



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Sunday, October 4, 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.

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!



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)

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

James Montgomery: “Prayer is the Christian’s vital breath, the Christians’ native air.”

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Paul Sanders, Senior Pastor
- Rev. Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor of Next Gen and Worship

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Psalm 73:21-28

When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart, I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you. Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

Responding to the Savior

§ Invocation

§ Song of Praise

Blessed Assurance (CityAlight)

All my attempts to be satisfied were vain and empty.
Until the moment You rescued me, and Your love filled me.
My soul sings, now my soul sings:

*Chorus: What blessed assurance I've found in You, I've found in You.
I won't be shaken; I will not be moved.
How steadfast Your strong hand is keeping me, is keeping me.
I won't be shaken; I will not be moved.
(O blessed assurance)*

No other love that I've ever known compares to You, God.
No other love that I've ever found has done what You've done.
My soul sings, now my soul sings:
Chorus

Bridge: Ever my anchor, ever my strength,
Ever my portion and all I need.
Ever my healing, ever my hope,
Ever the truth that leads me home,
That leads me home.

Chorus (2x)

§ Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.*

*And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made.
Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man; and was crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.*

*And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets;*

*And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.*

Amen.

Hearing from the Savior

Old Testament Reading

Habakkuk 2:1-4

I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.

Then the Lord replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay. "See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright—but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness."

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

Steve & Julie Jessen, MNA Disaster Response

§ Songs of Preparation*

I Need Thee Every Hour

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

I need Thee ev'ry hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.

*Chorus: I need Thee, O I need Thee; ev'ry hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.*

I need Thee ev'ry hour, stay Thou nearby;
temptations lose their pow'r when Thou art nigh.
Chorus

I need Thee ev'ry hour, in joy or pain;
come quickly, and abide, or life is vain.
Chorus

I need Thee ev'ry hour; teach me thy will,
and thy rich promises in me fulfill.
Chorus

I need thee ev'ry hour, Most Holy One,
O make me Thine indeed, Thou Blessed Son.
Chorus (2x)

Help My Unbelief

I know the Lord is nigh, and would but cannot pray,
for Satan meets me when I try, and frights my soul away.
And frights my soul away.

I would but can't repent, though I endeavor oft;
This stony heart can ne'er relent till Jesus makes it soft.
Till Jesus makes it soft.

*Chorus: Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
Help my unbelief. My help must come from Thee.*

I would but cannot love, though wooed by love divine;
No arguments have power to move a soul as base as mine.
A soul as base as mine.

I would but cannot rest, in God's most holy will;
I know what He appoints is best, and murmur at it still.
I murmur at it still.
Chorus

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Mark 9:14-29

¹⁴ And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵ And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. ¹⁶ And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" ¹⁷ And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that

makes him mute. ¹⁸ And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” ¹⁹ And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” ²⁰ And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. ²² And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” ²³ And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵ And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶ And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸ And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁹ And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Jonathan Williams

“Down in the Valley”

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

Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven

Once on a dreary mountain we wandered far and wide,
far from the cleansing fountain, far from the pierced side.
But Jesus sought and found us and washed our guilt away.
With cords of love, he bound us to be his own today.

*Chorus: Redeemed, restored, forgiven, through Jesus' precious blood.
Heirs of his home in heaven,
Oh, praise our pardoning God.*

Dear Lord, receive the glory of each recovered soul.
Oh who can tell the story of love that made us whole?

Not ours, not ours the merit be yours alone the praise
and ours a thankful spirit to serve you all our days.

Chorus

Bridge: Now keep us, holy Savior in your true love and fear
And grant us by your favor the grace to persevere.

Till in your new creation when Earth meets heaven's shore
We find our full salvation and praise you ever more.

Chorus

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

2 Peter 1:2

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

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 News Breaking #29 · Mark 9:13-29 · “Down in the Valley”

For the Children:

- 1) Is it hard to believe God sometimes? How does God help you to trust him?
- 2) What is prayer?
- 3) Why do you think the Bible says to “pray without ceasing” to “never stop praying” (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- 1) According to how Jesus addresses the disciples’ question in Mark 9:28-29, why should we pray?
- 2) How can we live in a posture of prayer throughout the day?
- 3) What seasons or times in your life have been the most prayerful and which times have been the most prayerless? Why do you think you were more or less prayerful at those times.
- 4) What has God used in your life to remind you of your dependence upon him?
- 5) For what area of your life do you need to bring to the Lord in the spirit of “Lord I believe help my unbelief?”
- 6) How does the gospel help us to cultivate an attitude of dependence upon the Lord?
- 7) What other insights did you gain from this sermon?

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:

October

- 10: CCC Youth, Fountain Inn Rodeo
- 11: Night of Praise Fellowship Dinner, 5pm
- 15: Men’s Night Out, Sheriff Burger, Simpsonville, 6pm
- 21: Ladies’ Night Out, Bonefish Grill, 6pm
- 30: CCC Youth Retreat

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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