

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

NO YOUTH GROUP, NOVEMBER 5

There will be no youth group tonight due to the retreat.

NOVEMBER LEADERSHIP PRAYER

Pray for Cameron while he is away on a prayer and **pastoral cohort retreat 11/2-11/10**, the **deacons as they meet on Sunday, 11/12**, and the elders as they meet on **Tuesday, 11/14**.

NEXT LORD'S TABLE SERVED, NOVEMBER 12

Come to worship with your heart and mind prepared to celebrate the sacrament of communion.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, NOVEMBER 12

Please join us to vote on Randolph Benn for elder and on the proposed changes to the by-laws following worship on **Sunday, 11/12**.

GIVING TREE DONATIONS, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12

As we eagerly anticipate the coming of Christmas, we at Christ Community have a unique opportunity to love the women at **The Extension** by helping provide gifts for them and their children. Our contact at the Extension told us that providing the opportunity for the women to shop for their children is one of the most dignifying and loving things we could do for them! If you would like to give please us the payment link in the weekly update or mark "Giving Trees" in the memo line of your check. We will be taking donations until **November 12th**. If you have any questions don't hesitate to email josh@christcommunitycobb.org



The Promised Advent of Jesus ⁱⁿ **Ruth**

Scan this QR code for Online Giving, Visitor Information and Prayer Requests



Info@christcommunitycobb.org ♦ www.christcommunitycobb.org
Christ Community Church is a local congregation of the PCA

OUR VISION:
TO SEE THE GOSPEL CHANGE HEARTS, LIVES, AND COMMUNITY
BY MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES IN NORTHWEST ATLANTA AND BEYOND
CHANGED HEARTS, CHANGED LIVES, CHANGED COMMUNITY

OUR *Worship* CELEBRATION
November 5, 2023

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 116:1-7**

~God's invitation for us to engage in worship in the Holy Spirit

***Weekly Congregational Response**

~Our humble response to God's call to worship

***Prayer of Invocation**

~The giving of thanks for God's promised presence and work among us

***Song of Preparation and Praise - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Matthew 2:19-23**

~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Songs of Comfort - How Long?**

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

**Pastoral Prayer - Travis & Laura Sawyer, Straight Up Missions Kenya and
Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Dallas**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - A Return In Bitterness: Of Loyalty, Faith And Repentance

Ruth 1:6-22

***Song of Response - The Goodness of Jesus**

~Our commitment to apply God's Word in and through our lives

***Announcements**

~Weekly opportunities to live out the Word read, confessed, prayed, sung, and preached

***Benediction - 2 Timothy 2:8-13**

~God's parting blessing as we are sent out on His redemptive mission

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Stand**

*Giving boxes are located on the table inside the sanctuary by the doors and
the welcome table in the lobby.*

The Goodness of Jesus

Come you, weary heart, now to Jesus
Come you, anxious soul, now and see
There is perfect love
And comfort in your tears
Rest here in His wondrous peace

*Oh the goodness,
The goodness of Jesus
Satisfied, He is all that I need
May it be, come what may,
That I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus*

Come find what this world
Cannot offer
Come and find your joy
Here complete
Taste the living water,
Never thirst again
Rest here in His wondrous peace
(Chorus)

Come and find your hope
Now in Jesus
He is all He said He would be
Grace is overflowing
From the Savior's heart
Rest here in His wondrous peace
(Chorus)

Response
SONG OF

“A RETURN IN BITTERNESS:
OF LOYALTY, FAITH, AND REPENTANCE”

RUTH 1:6-22
ROBBY BAXTER

Key Truth: The Lord graciously brings us back and receives us when we return to Him in repentance, even when we return feeling bitter, doubtful, and distressed.

Ruth 1:6-22: A Return in Bitterness: Returning to the Land of Promise

“Like sheep, we are weak, destitute, defenseless, prone to wander, unable to return, and always surrounded by wolves. But all is made up in the fullness, ability, wisdom, compassion, care, and faithfulness of our great Shepherd. He guides, protects, feeds, heals, and restores, and will be our guide and our God even until death. Then He will meet us, receive us, and present us unto Himself, and we shall be near to Him, and like Him, and with Him forever.”

John Newton as quoted in John Currid, *Ruth: From Bitter to Sweet*

Q: Have you ever experienced the shame of returning after you distrusted God and went your own way? What did you learn from this?

Application:

Ruth 1:6-22 teaches us that:

-The Lord graciously brings us back and receives us when we return to Him in repentance, even when we return feeling bitter, doubtful, and distressed.

Benediction: *2 Timothy 2:8-13*

CALL TO Worship

- ¹ I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.
- ² Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
- ³ The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.
- ⁴ Then I called on the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!”
- ⁵ Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.
- ⁶ The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.
- ⁷ Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

Psalm 116:1-7

Question 27. What do you understand by the providence of God?

Answer: God's providence is His almighty and ever present power, whereby, as with His hand, He still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come not by chance but by His fatherly hand.

The Heidelberg Catechism

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Comfort, comfort
 Now my people
 Tell of his peace with no end
 Comfort, comfort
 Those in darkness
 Tell them that God's pardon
 Waits for them

*The Glory of the Lord
 Now on earth is shed
 In deserts far and near
 He will raise what's dead
 His peace has now
 Been spoken
 His word is never broken
 The Kingdom of our God
 Is now here*

Straight shall, straight shall
 Be what's crooked
 Making all the rougher
 Places plain
 Let your, let your
 Hearts be humble
 Befitting our God's glory
 And his reign (*Chorus*)

*Let the valleys
 Rise to meet him
 The hills all will bow down
 Let the valleys
 Rise to meet him
 The hills bow down
 In Praise
 Let the valleys
 Rise to meet him
 The hills bow down
 In Praise...(Chorus)*

How Long?

How long
Will You turn Your face away?
How long
Do You hear us when we pray?
On and on,
Still we walk this pilgrim way
How long?

How long
'Til Your children find their rest?
How long
'Til You draw them to Your breast?
We go on
Holding to Your promises
How long? *(Chorus)*

*'Til You wipe away the tears
From ev'ry eye
'Til we see our home descending From the sky
Do we wait in vain?
Jesus, give us hope again!*

How long
'Til Your word will still the storm?
How long
'Til You bare Your mighty arm?
How we groan
'Til You snatch us from the thorns How long? *(Chorus)*

How long?
Sweet the dawn that ends the race.
How long?
Weak our hearts but strong our legs.
Looking on...
Great that cloud of witnesses!
How long? *(Chorus)*

SONG OF
Comfort

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me,
O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land
I am weak, but Thou art mighty
Hold me with Thy powerful hand
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing waters flow
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through
Strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still My Strength and Shield
Strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield

When I tread the verge of Jordan
Bid my anxious fears subside
Death of death, and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee

Land me safe
On Canaan's side
Bid my anxious fears,
Bid my anxious fears (2x)
...Goodbye

SONG OF
Praise

Confession OF SIN

Gracious and Merciful Father,

We come before you to confess our sin as Your redeemed and beloved children. May Your Spirit alone convict us of our sin and remind us of our pardon in Christ through repentance.

(Take a moment to silently confess.)

We confess that we are often slow to turn to You when we are feeling bitter or afflicted (**Ruth 1:6-22**).

We confess these things before You because You are faithful to forgive us in Christ.

Bless us with the assurance of our pardon by Your Holy Spirit in Christ alone, by faith alone, through Your grace alone, from Your Word.

Amen.

Assurance OF PARDON

¹⁹ But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” ²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³ And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Matthew 2:19-23

(Leader) - And based on the gift of this assurance of pardon to us, God's people, we all can't help but say,

(Congregation) - Amen!