



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Sunday, August 30, 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 >
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

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 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 3-5 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)

Building Attendant for today: Bruce Piesch

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Hebrews 13:12: “For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.”

1 Corinthians 1:22-24: “For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

Romans 1:16: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor of Next Gen and Worship
- Rev. Jonathan Williams, Assistant Pastor of Adult Discipleship

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Isaiah 42:6-7

I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Responding to the Savior

§ Invocation

§ Songs of Praise

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! - how sweet the sound - that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved:
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come:
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

§ Corporate Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, we confess that like the disciples, we often forget Your past faithfulness. We worry, doubt, and demand signs when You have already given us Your Son. Our hearts are slow to trust, our eyes dim, our understanding partial. We confess that apart from Your grace, we are blind to Your glory. We have seen Your works yet failed to trust You. We have heard Your Word yet resisted obedience. Heal our blindness, remove our pride, and restore our sight. Forgive our unbelief, soften our hearts, and open our eyes to see Christ clearly. In the Name of Jesus, Amen.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 2:7-10

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Rejoicing

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ in which we stand.

Chorus: O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;

O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul?

God is good, God is good.

Where is His grace and goodness known?

In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Chorus

Unto the grave, what will we sing?

Christ He lives; Christ He lives!”

And what reward will heaven bring?

Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord,

Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore.
Chorus

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

Cavalry Presbytery - PCA

Affirmation of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism #31

Leader: What is effectual calling?

All: *Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, he doth persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ, freely offered to us in the gospel.*

§ Song of Preparation*

His Mercy Is More

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

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins they are many His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins they are many His mercy is more.

*Chorus: Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness new every morn.
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more.*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.
Chorus 2x

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my True Word;
I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my Great Father, I Thy True Son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'ns Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Mark 8:11-12, 22-26

¹¹The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him.

¹²And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation."

²²And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. ²³And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?" ²⁴And he looked up and said, "I see people, but they look like trees, walking." ²⁵Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶And he sent him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village."

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Paul Sanders

"Sight for Signs"

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

Jesus Cast a Look on

Me

Jesus, cast a look on me, give me sweet simplicity,
make me poor and keep me low, seeking only thee to know.

All that feeds my busy pride, cast it evermore aside.
Bid my will to Thine submit, lay me humbly at Thy feet.

Make me like a little child, of my strength and wisdom spoiled.
Seeing only in Thy light, walking only in Thy might.

Leaning on Thy loving breast, where a weary soul may rest.
Feeling well the peace of God, flowing from His precious blood.

In this posture let me live, and hosannas daily give.
In this temper let me die, and hosannas ever cry!

Jesus cast a look on me!

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

Ephesians 1:17-18a

(May) the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you...

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 #23 · Mark 8:1-21 · "Sight for Signs"

1. What was your top takeaway from the sermon?
2. Especially for our youth and children:
 - a. Have you ever tried to see something in the dark?
 - b. What is something you didn't understand at first but learned over time?
3. In what ways have you asked God to prove Himself instead of trusting and obeying Him?
4. Can you relate to the blind man's gradual healing when it comes to your spiritual eyesight? If so, give an example of something you have understood about God and the gospel better over time.
5. Can you identify doctrinal/theological areas where you are still seeing "wavey trees" and are asking the Lord to help you see things clearer?
6. Who is a Christian in your life that you can show patience, encouragement, and grace towards in their slow Christian growth?
7. How can we guard our hearts from valuing theological correctness more than seeing and savoring Christ Himself?
8. How has Christian community helped you see more clearly the things of God?

Why Do We Do That?

Call to Worship

When the Pastor reads the Scriptural Call to Worship it is important to know who is being called. Does God Almighty need to be called to join us in worship? No, He was there before us (Psalm 139). Nor does He need to be alerted to the fact that we have arrived. The Lord is in His holy temple, and He sees the very hearts of those who have entered (Psalm 11:4).

The Call to Worship is for us people, the slow of heart and mind. We need to be reminded as we enter the sanctuary that we enter the presence of the God of the universe and when we meet with His people we are caught up into the eternal worship around the Throne in heaven (Revelation 5:11-14). We may be a small congregation but we worship alongside thousands of people in the Calvary Presbytery, and alongside millions of believers around the world. And we join the countless “ten thousand times ten thousand” saints who already surround the Throne.

Corporate worship is anything but a private matter. But I digress...The Scriptural Call to Worship used at Christ Community Church changes each week, and is drawn directly from God’s Word. God is calling His people to worship and so it is right that we use His Word and not our own. The Pastor, in his Biblical role as Christ’s representative before the congregation, is the man who extends God’s call to His people. The words may be a Biblical command:

Oh come, let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.
Psalm 95:6

Or it might be a proclamation of one of God’s attributes:

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
And His greatness is unsearchable.
Psalm 145:3

Beginning the service in this way reminds us that Biblical worship has always been a dialogue between God and His people that He initiates, and to which we respond. He calls us to approach His throne and worship Him. We are there not because we are worthy or because God somehow needs our lisping praise, but because God has condescended to call us sinners His chosen people. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

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

Mark your calendars:

August

- **30:** Volunteer Teams' Training, 9:30am

September

- **6:** Volunteer Teams' Training, 9:30am
- **11:** WM Fall Fiesta, 6pm
- **13: BEGIN TWO SERVICES**, 8:30am & 11:00am
- **13:** Fellowship Dinner, 5pm
- **17:** Men's Night Out, Thai Cuisine, 6pm
- **20:** SPUR Groups, 5pm
- **25:** Men's Ministry Kick-Off, 6:30pm

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	
	Greg Coggins, Chair of Diaconate	904.472.9656	