



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Sunday, August 23, 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: Andy Wallace

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Psalms 86:15: “But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.”

Hebrews 3:15: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

Deuteronomy 8:11: “Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today...”

Proverbs 3:5-6: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”

Psalms 105:5: “Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgements he uttered...”

Assisting with the service today:

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

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Psalm 145:8-13

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made. All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you! They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. [The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.]

Responding to the Savior

§ Invocation

§ Songs of Praise

The Lord Almighty Reigns

There's an endless song waiting to be sung with the voice of every tribe,
The sound of every tongue.

When the bride of Christ on that day of days brings with joy unto the Lamb
A multitude of praise.

Pre-Chorus: Like the roar of mighty seas and rolls of thunder hear His people sing.

*Chorus: Hallelujah, hallelujah, for the Lord Almighty reigns.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, for the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.*

We will join the feast, rest from battles won, tell with great rejoicing
All the wonders God has done.

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Certain of that day, Christ we will proclaim.
Oh, that more would share the prize salvation in His name.

Pre-Chorus

Chorus (2x)

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
as Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided--
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Chorus

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Chorus

Corporate Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, we confess that like the disciples, our hearts are often dull and slow to trust You. We worry about earthly bread while forgetting Your power and compassion. We fail to remember Your past faithfulness and doubt Your present provision. Forgive our unbelief, open our eyes, and teach us to rest in Christ, the true bread of life. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Hearing from the Savior

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 55:1-3

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David."

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

Ainsley Sanders, Greenville Fellows Program

Hearing from the Savior

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 16:1-18

They set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against the Lord. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the Lord."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.'" And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. And the Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. This is what the Lord has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.'" And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat.

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Preparation*

Whate'er My God Ordains is Right

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

Whate'er my God ordains is right, His holy will abideth.
I will be still whate'er He does, and follow where He guideth.
He is my God, though dark my road. He holds me that I shall not fall,
and so to Him I leave it all, and so to Him I leave it all.

Whate'er my God ordains is right, He never will deceive me.
He leads me by the proper path, I know He will not leave me.
I take, content, what He hath sent, His hand can turn my griefs away,
and patiently I wait His day, and patiently I wait His day.

Whate'er my God ordains is right, though now this cup in drinking.
May bitter seem to my faint heart, I take it all unshrinking.
My God is true, each morn anew. Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart,
and pain and sorrow shall depart, and pain and sorrow shall depart.

Whate'er my God ordains is right, here shall my stand be taken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, yet I am not forsaken.
My Father's care is round me there. He holds me that I shall not fall,
and so to Him I leave it all, and so to Him I leave it all.

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Mark 8:1-21

¹In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, ²"I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. ³And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away." ⁴And his disciples answered him, "How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?" ⁵And he asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." ⁶And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. ⁷And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them. ⁸And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. ⁹And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. ¹⁰And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

¹¹The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. ¹²And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say

to you, no sign will be given to this generation.” ¹³And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.

¹⁴Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. ¹⁵And he cautioned them, saying, “Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.” ¹⁶And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. ¹⁷And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? ¹⁸Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? ¹⁹When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?” They said to him, “Twelve.” ²⁰“And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?” And they said to him, “Seven.” ²¹And he said to them, “Do you not yet understand?”

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Paul Sanders

“Hangry and Forgetful”

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

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 (2x)

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Jesus Christ throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Space for Notes:

Discussion Questions for Community Groups & Families:

Series: Good New Breaking #23 · Mark 8:1-21 · “Hangry and Forgetful”

1. What was your top takeaway from the sermon?
2. Especially for our youth and children:
 - a. Can you remember a time when you were worried and the Lord worked it out?
 - b. How can that past help from the Lord help you with your next worry?
3. How has the hard-heartedness or unbelief of others impacted your belief?
4. When has a circumstance overruled what you know to be true about God? What helped bring you around?
5. What present trouble are you struggling to trust the LORD for? What similar troubles have the Lord seen you through in the past and how does that now encourage you in the face of what is now?
6. How does God’s grace encourage you for when you struggle with unbelief?
7. How does God’s grace towards you inform your patience with others?
8. What are steps or actions you can take to help you remember God’s work, mercy, and grace in your life?

Why Do We Do That?

Reading of Scripture

Of all the elements of worship taught in the Bible, none is more frequently encouraged, demonstrated, or commanded than the public reading of Scripture. As early as the book of Exodus, we find Moses taking the book of the Covenant and reading it to the people (Exodus 24). The books of Deuteronomy and Joshua also record that the spiritual life of God's people revolved around the public reading of God's law. It's important to note that when the children of Israel departed from God's ways, and they did so with alarming regularity, they always departed from God's Word. When they returned to the Lord, they always returned to His Word. This is a connection that we ignore at our own peril.

One of the most poignant stories of the Old Testament is found in II Kings 22 (and again in II Chronicles 34), where the young king Josiah led the people back to the Lord by publicly reading to them the dust-covered, long misplaced book of the law. He read it aloud with a repentant heart before all the people, great and small, and wonder of wonders – a revival broke out! “And the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers” (II Chronicles 34:32).

In the early church, the reading of Scripture, which included the Old Testament and the letters sent by the Apostles, was of the utmost importance. So much so that Paul's directions to his young pastor friend, Timothy, included, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching” (I Timothy 4:13). To the Thessalonians he wrote, “I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers” (I Thessalonians 5:27).

But why is it so important that God's Word be read in worship?

Hebrews 4:12 sums it up: “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Even if all the other elements of worship are missing, if there is none to preach or sing, still God's Word can be read, and the Spirit will work through the living and powerful Word.

At Christ Community Church, we give earnest attention to the reading and preaching of both the Old and New Testaments. Why both? “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (II Timothy 3:16-17). This is the basis of the Reformed view that the Old and New Testaments form a unified and complementary whole, not two independent revelations.

In the fifth century, Augustine wrote that “the New Testament lies hidden in the Old, and the Old Testament is unveiled in the New.” How true! And how fruitful our reading of God's Word is, both in public and in private, when we embrace this reality.

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

Mark your calendars:

August

- **23:** New Comers' Luncheon, 12noon
- **30:** Volunteer Teams' Training, 9:30am

September

- **6:** Volunteer Teams' Training, 9:30am
- **11:** WM Fall Fiesta, 6pm
- **13: BEGIN TWO SERVICES**, 8:30am & 11:00am
- **13:** Fellowship Dinner, 5pm
- **17:** Men's Night Out, Thai Cuisine, 6pm
- **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

Staff

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