

# STAY *Connected* AT CCC

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP, JANUARY 25

**9th-12th graders**, join us for fellowship and study tonight at the **Starts' from 5:30 to 7:30**. Be sure to bring your own dinner! See the Weekly Update to sign up to bring a dessert to share.

## COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE DONATIONS, JANUARY 18 – FEBRUARY 8

We will be assembling care packages with small gift cards and treats for college students connected to CCC in February. There will be an info table in the lobby before and after church services from 1/18 to 2/8 where you can ask questions or drop off donations. **Donations are due by Sunday, Feb. 8**. You can **sign up at the table in the lobby or see the link in the Jan. 15 weekly update** to contribute items or make a donation to cover shipping costs. Thank you for helping our church show Christ's love to these college students!

## PRAYER FOR LEADERSHIP

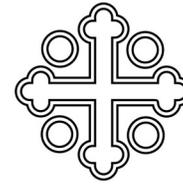
Please pray for the **deacons who meet on Sunday, 2/1** and the **elders who meet on Tuesday, 2/10**.

## NEW MEN'S GROUP MEETING THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

A new group will meet the first Saturday of every month **beginning on February 7 from 8:30 - 10:00 AM at Robby's house**. We will share breakfast together and discuss a portion of Scripture. Reach out to Robby if you'd like to participate, or if you have any questions.

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RETREAT, FEBRUARY 20-22

Registration for the high school winter retreat is now open! This year's theme is assurance of salvation in Romans 8. The cost is **\$80 per person** (\$100 if playing paintball). You **can register and pay using the links in the Weekly Update by February 9th**. See Matt with any questions!



CHRIST COMMUNITY  
CHURCH

## Ecclesiastes

*The frustrating Elusiveness of Life  
and a Joyful Faith in the fear of the Lord*

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  
*January 25, 2026*

**Prelude**

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship - Psalm 19**

~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 - *Be Thou My Vision***

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

**\*Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Colossians 1:15-19**

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

**\*Congregational Response: Amen!**

**\*Song of Comfort - *Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery***

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

**Pastoral Prayer - First Care Women's Clinic and  
First Presbyterian Church, Ellijay**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

**Sermon - The Gatherer's Ode to Creation's Permanence and  
Humanity's Transience  
Ecclesiastes 1:4-11**

**\*Song of Response - *Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah***

~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 - Ecclesiastes 12:13-14**

~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.*

*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  
Response

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> Day to day pours out speech,  
and night to night reveals knowledge.

<sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words,  
whose voice is not heard.

<sup>4</sup> Their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun,

<sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom leaving  
his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its  
course with joy.

<sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them, and there is  
nothing hidden from its heat.

<sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the  
soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure,  
making wise the simple;

<sup>8</sup> the precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart; the commandment of  
the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

<sup>9</sup> the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;  
the rules of the Lord are true,  
and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey  
and drippings of the honeycomb.

<sup>11</sup> Moreover, by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup> Who can discern his errors?  
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

<sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from  
presumptuous sins; let them not have  
dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless,  
and innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the  
meditation of my heart be acceptable in your  
sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

CALL TO  
Worship

“THE GATHERER’S ODE TO CREATION’S PERMANENCE  
AND HUMANITY’S TRANSIENCE”

ECCLESIASTES 1:4-11

CAMERON BARHAM

Heavenly Father,  
We come this morning seeking You while  
You may be found;  
We call upon You while You are near;  
We forsake our wicked ways, and our  
unrighteous thoughts;  
we return to You, O Lord, that You may have  
compassion on us,  
for You abundantly pardon in Christ.  
Your thoughts, heavenly Father, are not our  
thoughts, neither are our ways Your ways.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are Your ways higher than our ways and  
Your thoughts than our thoughts.  
For as the rain and the snow come down  
from heaven and do not return there but  
water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout, giving  
seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall Your word be that goes out  
from Your mouth;  
it shall not return to You empty, but it shall  
accomplish that which You purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which You  
sent it—our redemption in Christ.  
For we go out in joy and are led forth in peace;  
Creation breaks forth in a chorus of praise  
and longed for joy  
At our revealing as Your sons and daughters.  
May we bring everlasting praise to Your name,  
O Lord.

Adapted from **Isaiah 55:6-13**

**Key Truth: God calls us to recognize our humble transience and ultimate need for Him to establish lasting meaning in Christ.**

**Introduction:**

**Q: *What have you learned from observing God’s Creation?***

**Ecclesiastes 1:4-11: Creation’s Cyclical Nature and Humanity’s Linear Impermanence:**

<sup>[18]</sup> For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>[19]</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>[20]</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>[21]</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>[22]</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>[23]</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>[24]</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>[25]</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

**Romans 8:18-25 ESV**

**Application Questions:**

- 1. *How have you struggled with the transience of your life?***
- 2. *Where do you turn to / run to for hope given this reality?***

**Application:**

**Ecclesiastes 1:4-11** teaches us that God calls us to recognize our humble transience and ultimate need for Him to establish lasting meaning in Christ.

**Benediction: *Ecclesiastes 12:13***

*Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
In the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises  
Robed in frail humanity  
In our longing, in our darkness  
Now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ, who condescended  
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
He the perfect Son of Man  
In His living, in His suffering  
Never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam  
Come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment  
Of the law; in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
Hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption  
See the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory  
Grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him  
Praise the Lord; He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliverance  
How unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected  
As we will be when he comes

SONG OF  
*Comfort*

*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  
Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee  
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 son!  
Heart of my own heart  
Whatever befall  
Still be my vision  
O Ruler of all

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 too often lose hope because of our transience and fail to look to You for eternal meaning. **(Ecclesiastes 1:4-11)**

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

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

**Colossians 1:15-19**

(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!**