong (that would be the Session in our context). This will assure that your child has been baptized, professes faith in Jesus and understands the Sacrament. From time to time, we offer a Communicants Classes for older children to help them understand the essentials of the gospel and Sacraments. Please take advantage of those classes when offered. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.

Note to Non-Christians: If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal (see 1 Cor. 11:18, 27-32), please use this time to reflect on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mark your calendars:

September

- 10: Thursday Morning Harmony resumes, 9:30am
- 11: WM Fall Fiesta, 6pm
- 13: **BEGIN TWO SERVICES**, 8:30am & 11:00am
- 13: Fellowship Dinner, 5pm
- 16: Ladies' Night Out, Lieu's Chinese Bistro, 6pm
- 16: Choir practice begins, 7:15pm
- 17: Men's Night Out, Thai Cuisine, 6pm
- 20: SPUR Groups, 5pm
- 25: Men's Ministry Kick-Off, 6:30pm

More information can be found in the Update, on the app, and/or website.

- * *The first Sunday of each month we take a collection of personal care items for the Center for Community Services. Items can be placed in the wagon located next to the Information Desk in the foyer.*
- * *Members can pick up a monthly giving report summary in the Deacons' office.*

Church office: 864.967.2815

admin@christcommunitychurchonline.org

Staff

Paul Sanders, Senior Pastor	864.431.6688	Rachel Beeson, Dir. of Children's Ministry	864.617.6768
Jonathan Williams, Ass't. Pastor/Discipleship	803.629.2952	Felicia Liddell, Dir. of Assimilation	813.335.7320
Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor/Youth	770.328.6363	Kim Wallace, Dir. of Women's Ministry	864.981.2449
	Jim Perry, Church Administrator	864.449.5609	
	Joanne Heiser, Admin. Assistant	864.593.2424	
	Steve Britton, Clerk of Session	864.277.9248	
	Greg Coggins, Chair of Diaconate	904.472.9656	