



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



June 1, 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.
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 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)

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Titus 1:5: This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you.

1 Peter 5:1-4: So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Acts 20:28: Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

Hebrew 13:7, 17: Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith... Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Psalm 29:1-2

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

Responding to the Savior

§ Prayer of Invocation

§ Song of Praise

Ten Thousand Reasons

*Chorus: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.*

The sun comes up. It's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come,
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Chorus

Silent Prayer of Confession

Hearing from the Savior

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 2:13-14

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Old Testament Responsive Reading

Proverbs 3:1-15

Leader: My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for the length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

All: *Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.*

Leader: So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

All: *In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*

Leader: Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

All: *Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.*

Leader: My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

All: *Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.*

Leader: She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

Responding to the Savior

Giving of Tithes and 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

Greg & Julie Nicholson, Bangkok, Thailand

§ Song of Intercession

Jesus, With Thy Church Abide

Jesus, with Thy church abide; Be her savior, Lord, and Guide,
while on earth her faith is tried:

*Chorus: We beseech Thee, hear us,
 We beseech Thee, hear us.*

Keep her life and doctrine pure; Grant her patience to endure,
trusting in Thy promise sure:

Chorus

May she one in doctrine be, One in truth and charity,
winning all to faith in Thee:

Chorus

May she guide the poor and blind, seek the lost until she find
and the brokenhearted bind:

Chorus

§ Song of Preparation*

He Will Hold Me Fast

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

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

*Chorus: He will hold me fast; He will hold me fast;
 For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

Chorus

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

Chorus (2x)

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

1 Timothy 3:1-7

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ² Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷ Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Paul Sanders

"Spotting and Praying for Your Elders"

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

Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you eat and remember;
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
So we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so, with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. 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

Living Out Our Callings—Spotting and Praying for Elders / 1 Timothy 3:1-7

Especially for our children:

- a. Can you name one thing an Elder here as done for you?
- b. Here are the names of our elders. Let's pray for them and their families.

Serving now on the Session of CCC: Jim Streit, Dale Olsen, Roy Liddell, Rick Heiser, Randy Gordon, Jim Perry, Guy Reslier, Jimmy Compton, Steve Britton, and Paul Sanders.

Non Session Elders are John Shaw, Bruce Apgar, Ben Clarke, Jonathan Williams, and Max Bolin.

1. What was your top takeaway from today's sermon?
2. What are models for church government you have experienced in churches and what were the pros and cons of them?
3. Why is important for us to give time to learning from the Bible about Elders in the church?
4. What are the implications if any one of these three categories are missing from a man holding the office of elder (Character, Capability, and Calling)?
5. How do these qualifications relate to church members?
6. How is Christ the perfect Elder and Shepherd to us?
7. Pray for the Lord to raise up future elders with the character, capability, and calling to serve Christ and His church.

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:

June

- 6: VBS Workday, 10am - 12pm
- 7: Church Workday, 8-11am
- 8: Grad Recognition Sunday, 10:30am Worship Service
- 8: Marriage Workshop begins, 5pm
- 8: SPUR Groups Summer Kick-Off, 4pm
- 13: VBS Workday, 10am - 12pm
- 14: VBS meeting, 4pm
- 16-20: VBS
- 23-27: General Assembly in Chattanooga, TN
- 29: Promotion Sunday

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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