



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



September 7, 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: Chip DeLaet

Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler

Reflections

Romans 9:17-18: For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

2 Corinthians 7:10: For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Psalms 101:1: I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will make music.

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Hearing from the Savior

§ Call to Worship

Hebrews 3:1-6

Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

Responding to the Savior

§ Prayer of Invocation

§ Song of Praise

Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly trust in Jesus' name.

*Chorus: Christ alone, Cornerstone.
Weak made strong, in the Savior's love.
Through the storm,
He is Lord, Lord of All.*

When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
Chorus

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found.

Dressed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.
Chorus

Hearing from the Savior

§ Scripture Reading

Hebrews 3:7-15

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.’ As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’”

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. As it is said, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

Responding to the Savior

§ Song of Corporate Confession of Sin

Help My Unbelief

I know the Lord is nigh, and would but cannot pray,
for Satan meets me when I try, and frights my soul away.
And frights my soul away.

I would but can't repent, though I endeavor oft;
This stony heart can ne'er relent till Jesus makes it soft.
Till Jesus makes it soft.

*Chorus: Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
 Help my unbelief.
 My help must come from Thee.*

I would but cannot love, though wooed by love divine;
No arguments have power to move a soul as base as mine.
A soul as base as mine.

I would but cannot rest, in God's most holy will;
I know what He appoints is best, and murmur at it still.
I murmur at it still.

Chorus

Hearing from the Savior

Assurance of Pardon

Ezekiel 36:26-27

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Responding to the Savior

Tithes & Generous Giving

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

Rob & Jenny Ilderton, MTW in Hammersmith, England

§ Songs 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.

Hearing from the Savior

Sermon Text

Exodus 9:8-35

And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from the kiln, and let Moses throw them in the air in the sight of Pharaoh. ⁹ It shall become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, and become boils breaking out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt." ¹⁰ So they took soot from the kiln and stood before Pharaoh. And Moses threw it in the air, and it became boils breaking out in sores on man and beast. ¹¹ And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils came upon the magicians and upon all the Egyptians. ¹² But the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he did not listen to them, as the Lord had spoken to Moses.

¹³ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, “Let my people go, that they may serve me. ¹⁴ For this time I will send all my plagues on you yourself, and on your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is none like me in all the earth. ¹⁵ For by now I could have put out my hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, and you would have been cut off from the earth. ¹⁶ But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth. ¹⁷ You are still exalting yourself against my people and will not let them go. ¹⁸ Behold, about this time tomorrow I will cause very heavy hail to fall, such as never has been in Egypt from the day it was founded until now. ¹⁹ Now therefore send, get your livestock and all that you have in the field into safe shelter, for every man and beast that is in the field and is not brought home will die when the hail falls on them.’” ²⁰ Then whoever feared the word of the Lord among the servants of Pharaoh hurried his slaves and his livestock into the houses, ²¹ but whoever did not pay attention to the word of the Lord left his slaves and his livestock in the field.

²² Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven, so that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man and beast and every plant of the field, in the land of Egypt.” ²³ Then Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven, and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth. And the Lord rained hail upon the land of Egypt. ²⁴ There was hail and fire flashing continually in the midst of the hail, very heavy hail, such as had never been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. ²⁵ The hail struck down everything that was in the field in all the land of Egypt, both man and beast. And the hail struck down every plant of the field and broke every tree of the field. ²⁶ Only in the land of Goshen, where the people of Israel were, was there no hail.

²⁷ Then Pharaoh sent and called Moses and Aaron and said to them, “This time I have sinned; the Lord is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong. ²⁸ Plead with the Lord, for there has been enough of God's thunder and hail. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer.” ²⁹ Moses said to him, “As soon as I have gone out of the city, I will stretch out my hands to the Lord. The thunder will cease, and there will be no more hail, so that you may know that the earth is the Lord's. ³⁰ But as for you and your servants, I know that you do not yet fear the Lord God.” ³¹ (The flax and the barley were struck down, for the barley was in the ear and the flax was in bud. ³² But the wheat and the emmer were not struck down, for they are late in coming up.) ³³ So Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh and stretched out his hands to the Lord, and the thunder and the hail ceased, and the rain no longer poured upon the earth. ³⁴ But when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet again and hardened his heart, he and his servants. ³⁵ So the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people of Israel go, just as the Lord had spoken through Moses..

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Paul L. Sanders

“Missionary Plagues”

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.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Responding to the Savior

Bread & Cup

Please hold elements until all are served so that we may partake together

§ Song of Response

Come Unto Jesus

Come unto Jesus all you who are weary. Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.
Here, bring your wounded hearts, broken and needy. Come unto Jesus, mighty to heal.

Joy of the comfortless, Light for the straying, Hope of the penitent, Peace in our strife.
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying My yoke is easy, my burden is light.

*Chorus: Come unto Jesus. Come unto Jesus.
 Lay down your burdens, He is enough.
 Come unto Jesus, rest in His love.*

Come, taste the Bread of Life, broken for sinners. Drink from the cup of His promise made sure.
Feast at His table as sons and as daughters. Grace overflowing is yours evermore.

Chorus

Come, now and follow Him, this life forsaking. All that was gain, count as nothing but loss.
Trade all this world for His kingdom unfading. Come unto Jesus, take up your cross.
Come unto Jesus, take up your cross. Life everlasting He offers to us.

Chorus

Come unto Jesus rest in His love

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.

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 and Community Groups

Living Out Our Callings--Exodus Series #18 - Exodus 9:8-35 "Missionary Plagues"

Especially for the children:

- a. Should you listen to your parents instruction or ignore them? Why or why not?
 - b. How much more should we listen to God's instruction?
 - c. Where do we find God's instruction?
-
1. What was your top takeaway from this sermon?
 2. What are ways we can discern the good and bad of science and medicine?
 3. When have you seen God's mercy and justice accomplished in the same event? Can you think of biblical examples?
 4. What insights do our texts give for why God hardened Pharoah?
 5. What insight does Romans 9:14-23 give us?
 6. What are symptoms of a hardened heart against God?
 7. How does our text show these plagues as being "missionary" plagues in their impact?

Why Do That in Worship?

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

Not all churches handle invitations to the Lord's Table in the same manner. Please understand that while we are not so dogmatic as to condemn those with other practices, we do have convictions for why we administer the Supper in the way we do. What follows is our Church's and Denomination's view on just who the Lord's Supper is for.

First, the Lord's Supper is for believing people. It is a family meal for believers in the Lord Jesus Christ who have repented of their sins and trust in Christ alone for forgiveness and eternal life. It is a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. If you are an unbeliever visiting with us, we are glad you are here. Consider this day whether or not you are ready to embrace Jesus Christ as He is offered in the Scriptures. See a pastor or elder if you would like to talk about faith and life.

The Supper is also for a prepared people, those who have examined themselves concerning their sins before partaking. 1 Corinthians 11:18, 27-32 warns all participants to carefully examine their hearts and lives to

make certain they are participating in a worthy manner. Are you converted? Is there any sin that you continually live in and refuse to repent from? Is there someone that you have not done all you can to be at peace with God by offering and/or requesting forgiveness? These are indications that you have business to attend to before you can come to the table in a worthy manner. If you discern you are not repentant in some area, we encourage you to deal promptly with the sin that is keeping you from such a gift from our Lord that you may with joy participate next month.

Finally, the Supper is also for an informed people, those who are able to discern the body rightly, that is to understand the significance of the holy mystery of Christ crucified and of His body, the church. Thus, while we do not require that a person be a member of Christ Community Church to participate, we do ask that each participant be a baptized member of an Evangelical (i.e., Bible-believing) Church and that you are in good standing (i.e., you are not running from Church discipline).

Let us also remember that, though we believe, prepare, and are informed, our faith is never perfect, our preparation is never flawless, and our understanding is never complete. We do not come to the Lord's Table to claim that we are righteous in ourselves, but we come only because God regards us as righteous on the basis of the work of Christ through His incarnation, redemptive death, resurrection, ascension, and intercession on our behalf. Therefore, we encourage weak Christians, struggling disciples, and doubting believers to receive this Sacrament to gain spiritual strength and renewed hope.

Note to those seeking a church home: If you are not from a Bible-believing church, yet you desire to connect soon to one but realize it may take a while; and if you have interest in being invited to the Lord's Table with us while you discern your future church home; please see an elder today to talk more about that possibility.

Note to Parents: To receive communion, a child must be formally examined and received by the governing body of the church to which you belong (that would be the Session in our context). This will assure that your child has been baptized, professes faith in Jesus, and understands the Sacrament. From time to time, we offer Communicants Classes for older children to help them understand the essentials of the gospel and Sacraments. Please take advantage of those classes when offered. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.

Note to Non-Christians: If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal (see 1 Cor. 11:18, 27-32), please use this time to reflect on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for those searching for truth:

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life.

Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so.

If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are.

Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life you promise.

Amen.

Prayer of belief:

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope.

I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, and taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead,

I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord.

Mark your calendars:

September

- **4:** Thursday Morning Harmony resumes, 9:30am
- **7:** Fall ADS classes begin, 9:30am
- **7:** Women's Ministry Meeting, immediately following the worship service
- **14:** Fellowship Dinner, 5pm
- **17:** Ladies' Night Out, J Peters, Mauldin, 5:30pm
- **25:** Men's Night Out, Azteca Mexican Restaurant, Mauldin, 6pm

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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