



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



July 20, 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)

Building Attendant for today: Bill Gobeli

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Luke 9:23-24: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it .”

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.

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us,
and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his
steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Responding to the Savior

§ Prayer of Invocation

§ Song of Praise

Thy Mercy, My God

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
the joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone from the first to the last
hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But through thy free goodness my spirits revive
and he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by thy goodness I fall to the ground
and weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies thy goodness I own
and the covenant love of thy crucified son;
All praise to the spirit whose whisper divine
seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.

All praise to the spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

§ Corporate Confession of Sin

written by Martin Bucer

Almighty, everlasting God and Father, we acknowledge and confess that we indeed were conceived and born in sin and, therefore, inclined to all evil and slow to do all good; that we unceasingly transgress your holy commandments, and corrupt ourselves more and more. But we are sorry for this and desire your grace and help. Therefore, have mercy upon us, most gracious and merciful God and Father, through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant to us and increase in us your Holy Spirit so that we may recognize our sin and unrighteousness from the depth of our heart, feel true contrition and grief for them and die to them completely, and please you wholly in a new, godly life. Amen.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Rejoicing

The Wonderful Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.

*Chorus: O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
 bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.
 O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
 all who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.*

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.
Chorus

When I survey the wondrous cross.

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

José & Lisa Chambilla, Wycliffe Bible Translators

§ Song of Preparation*

Speak, O Lord

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

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your holy word.
Take Your truth plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail; Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

§ Affirmation of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. #160

Leader: What is required of those that hear the word preached?

All: *It is required of those that hear the word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; examine what they hear by the Scriptures; receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the Word of God; meditate, and confer of it; hide it in their hearts, and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.*

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect .

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Jonathan Williams

“Reasonable Sacrifice”

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

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee,
swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee,
filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use ev'ry power as You choose,
ev'ry power as You choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own, it shall be Thy royal throne,
it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at Your feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee,
ever, only, all for Thee.

Tag: *O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross*
 bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.
 O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
 all who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Space for Notes:

Questions for Families and Community Groups

Sermon: Reasonable Sacrifice • Romans 12:1-2

1. What is meant by living sacrifice, why is the presentation of our bodies as a living sacrifices the only reasonable response to the Gospel?
2. Is there any area of your life that you are reluctant to “present” (Romans 12:1) to God or about which you would say: “this is mine”?
3. How does considering God’s mercy necessarily prompt you to repent of sin and then offer ourselves as living sacrifices?
4. Take a moment to reflect: In what ways do I, personally, find myself conforming to the pattern of this world? How is it possible to live in this world without conformity to it?
5. With relationship to renewing our minds by the Word of God, read and ponder these questions and answers from our Westminster Larger Catechism:
 - Q. 157. How is the Word of God to be read? A. The holy Scriptures are to be read with an high and reverent esteem of them; with a firm persuasion that they are the very Word of God, and that he only can enable us to understand them; with desire to know, believe, and obey the will of God revealed in them; with diligence, and attention to the matter and scope of them; with meditation, application, self-denial, and prayer.
 - Q. 160. What is required of those that hear the Word preached? A. It is required of those that hear the Word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; examine what they hear by the Scriptures; receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the Word of God; meditate, and confer of it; hide it in their hearts, and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.
6. As you read these questions and answers is there anything that seems personally challenging with respect to giving your mind to God’s Word?
7. With respect to the previous question: Why is it so encouraging to remember the Holy Spirit’s role in mind renewal and life transformation (Romans 12:2, Philippians 2:12-13)?
8. What is the connection between mind renewal, discerning the will of God, and offering our lives as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2, John 17:17, Eph 4:20-23)?

Why Do That in Worship?

Expository Preaching

“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?” (Romans 10:14)

That preaching has always been a fundamental part of true Christian worship is not debatable. However, it may be helpful to explain the type of sermon you will hear most Sundays at Christ Community Church. The preaching in our corporate worship is expository in nature. Expository preaching expounds upon the meaning and application of a particular passage of Scripture rather than starting with a topic and finding verses to support it. Sometimes this means preaching through an entire book of the Bible a few verses each week, but it could also be worked out in a sermon series on the Beatitudes that lasts just a few weeks and doesn't include the rest of Matthew's gospel. At times a series may be topical, but nevertheless, the preaching will be expository pulling from one or more key passages.

There are at least three things that you should expect the expository preaching at CCC to include. First is thorough preparation. In addition to the time the Pastor has invested in his rigorous theological education, he spends a great deal of time each week studying God's Word and praying in preparation for the morning sermons. John Calvin once said in a sermon about preaching,

“If I should climb up into the pulpit without having deigned to look at a book and frivolously imagine, ‘Ah well! when I get there, God will give me enough to talk about,’ and I do not condescend to read, or to think about what I ought to declare, and I come here without carefully pondering how I must apply the Holy Scripture to the edification of the people – well, then I should be a cock-sure charlatan and God would put me to confusion in my audaciousness.”

Be assured that what you hear from the pulpit at CCC is a product of serious preparation and much prayer. Second, you can expect that the preaching will include direct application to your Christian life. Expository preaching is not an abstract exercise because “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” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

You should expect to leave worship knowing how the passage preached affects you as a Christian. Beyond preparation and application, you can expect the preaching at CCC to be Spirit dependent. The Prayer for Illumination that at times proceeds the Sermon each Sunday is a petition for the Holy Spirit to empower the preaching, open the hearts of the listeners, and apply God's Word to our lives. The Apostle Paul wrote, “my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God” (1 Corinthians 2:4-5).

God commands preaching and promises to bless faithful exposition of the Word, and it is reckless to depend on any other method to grow the church and nurture the body of Christ. While the Pastor is always seeking to improve the preparation, delivery and application of the sermon, the essential methodology is not up for grabs because God works through preaching, and other methods are neither commanded nor sanctioned by Him in His word.

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men (1 Corinthians 1:22-25).

Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior (Titus 1:1-3).

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:5).

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

Mark your calendars:

July

- **20:** Installation Service for Pastor Jonathan, 6pm
- **23:** Men’s Night Out, 6pm, Full House Sportzaria
- **21-25:** Ridge Haven Camp for Middle School Students
- **28-31:** Created for a Purpose Camp
- **30:** Youth Mystery Lunch, 12pm
- **31:** SPUR Group Cook-Out

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
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