



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Sunday, March 15, 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 >  
guest2020

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.

This facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask a Sound Technician for a receiver.

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.

Hymns and worship songs are used by permission.  
CCLI # 187771

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.

**S** - denotes congregation Standing

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)

Download the CCC Simpsonville app today!

Building Attendant for today: Andy Wallace



*Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler*

## *Reflections*

**Romans 8:28:** “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”

**Ephesians 2:8-9:** “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.”

**Romans 10:14-15:** “How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!’”

**Ephesians 1:7:** “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace...”

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor of Next Gen and Worship
- Dr. Rick Heiser, Ruling Elder

## Order of Worship

### Welcome & Announcements

### *Hearing from the Savior*

#### § Call to Worship

Daniel 7:13-14

"I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed."

### *Responding to the Savior*

#### § Invocation

#### § Corporate Confession of Sin

*Gracious heavenly Father, we come to you, the God of all mercies, and the Judge of all the earth as those eagerly seeking your face, your strength, and your presence. We confess this week that we have seen the seriousness of our own sin in many ways. Our thoughts have been contrary to your thoughts, and our ways contrary to your ways, and we have sinned with our mouths, too. We have left undone those things which we should have done, and have in some ways done what we should not have done. Against you, and you first, we have sinned and done what is evil in your sight.*

*Not only that, but as we are bound together in Christ, our sins have overflowed to affect others; and we have sinned against each other. We are bound together by the Spirit, but we have not walked in the unity of peace and the bonds of love. We have seen the affect of our individual sin on the lives of others, our spouses, our children, our fellow church members, and those around us.*

*Oh God of mercy, we come to you this morning first to ask your forgiveness and entreat your mercy. Be gracious to us and bless us, and cause your face to shine upon us. Create in us a clean heart and renew a right spirit within us that we may teach others your ways, that sinners would be converted to you, and all would see the message of the Gospel shine forth from our lives.*

*We look to Jesus our great High Priest this morning—fixing our eyes on His perfect righteousness and trusting in none other! This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.*

### *Hearing from the Savior*

## § Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:11-12

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

### *Responding to the Savior*

## § Songs of Praise

*Jesus Shall Reign*

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run.  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore till sun shall rise and set no more.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns. The pris'ner leaps to lose his chains,  
the weary find eternal rest, and all the sons of want are blessed.

*Chorus: To our King be highest praise rising through eternal days.  
Just and faithful, He shall reign, Jesus shall reign.*

People and realms of every tongue dwell on His love with sweetest song,  
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on His name.

*Chorus*

Let every creature rise and bring blessing and honor to our King,  
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud "Amen!"

*Chorus*

*I Will Sing of My Redeemer*

I will sing of my Redeemer, and His wondrous love to me;  
On the cruel cross he suffered, from the curse to set me free.

*Chorus: Sing, O sing--of my Redeemer! With His blood --He purchased me;  
On the cross--He sealed my pardon, paid the debt--and made me free.*

I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save,  
In His boundless love and mercy, He the ransom freely gave.

*Chorus*

I will praise my dear Redeemer, His triumphant pow'r I'll tell,  
How the victory he giveth over sin and death and hell.

*Chorus*

I will sing of my Redeemer and his heav'nly love to me;  
He from death to the life has brought me, Son of God, with him to be.

*Chorus*

## *Hearing from the Savior*

### **Old Testament Reading**

2 Samuel 24:10-14

But David's heart struck him after he had numbered the people. And David said to the Lord, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, O Lord, please take away the iniquity of your servant, for I have done very foolishly." And when David arose in the morning, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, "Go and say to David, 'Thus says the Lord, Three things I offer you. Choose one of them, that I may do it to you.'" So Gad came to David and told him, and said to him, "Shall three years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three months before your foes while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days' pestilence in your land? Now consider, and decide what answer I shall return to him who sent me." Then David said to Gad, "I am in great distress. Let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for his mercy is great; but let me not fall into the hand of man."

## *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**

Matt & Janelle Heiser, Granada, Spain

### **§ Songs of Preparation\***

*Thy Mercy, My God*

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

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!

### *He Will Hold Me Fast*

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.*

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

### **Sermon Text**

Mark 2:1-12

And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. <sup>2</sup> And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. <sup>3</sup> And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. <sup>4</sup> And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. <sup>5</sup> And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." <sup>6</sup> Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, <sup>7</sup> "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" <sup>8</sup> And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? <sup>9</sup> Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? <sup>10</sup> But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— <sup>11</sup> "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." <sup>12</sup> And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

### **Preaching of the Word**

Rev. Paul Sanders

#### *"Razing the Roof"*

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

*Bring Praises*

If we could count the blessings God has given,  
If we should number every grace,  
Our hearts would burst within with pure thanksgiving,  
Now, let our voices do the same.

*Chorus:      Bring praises, bring praises forever to the Lord!  
                 Bring praises, bring praises together!  
                 To Him who is worthy, to Him be endless thanks,  
                 Forever, to His name, bring praise!*

If we could see the ways that God is working,  
If we could trace His sovereign hand,  
What mind could grasp the height of that great wisdom?  
Oh, who of us could understand?

*Chorus*

If we could now repay the Lord of Heaven  
What is that gift that we would bring?  
All that is ours is that which once was given  
Oh, let our grateful hearts now sing  
With joy, we give this offering, bring praise!

*Chorus*

Forever, to His name, bring praise!

## *Hearing from the Savior*

## § Benediction

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*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:

### *Series: Good New Breaking #6 · Mark 2:1-12 · “Razing the Roof”*

1. What was your top takeaway from the sermon?
2. Especially for the children and youth:
  - a. Who currently in your life are most influencing you to know, love, and live for Jesus?
  - b. Who currently in your life can you ask the Lord to help you bring them to Jesus?
3. What circumstances in life were used by God to draw you to Jesus Christ?
4. Does suffering cause you to move away from God or towards God? Why? How has suffering brought you closer to Jesus?
5. Can you recognize ways people in your church have helped you when going through hard times?
6. What is our greatest need before God and why?
7. What was so controversial about Jesus saying, “Your sins are forgiven”?
8. Why is it irrational to say Jesus was a good person and teacher, but not God?
9. What is one action step you can take this week to apply this week’s sermon?

## Why Do We Do That?

## Confessions of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Public confession of sin, while often neglected or even disdained in our own time, was an accepted element of worship in virtually every branch of Christendom from the early church through the end of the 19th century. But make no mistake, it is Biblical (read Nehemiah 9 and the Psalms).

As the American church increasingly emphasized relaxation and spectacle in worship, and particularly the “comfort” of non-believers, confession of sins in public worship was abandoned in favor of friendlier activities.

For us as a Reformed congregation, corporate confession of our sins is an important part of the dialogue between God and His people because the Bible clearly teaches that unconfessed sin disrupts our relationship with the Lord, and is a barrier to worship (Psalm 24:3-5, Psalm 32, II Chronicles 7:14). Once our sins are sincerely confessed, we are able to offer acceptable worship to our holy God.

Now, as we confess our sins before our God, what assurance do we have that God has heard our earnest confession and has indeed forgiven our sins? How do we hear God’s part in the dialogue? We have the unfailing promises of God in His word that are “yea and amen” to us at Christ Community Church just as they were to His people of old (See 2 Corinthians 1:20).

We must never forget that forgiveness of sins comes only through the mediation of our risen Savior, and not through the pronouncements of any man (Acts 5:31, Ephesians 1:7-10).

For this reason, the Assurance of Pardon that appears (at times) in our Order of Worship is drawn directly from Scripture. When the Pastor pronounces the Assurance of Pardon, he is appropriating it for himself as well, a believer among fellow believers.

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea,  
A great High Priest Whose name is Love, Whoever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on His hands; my name is written on His heart;  
I know that while in heaven He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart.  
When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the Just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me.  
Behold Him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,  
The great unchangeable “I AM,” the King of glory and of grace!  
One with Himself I cannot die; my soul is purchased by His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior, and my God.

Charity L. Bancroft, 1841-1923

We encourage you to hold on to these corporate prayers and the assurances of pardon for your own personal reflection throughout your week. We often pull from the Scripture and also from prayer books of long ago which unite us in heart and voice with the saints who have gone before us.

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

*Mark your calendars:*

**March**

- **18:** Ladies' Night Out, 6pm, Lieu's Chinese Bistro
- **19:** Men's Night Out, 6pm, Silver Bay Seafood
- **21:** Church Work Day, 8:30 - 12:00 noon
- **22:** New Comers' Luncheon, following the service in Youth Room
- **22:** SPUR Groups meet, 5pm
- **27-29:** Women's Ministry Retreat @ Bonclarken
- **29:** No SPUR Groups

*Men and Women: consider joining a Bible Study on Thursday mornings at 9:30am. The men meet in the Conference Room and the Women are meeting in the atrium. See our website for more details.*

*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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