



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026  
8:30 am & 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 >  
guest2020

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.

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

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. during the 10:30 service. Those children participating can be dismissed to the children's wing during the song prior to the sermon.

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

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.

**S** - denotes congregation Standing

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)

Download the CCC Simpsonville app today!

Building Attendant for today: Bruce Piesch



*Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler*

## *Reflections*

**Psalm 14:1:** “The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”

**2 Timothy 3:14-17:** “...from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

**Colossians 1:16-18:** “For by him (Jesus) all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.”

**1 Corinthians 1:23-24:** “but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

**Acts 2:42:** “And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

Assisting with the service today:

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

## Order of Worship

### Welcome & Announcements

### Choral Introit

*Come, People of the Risen King*

### *Hearing from the Savior*

#### § Responsive Call to Worship

**Leader:** He is not here, for He is risen, as He said! (Matthew 28:6a)

**People:** *The Lord is risen indeed!* (Luke 24:34)

**Leader:** O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endures forever. (Psalm 118:1)

**People:** *This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.* (Psalm 118:24)

**Leader:** Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? (1 Corinthians 15:54–55)

**All:** *Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!* (1 Corinthians 15:57)

### *Responding to the Savior*

#### § Invocation

#### § Song of Praise

*Up From the Grave He Arose*

Low in the grave he lay - Jesus, my Savior,  
Waiting the coming day - Jesus, my Lord.

Chorus:      Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes.  
                 He arose a victor from the dark domain,  
                 and he lives forever with his saints to reign.  
                 He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch his bed – Jesus, my Savior;  
Vainly they seal the dead - Jesus, my Lord.  
*Chorus*

Death cannot keep his prey - Jesus, my Savior;  
He tore the bars away - Jesus, my Lord.  
*Chorus*

## 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

Rob & Jenny Ilderton, Hammersmith, London, England

### *Hearing from the Savior*

#### Scripture Reading

Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 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? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. 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, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 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.

### *Responding to the Savior*

#### Choral Special

*I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

#### § Affirmation of Faith

1 Corinthians 15:3b-6a

**Leader:** What message was delivered by the Apostles concerning Jesus the Christ?

**All:** *That Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time...*

#### § Songs of Preparation\*

*There is One Gospel*

\*10:30 service: Parents who desire may bring their 3-5 yr. olds to the children's wing for Children's Church.

There is one Gospel on which I stand for all eternity.

It is my story, my Father's plan, the Son has rescued me.

Oh, what a Gospel, oh, what a peace. My highest joy and my deepest need.

Now and forever, He is my light. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is one Gospel to which I cling, all else I count as loss.  
For there, where justice and mercy meet, He saved me on the cross.  
No more I boast in what I can bring, no more I carry the weight of sin.  
For He has brought me from death to life. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is one Gospel where hope is found, the empty tomb still speaks.  
For death could not keep my Saviour down, He lives and I am free.  
Now on my Saviour I fix my eyes, my life is His and His hope is mine.  
For he has promised I too will rise. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And in this Gospel, the church is one, we do not walk alone.  
We have His Spirit as we press on to lead us safely home.  
And when in glory still I will sing of this old story that rescued me.  
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ending

And when in glory still I will sing of this old story that rescued me.  
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*He is Lord*

He is Lord. He is Lord.  
He is risen from the dead and He is Lord.  
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

### ***Hearing from the Savior***

#### **Sermon Text**

Luke 24:13-35

<sup>13</sup> That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup> But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our company

amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, <sup>29</sup> but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” <sup>33</sup> And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, <sup>34</sup> saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

## **Preaching of the Word**

Rev. Paul Sanders

### *“Hearts on Fire”*

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**

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 & Cup**

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

## **§ Song of Response**

*We Will Feast in the House of Zion*

*Chorus: We will feast in the house of Zion.  
We will sing with our hearts restored.  
“He has done great things,” we will say together.  
We will feast, and weep no more.*

We will not be burned by the fire;  
He is the Lord our God.  
We are not consumed by the flood  
Upheld, protected, gathered up.  
*Chorus*

In the dark of night before the dawn,  
my soul be not afraid;  
For the promised morning, Oh how long!  
O God of Jacob be my strength.  
*Chorus*

Every vow we've broken and betrayed,  
You are the faithful One;  
And from the garden to the grave,  
bind us together, bring shalom.  
*Chorus*

### ***Hearing from the Savior***

#### **§ Benediction**

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

*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: Easter Sunday · Luke 24:13-35 · “Hearts on Fire”**

1. What was your top takeaway from today’s sermon?
2. Especially for children:
  - a. Where do we learn how to love and obey God? (Answer: In the Bible alone)
  - b. What do the Scriptures principally teach? (Answer: What man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man)
3. What are reasons we so easily neglect the Scriptures as truly being sufficient for all of life’s issues?
4. Is there any area of your life that you find yourself “slow of heart” to really trust what the Bible says?
5. When and how did it dawn on you that the Old Testament aims to point us to Jesus?
6. How do we as Christians de-emphasize the necessity of Christ’s work on the cross for us?
7. How can we encourage one another to trust in the reliability and sufficiency of the means of grace, especially in times of doubt or confusion?
8. Can you share any occasion where your heart burned within as the Scriptures were opened or Sacrament administered?

### **Why Do We Do That?**

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

### **Guidelines for the Lord’s Supper**

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.

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper con't.

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:*

***April***

- **5:** Easter Sunday Services, 8:30 & 10:30 am; Childcare services will be provided (birth through 2yrs old for both services, Children's church for the 2nd service only)
- **12:** Spring ADS classes begin, :30am
- **12:** Fellowship Dinner, 5pm
- **15:** Ladies' Night Out, Stax Omega Diner, 6pm
- **16:** Men's Night Out, Anthony's Pizzeria, 6pm

*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***

**Staff**

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