



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



August 3, 2025  
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

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.  
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**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 Sunday School 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 Room 2 in 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: Greg Coggins

*Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler*

## *Reflections*

**Romans 5:12:** “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.”

**Genesis 3:22-24:** “Then the Lord God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—’ therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.”

**Albert Camus:** “The weight of days is dreadful. For most people the approach of dinner, the arrival of a letter from home, or the smile from a passing girl is enough to help people get around this sense of homelessness. But the person who likes to dig into ideas and think about them, for him, life is impossible.”

**Matthew 8:20:** “And Jesus said to him, ‘Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.’”

**Revelation 19:9:** And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.”

## Order of Worship

### Welcome & Announcements

### *Hearing from the Savior*

#### § Call to Worship

Psalm 42:1-6

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?" These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

### *Responding to the Savior*

#### § Prayer of Invocation

#### § Song of Praise

*Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

#### § Affirmation of Belief

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q17 &21

**Leader:** How did God Create Man?

**All:** After God had made all other creatures, he created man male and female; formed the body of the man of the dust of the ground, and the woman of the rib of the man, endued them with living, reasonable, and immortal souls; made them after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness; having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfil it, and dominion over the creatures; yet subject to the fall.

**Leader:** Did man continue in that estate wherein God at first created him?

**All:** Our first parents being left to the freedom of their own will, through the temptation of Satan, transgressed the commandment of God in eating the forbidden fruit; and thereby fell from the estate of innocence wherein they were created.

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

#### **§ Assurance of the Gospel**

Ephesians 2:4-9

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

### ***Responding to the Savior***

#### **§ Song of Praise**

*This is My Father's World*

This is my Father's world, and to my liste'ning ears,  
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees,  
of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass, I hear him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done;  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one.

#### **Tithes, Generous Giving & Moment of Contemplation**

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

Alex & Eska Dwyer, training and recruitment in Southeast Asia

### § Song of Preparation\*

*For All the Saints*

*\*Parents who desire may bring their 3-5 yr. old children to Room 2 for Children's Church.*

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
to thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed. Alleluia! Allelu!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;  
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Allelu!

O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,  
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
and win with them the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia! Allelu!

The golden evening brightens in the west;  
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;  
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blessed. Alleluia, Allelu!

But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day;  
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;  
The King of glory passes on his way, Alleluia, Allelu!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

### *Hearing from the Savior*

#### Sermon Text

Luke 15:11-24

<sup>11</sup> And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish

here with hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”” <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

## **Preaching of the Word**

Rev. Paul L. Sanders

### *“Headed Home”*

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.

## **The 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**

Jude 24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

*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:*

## ***Questions for Families and Community Groups***

### ***The Call of the Gospel Series Part V: Luke 15:11-32 · “Headed Home”***

1. Ice Breaker: What is your best memory of home?
2. What was your top takeaway from this sermon?
3. Do you find yourself longing for a perfect home and community?
4. How many examples can the group think of from the Bible of exile and homecoming?
5. How have you gotten a taste of that future home and community within your church context?
6. How are we (or can we) invite new folks at CCC into fellowship and community that is centered around our elder brother Jesus?

## ***Why Do That in Worship?      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's and Denomination's 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 warns all participants to carefully examine their hearts and lives to make certain they 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 God 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 is 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 on 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 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, and 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.*

*Mark your calendars:*

## ***August***

- **3:** Summer ADS Session #2 begins, 9:30am
- **6:** Youth Mystery Lunch, 12pm
- **9:** Youth Back-to-School Cook-Out
- **10:** Fellowship Dinner, 5pm
- **24:** New Comers' Lunch
- **24:** SPUR Groups resume, 5pm
- **27:** JOY Fellowship Lunch, 11:30am

*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**

|   |              |  |              |
|---|--------------|--|--------------|
| Paul Sanders, Senior Pastor                   | 864.431.6688 | Rachel Beeson, Dir. of Children's Ministry | 864.617.6768 |
| Jonathan Williams, Ass't. Pastor/Discipleship | 803.629.2952 | Felicia Liddell, Dir. of Assimilation      | 813.335.7320 |
| Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor/Youth            | 770.328.6363 | Kim Wallace, Dir. of Women's Ministry      | 864.981.2449 |
| Jim Perry, Church Administrator               | 864.449.5609 |  |              |
| Joanne Heiser, Admin. Assistant               | 864.593.2424 |  |              |
| Steve Britton, Clerk of Session               | 864.277.9248 |  |              |
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