Christ Community Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Sunday, November 15, 2026
8:30am
11:00am

Welcome to
Christ Community Church

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

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 3-4 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)

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

§ - denotes congregation Standing

Download the CCC Simpsonville app today!

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Ephesians 5:25: "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her…"

Matthew 19:9: "And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery."

Ezekiel 16:8: "When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord God, and you became mine."

Isaiah 54:4-5: "Fear not, for you will not be ashamed; be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more. For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called."

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor Worship and Next Gen Ministries
- Rev. Jonathan Williams, Assistant Pastor of Adult Discipleship

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Responding to the Savior

§ Invocation

§ Song of Praise *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, Thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer hither by Thy help I'm come.
And I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God.
He to rescue me from danger interposed His precious blood.

O to grace, how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be.
Let thy goodness like a fetter bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

On that day when, freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Full arrayed in blood-washed linen, how I'll sing Thy sovereign grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, bring thy promises to pass;
For I know thy power will keep me till I'm home with thee at last!

Hearing from the Savior

Old Testament Scripture Reading Genesis 2:18-25

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Responding to the Savior

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

Calvary Home for Children, Anderson, SC

Hearing from the Savior

§ Songs of Preparation* *The Church's One Foundation*

*Parents who desire may bring their 3-4 yr. olds to the children's wing for Children's Church.

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word;
From heav'n he came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war;
She waits the consummation, of peace for evermore.
Till with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest.
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won;
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, like them,
the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

The Church has waited long, Her absent Lord to see
And still in loneliness she waits, A friendless stranger she
Age after age has gone, Sun after sun has set
And still, in weeds of widowhood, She weeps a mourner yet

Chorus: Come then, Lord Jesus, come
Come then, Lord Jesus
Come then, Lord Jesus, come, come, come.

The serpent's brood increase, The powers of hell grow bold
The conflicts thickens, faith is low, And love is waxing cold
How long, O Lord our God, Holy and true and good
Wilt thou not judge Thy suffering Church, Her sighs and tears and blood?
Chorus

We long to hear thy voice, To see Thee face to face
To share Thy crown and glory then, As now we share thy grace
Should not the loving bride, The absent Bridegroom mourn?
Should she not wear the weeds of grief, Until her Lord return?
Chorus

The whole creation groans, And wait to hear that voice
That shall restore her comeliness, And make her wastes rejoice
Come, Lord, and wipe away, The curse, the sin, the stain
And make this blighted world of ours, Thine own fair world again.
Chorus

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text Mark 10:1-12

And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them.

2 And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” 3 He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” 4 They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away.” 5 And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. 6 But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ 7 ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, 8 and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. 9 What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

10 And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. 11 And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, 12 and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

Preaching of the Word Rev. Paul Sanders

"The Heart of the Problem"

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

Corporate Confession of Sin

Father, we confess that our hearts are often hard. We seek our own desires rather than Your design. We have not loved sacrificially, forgiven freely, or remained faithful as we ought. Whether married or single, we have fallen short of Your holy standard. We run to you Lord Jesus. Forgive us for Christ's sake and soften our hearts by Your Spirit. Amen.

Hearing from the Savior

Assurance of Pardon Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Response *His Mercy is More*

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins they are many His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins they are many His mercy is more.

Chorus: Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness new every morn.
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.
Chorus 2x

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction Zephaniah 3:17

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

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 #33 · Mark 10:1-12 · "The Heart of the Problem"

1. What was your top takeaway from the sermon?
2. Especially for our youth and children:
    a. What are God's good intentions and designs for marriage?
    b. Who can you find support from if your family life is sad because of broken relationships?
    c. Do you pray for your parents and their marriage?
3. Jesus said divorce was permitted because of the hardness of human hearts. How have you seen hardness of your own heart impact your marriage or other relationships?
4. What are practical daily ways spouses can intentionally "hold fast" to one another?
5. Which of these challenges is most difficult for you personally: choosing forgiveness over bitterness, conversation over withdrawal, sacrifice over self-protection, or covenant commitment over convenience? Why?
6. How do the three purposes of God's law (restraining sin, driving us to Christ, and guiding believers in righteousness) help us to understand Jesus' teaching in this passage?
7. What encouragement does the gospel offer to those who carry guilt, regret, or pain related to marriage, divorce, or other relational failures?
8. How can we as church members care well for those who may feel isolated because of a past or current divorce?
9. The sermon concluded that marriage ultimately points to Christ and His church. How does Christ's faithfulness to His bride motivate us to pursue faithfulness in our own marriages?
10. This week, what is one practical step you can take to pursue greater faithfulness, forgiveness, unity, or reconciliation in your marriage or another family relationship?

Why Do We Do That?

Confessions of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Public confession of sin, while often neglected or even disdained in our own time, was an accepted element of worship in virtually every branch of Christendom from the early church through the end of the 19th century. But make no mistake, it is Biblical (read Nehemiah 9 and the Psalms).

As the American church increasingly emphasized relaxation and spectacle in worship, and particularly the "comfort" of non-believers, confession of sins in public worship was abandoned in favor of friendlier activities.

For us as a Reformed congregation, corporate confession of our sins is an important part of the dialogue between God and His people because the Bible clearly teaches that unconfessed sin disrupts our relationship with the Lord, and is a barrier to worship (Psalm 24:3-5, Psalm 32, II Chronicles 7:14). Once our sins are sincerely confessed, we are able to offer acceptable worship to our holy God.

Now, as we confess our sins before our God, what assurance do we have that God has heard our earnest confession and has indeed forgiven our sins? How do we hear God's part in the dialogue? We have the unfailing promises of God in His word that are "yea and amen" to us at Christ Community Church just as they were to His people of old (See 2 Corinthians 1:20).

We must never forget that forgiveness of sins comes only through the mediation of our risen Savior, and not through the pronouncements of any man (Acts 5:31, Ephesians 1:7-10).

For this reason, the Assurance of Pardon that appears (at times) in our Order of Worship is drawn directly from Scripture. When the Pastor pronounces the Assurance of Pardon, he is appropriating it for himself as well, a believer among fellow believers.

> Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea,
> A great High Priest Whose name is Love, Whoever lives and pleads for me.
> My name is graven on His hands; my name is written on His heart;
> I know that while in heaven He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart.
> When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
> Upward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my sin.
> Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
> For God, the Just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me.
> Behold Him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
> The great unchangeable "I AM," the King of glory and of grace!
> One with Himself I cannot die; my soul is purchased by His blood;
> My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior, and my God.
>
> Charity L. Bancroft, 1841-1923

We encourage you to hold on to these corporate prayers and the assurances of pardon for your own personal reflection throughout your week. We often pull from the Scripture and also from prayer books of long ago which unite us in heart and voice with the saints who have gone before us.

Adapted with permission from Christ Church Presbyterian, Evans, GA.

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Mark your calendars:

November

- **15**: Operation Christmas Child Packing Party, 4:30pm
- **16**: Budget Forum, Room 7 at 6:30pm
- **18**: Ladies' Night Out, J Peters, Mauldin, 5:30pm
- **19**: Men's Night Out, Coach House, Simpsonville, 6pm
- **30:** Decorate the church, 9:30am

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

A copy of the proposed 2027 budget is available for communing members and can be found in the Deacons' Office.

- *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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