



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



Sunday, April 19, 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

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

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. during the 10:30 service. 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: Greg Coggins

Download the CCC
Simpsonville app
today!



Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

John 6:66: “After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him.”

Matthew 15:8: ““This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me...”

Philippians 2:1-2: “So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.”

Matthew 28:19-20: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor of Next Gen and Worship
- Mr. Steve Britton, Ruling Elder

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Matthew 16:24-25

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Responding to the Savior

§ Invocation

§ Song of Praise

Lord, I Need You

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
Without You, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

*Chorus 1: Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.*

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.
Where grace is found is where You are.
And where You are, Lord, I am free.
Holiness is Christ in me.
Where You are, Lord, I am free.
Holiness is Christ in me.

Chorus 1

Bridge: So, teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

*Chorus 2: Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.*

§ Confession of Sin

from the Book of Common Prayer, 1552

*Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden—
cleanse the thought of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, so that we may perfectly love
you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

§ Song of Assurance

Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted

Come ye souls by sin afflicted, bowed with fruitless, sorrow down;
By the broken law convicted, through the cross, behold the crown;
Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus, mercy flows through Him alone.

Take His easy yoke and wear it; Love will make your obedience sweet.
Christ will give you strength to bear it, while His grace shall guide your feet
safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory, where His ransomed captives meet.

Blessed are the eyes that see Him, bless the ears that hear His voice;
Blessed are the souls that trust Him, and in Him alone rejoice;
His commandments, His commandments, His commandments,
then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary, light to newly opened eyes,
like full springs in deserts dreary, is the rest the cross supplies;
All who taste it, all who taste it, all who taste it shall to rest immortal rise.

Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus.
Mercy flows through Him alone.

Hearing from the Savior

Scripture Reading

John 6:48-71

I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds

on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve? And yet one of you is a devil.” He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray him.

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

Scott Jacobs, Commandment 11

§ Song of Preparation*

Jesus, Cast a Look on Me

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

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!

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Mark 3:7-19

⁷Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea ⁸and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him. ⁹And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, ¹⁰for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. ¹¹And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God." ¹²And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

¹³And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. ¹⁴And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach ¹⁵and have authority to cast out demons. ¹⁶He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); ¹⁷James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); ¹⁸Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, ¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Paul Sanders

"Fans or Followers"

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

Abide With Me

Abide with me fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile, And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me though I oft left Thee. On to the close, Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour. What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight; tears lose their bitterness.
Where is thy sting, death? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee. In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

Hearing from the Savior

§ Benediction

Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

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 & Community Groups

Series: Good News Breaking #10 –Mark 3:7-19, “Fan or Follower?”

1. What was your top takeaway from the sermon?

2. Especially for our youth and children:
 - a. What are some good and bad reasons why people seek Jesus?
 - b. What is the most important reason to seek after Jesus?

3. How is being a fan of Jesus different from truly following Him? How does fandom appears in modern Christianity?

4. In what ways does this passage challenge you to examine your heart and motivations for seeking Jesus?

5. Why is Christ centered community important in the Christian life?

6. How does the text imply disappointment in community and how can the gospel help us navigate those disappointments?

7. How do “being with Jesus” and “doing the work of ministry” together form the foundation of true discipleship? Can one exist without the other?

8. What are some potential dangers for a church that loses sight of its central mission to make disciples? How can this impact its message?

9. How can we as individuals and as a church keep our focus on both “mission” and “message” in the midst of many good, but potentially distracting, activities?

Why Do We Do That?

The Prayer of Invocation

With the Call to Worship, a Biblical dialogue between God and His people begins and continues throughout the service of worship. The Prayer of Invocation is whereby God's people respond to His call by imploring Him to assist us as we worship. In this way we acknowledge our inability to offer acceptable worship in our own strength, and claim the promise that by His Spirit where two or three are gathered together Christ will be present also (Matthew 18:20).

While the exact contents of the Invocation have varied through the centuries, The Westminster "Directory for the Public Worship of God" (1644) still stands us in good stead as a benchmark:

"The congregation being assembled; the Minister, after solemn calling on them to the worshiping of the great name of God, is to begin with Prayer; In all reverence and Humility acknowledging the incomprehensible Greatness and Majesty of the Lord, (in whose presence they do then in a special manner appear) and their own vileness and unworthiness to approach so near him; with their utter inability of themselves, to so great a Work: And humbly beseeching him for Pardon, Assistance, and Acceptance in the whole Service then to be performed; and for a Blessing on that particular portion of his Word then to be read: and all, in the Name and Mediation of the Lord Jesus Christ."

But we should keep in mind that the pastor or elder who prays isn't someone we hire to do our praying for us! It is our responsibility to pray with him as he leads us, and to fervently add our "amen" to his prayers throughout the service.

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

Mark your calendars:

April

- **19:** Bridal Shower for Lilly Carroll, 2pm

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	864.618.6768
Jonathan Williams, Ass't. Pastor/Discipleship	803.629.2952	Felicia Liddell, Dir. of Assimilation	813.335.7320
Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor/Youth/Worship	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	