Christ Community Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Sunday, November 8, 2026
8:30am
11:00am

Welcome to
Christ Community Church

For God's glory, to make and deploy mature and equipped disciples of Jesus Christ.

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 3-4 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)

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

§ - denotes congregation Standing

Download the CCC Simpsonville app today!

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Martin Luther: "The bible is a remarkable fountain: the more one draws and drinks of it, the more it stimulates thirst."

Charles Spurgeon: "The Bible in the memory is better than the Bible in the bookcase."

2 Peter 1:3: "His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence."

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Paul Sanders, Senior Pastor
- Rev. Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor Worship and Next Gen Ministries
- Dr. Rick Heiser, Ruling Elder

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship Isaiah 55:6-11

"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Responding to the Savior

§ Invocation

§ Song of Praise *How Firm a Foundation*

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles, to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to His foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

§ Affirmation of Faith Westminster Larger Catechism, 157

Leader: How is the Word of God to be read?

All: *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.*

§ Song of Belief *Ancient Words*

Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart. O, let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope.
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

Chorus: Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts, O, let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith handed down to this age,
came to us through sacrifice. O, heed the faithful words of Christ.
Chorus 2x

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

Tom & Lucy Wright, MTW

Hearing from the Savior

New Testament Scripture Reading John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Preparation* *Speak, O Lord*

*Parents who desire may bring their 3-4 yr. olds to the children's wing 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.

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text Psalm 119:9-16

9 How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. 10 I seek you
with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. 11 I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you. 12 Praise be to you, Lord; teach me your decrees. 13 With my lips I
recount all the laws that come from your mouth. 14 I rejoice in following your statutes as one
rejoices in great riches. 15 I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. 16 I delight in your
decrees; I will not neglect your word.

Preaching of the Word Rev. Jonathan Williams

"The Good Life"

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 *Thou Lovely Source of True Delight*

Thou lovely source of true delight whom I unseen adore
Unveil thy beauties to my sight that I might love Thee more,
Oh, that I might love Thee more.

Thy glory o'er creation shines but in Thy sacred Word I read,
in fairer, brighter lines my bleeding, dying Lord,
see my bleeding dying Lord.

'Tis here, whene'er my comforts droop and sin and sorrow rise,
Thy love with cheering beams of hope my fainting heart supplies,
Oh, my fainting heart's supplied.

Jesus, my Lord, my life, my light, Oh come with blissful ray.

Break radiant through the shades of night and chase my fears away,
won't You chase my fears away.

Then shall my soul with rapture trace the wonders of thy love.
But the full glories of Thy face are only known above,
they are only known above.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction Colossians 3:16

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

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:

Second Sunday Psalms · Psalm 119:9-16 · "The Good Life"

1. What was your top takeaway from this sermon?

2. For the Children:

    a. Name all the ways you can think of that God's word helps us?

    b. What is a verse from the Bible that has helped you to live for Jesus?

3. How might the truth of Psalm 119 and the sermon from Sunday help you to help a Christian friend who is struggling to make time to read and study God's word?

4. Why is the question how can a young man keep his way pure so vital to the Christian life?

5. How is the Bible the "manufacturer's design for our flourishing?"

6. What are some of the voices, influences (media, influencers, friends, family, etc) in this world that compete for heart and attention? Who is really shaping your thoughts and setting the course of your life right now?

7. What are practical ways can you ensure that your thoughts, feelings, and actions are shaped by God's word?

8. How does knowing Jesus and what he has done for us in the gospel help us to savor the Word of God?

Why Do We Do That?

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 expositional 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 expositional 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.

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Mark your calendars:

November

- **8**: Installation Service for Ralph Johnston, Assistant Pastor for Church Planting, 6pm
- **15**: Operation Christmas Child Packing Party, 4:30pm
- **16**: Budget Forum, Room 7 at 6:30pm
- **18**: Ladies' Night Out, J Peters, Mauldin, 5:30pm
- **19**: Men's Night Out, Coach House , Simpsonville, 6pm
- **30:** Decorate the church, 9:30am

More information can be found in the Update, on the app, and/or website.

A copy of the proposed 2027 budget is available for communing members and can be found in the Deacons' Office.

- *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.*

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Staff

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