CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH



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

October 25, 2026

Prelude
~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 18:25-30**
~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 - *Goodness of God
~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Luke 18:9-14**
~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

Song of Comfort - *Come As You Are
~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - Brian & Mandy Stock, MTW Malaysia and Grace Presbyterian Church, Douglasville
~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Merciful and Their Promised Mercy
Matthew 5:7

Song of Response - *His Mercy Is More
~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 - Matthew 7:24-25**
~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

CALL TO *Worship*

25 To the faithful you show yourself faithful,
to the blameless you show yourself blameless,
26 to the pure you show yourself pure,
but to the devious you show yourself shrewd.
27 You save the humble
but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.
28 You, Lord, keep my lamp burning;
my God turns my darkness into light.
29 With your help I can advance against a troop;
with my God I can scale a wall.
30 As for God, his way is perfect:
The Lord's word is flawless;
he shields all who take refuge in him.

Psalm 18:25-30

CONGREGATIONAL *Response*

Lord Jesus, Teach us to
Rest content in being righteous and
On the promise of further becoming merciful
as gifted to us by Your finished work
And gratefully receive mercy
as Your assured promise
To us in both the Now and Not Yet.
Help us to steward and grow in Your gifts
as we become more like You
For God's glory, our joy, and the life of the world!
In the name of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, Amen!

Goodness of God

I love You, Lord
For Your mercy never failed me
All my days,
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing
Of the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so,
So good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing
Of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest nights
You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived
In the goodness of God
(Chorus)

Your goodness is running After,
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after,
It's running after me
With my life laid down,
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after,
It's running after me
(Chorus)

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 often fail to gratefully rest in being and on the promise of further becoming merciful in Christ which diminishes our joy in His assured promise of receiving mercy **(Matthew 5:7)**.

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

[9] To some who were confident of their own
righteousness and looked down on everyone
else, Jesus told this parable: [10] "Two men went
up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the
other a tax collector. [11] The Pharisee stood by
himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am
not like other people—robbers, evildoers,
adulterers—or even like this tax collector. [12] I
fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'
[13] "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He
would not even look up to heaven, but beat his
breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a
sinner.' [14] "I tell you that this man, rather than
the other, went home justified before God. For
all those who exalt themselves will be humbled,
and those who humble themselves will be
exalted."

Luke 18:9-14

(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!

SONG OF Comfort

Come As You Are

Come out of sadness
From wherever you've been
Come broken hearted
Let rescue begin
Come find your mercy
Oh sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal

So lay down your burdens
Lay down your shame
All who are broken
Lift up your face
Oh wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt
Lay down your heart
Come as you are

(Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are…)

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table
Come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't cure
(Chorus)

There's joy for the morning
Oh sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal
(Chorus)

"The Merciful and Their Promised Mercy"
Matthew 5:7
Matt O'Sullivan

Key Truth: <u>Jesus invites us to rest content in the opportunity to become merciful as gifted to us in His finished work and to gratefully receive mercy as His assured promise to us in both the Now and the Not Yet.</u>

Introduction:

Q: ***How should a Christian respond to someone else's sin?***

Matthew 5:7: How to Become Merciful Like Our Father in Heaven

Working Definition of Mercy: The desire to help free others from the burdens of sin and death even when they have sinned against us.

> "Our first priority is not to defeat sin but to behold the Christ who has defeated sin. If we are going to live, if we are going to have any way through, any way forward, we are going to need something that is not effort or sorrow but the beholding and the following and the serving of Another. The One who is Mercy and whose Mercy rescues, whose Mercy leads, and whose Mercy fulfills.… The genius, the compassion of Christ is His patient willingness to approach us again—and to do new work in the heart—through what he's already said and what he's already done."
>
> **John Andrew Bryant,** ***A Quiet Mind to Suffer With: Mental Illness, Trauma, and the Death of Christ***

Application Questions:

1. ***How have you grown in showing mercy to look more like Jesus over the time that you've been a Christian? What has helped you to grow in this?***
2. ***How have you experienced the gift of mercy in the Now? What do you most look forward to about it in the Not Yet?***

Application:

Matthew 5:7 teaches us that Jesus invites us to rest content in the opportunity to become merciful as gifted to us in His finished work and to gratefully receive mercy as His assured promise to us in both the Now and the Not Yet.

Benediction: ***Matthew 7:24-25***

SONG OF Response

His Mercy Is More

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

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)

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP, OCTOBER 25
9th-12th graders, join us for fellowship and study tonight at the **Searcys' 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.

OCTOBER PRAYER FOR LEADERSHIP
Please pray for Cameron as he will be traveling for his **Fall Prayer and Pastoral Cohort Retreats from 10/21-10/30.**

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES
CCC will be giving care packages to college students connected to CCC in November. Donations of **individually wrapped snacks and treats** can be dropped off at the table in the lobby **during the month of October.** If you would like to donate towards the $400 needed for shipping, small gift cards, and additional treats, you can do so at the table or on tithe.ly by choosing the "College Care Packages" option. **All donations are due by today**. Please contact Karen Widner with questions at 470.258.2145 or kdwidner@bellsouth.net.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
Fall back one hour on November 1st.

TWO SERVICES IN THE LARGE MEETING ROOM, THROUGH NOVEMBER 1
Due to early voting, we will not have access to our sanctuary space during this time. Our first service will be at **9 am with no childcare**. Sunday School classes will meet as scheduled. The second service at 10:30 am will include childcare.