



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



January 18, 2026
10:30 am

Welcome to Christ Community Church

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

Free wifi:
CCC Guest >
guest2020

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

§ - denotes congregation Standing

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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 Piesch

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Matthew 18:5-6: Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

Approximately 1.3 million American lives have been lost in wars since 1775. Nearly the same amount of American lives have been lost each year since 1973 due to abortion. 1.3 million American lives are taken by abortion each year. Since 1973, more than 65 million American lives have been lost to abortion.

One in six abortions is to a woman who says that “I belong to Jesus.” That means nearly 11 million babies have been killed in Christian churches as a way out of an unwanted pregnancy.

Romans 1:8: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Jonathan Williams, Assistant Pastor of Adult Discipleship
- Mr. Lowell Britt

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Responding to the Savior

§ Prayer of Invocation

§ Songs of Praise

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice; Ye lights of evening find a voice,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit Three in One,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus, Thank You

The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend,
the agonies of Calvary.

You, the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son,
Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me.

*Chorus: Your blood has washed away my sin. Jesus, thank You.
The Father's wrath completely satisfied. Jesus, thank You.
Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table. Jesus, thank You.*

By Your perfect sacrifice, I've been brought near,
Your enemy You've made Your friend.
Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace,
Your mercy and Your kindness know no end.

Chorus

Bridge (3x): Lover of my soul, I want to live for You.

Chorus

Introduction of New Communing Members

Blakely Lunsford, Michael and Gideon Stouffer

Tithes & Generous Giving

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

Calvary Home for Children, Metanoia Prison Ministries,
Piedmont Women's Center, Switch

§ Affirmation of Faith

Leader: How did God create man?

Westminster Shorter Catechism Question 10

All: God created man male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

§ Confession of Sin

From the Valley of Vision

O Lover of the Loveless, It is your will that I should love you with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and my neighbor as myself. But I am not sufficient for these things. There is by nature no pure love in my soul; every affection in me is turned from you. By grace I am your freeman and would serve you, for you are my God and through Jesus I am redeemed and forgiven. With this freedom I should always obey you, but I cannot walk in liberty and more than I could of my own effort earn it. May the Spirit of God draw me nearer to you and to your ways.

May I grow in your love and manifest it to others. Spirit of love, make me like my Lord Jesus; give me his benevolent temper, his beneficent actions, that I may shine before men for your glory. The more that you do by love in me and by me, humble me more; keep me meek and lowly, and always ready to give you honor. In Jesus name, Amen.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Assurance of Pardon

1 John 3:1-3

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we

are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Preparation*

Give us Clean Hands

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

We bow our hearts, we bend our knees,
Oh, Spirit come make us humble.
We turn our eyes from evil things,
Oh Lord we cast down our idols.

Chorus: *Give us clean hands, give us pure hearts*
 Let us not lift our souls to another.
 Give us clean hands, give us pure hearts
 Let us not lift our souls to another.

Repeat

Bridge And oh God, let us be a generation that seeks
 That seeks Your face, oh God of Jacob.
 And oh God, let us be a generation that seeks
 That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob.

Chorus 2x

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Leviticus 20:1-5

¹ The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² "Say to the people of Israel, Any one of the people of Israel or of the strangers who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones. ³ I myself will set my face against that man and will cut him off from among his people, because he has given one of his children to Molech,

to make my sanctuary unclean and to profane my holy name. ⁴ And if the people of the land do at all close their eyes to that man when he gives one of his children to Molech, and do not put him to death, ⁵ then I will set my face against that man and against his clan and will cut them off from among their people, him and all who follow him in whoring after Molech.

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Paul Sanders

"Child Sacrifice"

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.

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Response

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray.
Find in Me thine all in all."

*Chorus: Jesus paid it all.
 All to Him I owe.
 Sin had left a crimson stain.
 He washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find,
Thy pow'r, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
and melt the heart of stone.

Chorus

And when before the throne,
I stand in Him complete.
Jesus died my soul to save.
My lips shall still repeat;

Chorus

Bridge (sing 4x)

Oh, praise the One Who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead.

Chorus

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

2 John 3

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

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:
Sanctity of Human Life Sunday: Leviticus 20:1-5 "Child Sacrifice"**

1. What was your top takeaway from today's sermon?
2. Was anything about today's text confusing or uncomfortable? (Look at the sermon notes to get a better understanding of the purposes of Leviticus)
3. In what ways is abortion a modern parallel to the worship of Molech?
4. What are strategies the world uses to devalue that human life in the womb?
5. What are ways the world tempts us to sacrifice the discipleship and care of our children?
6. How can you better demonstrate you are pro-life in day-to-day life (think beyond the abortion issue)?
7. How does the gospel engage and speak to the evils of child sacrifice and abortion?
8. Especially for the children:
 - a. What are ways we speak or act that does not respect our parents, siblings, or friends?
 - b. What are ways we can speak or act that show respect to our parents, siblings, or friends?
9. Especially for teens:
 - a. What all does Psalm 139:13-16 indicate about a human being formed in the womb?
 - b. Does being created after the image of God give value to every single person (Genesis 1:26-27)? Why or why not?
 - c. Think about people or groups that you easily disregard or don't care for. What does valuing the image of God in them look like in how you think about them and treat them?

Why Do We Do That?

Caring About the Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

Every year in January for the last several years, we have given one Sunday in to participating with many other churches in what is known as Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. We do not see these matters as political issues to be avoided from the pulpit; but rather, deeply moral and spiritual issues that must be spoken to from God's Word.

We have a conviction that godless worldviews result in a devaluing of human life. The consequences of denying the Creator and sustainer of life in our world today are seen in atrocities such as racism, inhumane care for the elderly or disabled, human trafficking, euthanasia and what is the most appalling legalized crime against humanity perhaps in world history . . . abortion.

Each January marks the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision of 1973, where abortion was first legalized. Every day in America, since that decision, more than 4,000 babies have been killed in the womb which has now totaled more than 52 million lives. The most dangerous place to be today in the United States, is in a mother's womb.

And so we preach on this Sunday regarding the Lord God's view regarding life. We focus upon the value of human life, the call of believers to be change agents in the shepherding of their children and grandchildren, in their voting, in their pointing others to truth and in their ministry to those who have walked this dark road. The only other option is to sit idly by while thousands continue to be slaughtered under our national laws.

For those who have been partners with this evil in our nation; for those who have engaged themselves or encouraged others in the evil abortion; there is hope, there is grace and there is mercy to be found in the Lord Jesus Christ just as Norma McCorvey found. She was the plaintiff Jane Roe in the 1973 case and today fights for the life of the unborn that she once fought against. We are always available to point you to the forgiveness, grace and new life that you can have in Jesus. See a Pastor or Elder today if you would like to talk further.

From the Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 134: Which is the sixth commandment?

The sixth commandment is, "Thou shalt not kill."

Q. 135. What are the duties required in the sixth commandment?

The duties required in the sixth commandment are, all careful studies, and lawful endeavors, to preserve the life of ourselves and others so by resisting all thoughts and purposes, subduing all passions, and avoiding all occasions, temptations, and practices, which tend to the unjust taking away the life of any . . .

The following are contemplations taken from an article by Pastor John Piper regarding abortion:

1. Existing fetal homicide laws make a man guilty of manslaughter if he kills the baby in a mother's womb (except in the case of abortion).
2. Fetal surgery is performed on babies in the womb to save them while another child the same age is being legally destroyed.
3. Babies can sometimes survive on their own at 23 or 24 weeks, but abortion is still legal beyond this limit.
4. Living on its own is not the criterion of human personhood, as we know from the use of respirators and dialysis.
5. Size is irrelevant to human personhood, as we know from the difference between a one-week-old and a six-year-old.
6. Developed reasoning powers are not the criterion of personhood, as we know from the capacities of three-month-old babies.
7. Infants in the womb are human beings scientifically by virtue of their genetic make-up.
8. Ultrasounds have given a stunning window on the womb that shows the unborn at eight weeks sucking his thumb, recoiling from pricking, and responding to sound. All the organs are present, the brain is functioning, the heart is pumping, the liver is making blood cells, the kidneys are cleaning fluids, and there is a fingerprint. Virtually all abortions happen later than this date.
9. Justice dictates that when two legitimate rights conflict, the limitation of rights that does the least harm is the most just. Bearing a child for adoption does less harm than killing him.
10. Justice dictates that when either of two people must be inconvenienced or hurt to alleviate their united predicament, the one who bore the greater responsibility for the predicament should bear more of the inconvenience or hurt to alleviate it.
11. Justice dictates that a person may not coerce harm on another person by threatening voluntary harm on themselves.
12. The outcast, the disadvantaged, and the exploited are to be cared for in a special way, especially those with no voice of their own.
13. What is happening in the womb is the unique person-nurturing work of God, who alone has the right to give and take life.
14. There are countless clinics that offer life and hope to both mother and child (and father and parents), with care of every kind lovingly provided by people who will meet every need they can.
15. Jesus Christ can forgive all sins and will give all who trust in him the help they need to do everything that life requires.

Mark your calendars:

January

- **18:** Spur Groups
- **25:** Spur Groups
- **31:** CPR & AED Training, 8:30am

Youth Pizza and Movie Night, 6:00pm

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.*

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Staff

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