STAY *Connected* AT CCC

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP, APRIL 12
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.

RUF REUNION, APRIL 17 & 18
RUF KSU is hosting a **20th anniversary reunion** April 17-18th! If you are a KSU alumnus who was involved in RUF or has volunteered in any way with RUF over the years, we would love for you to join us for the celebration! Contact Chris, Grace or Bruce for more information.

BIG SHANTY FESTIVAL, APRIL 18 & 19
The Big Shanty Festival will take place in **downtown Kennesaw on April 18th & 19th**. **This may impact parking availability at the Community Center**. Please plan to arrive early to secure a spot or consider parking in nearby lots.

FIRST CARE WOMEN'S CLINIC 29TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET
First Care Women's Clinic will host its 29th Annual Fundraising Banquet on **Thursday, May 7th at 6:30 PM** at the Cobb Convention Centre. The evening will feature guest speaker Noleen Sedra, Co-founder and Pastor of Echo Church in Sydney, Australia. Dinner will be provided. If you are interested please **RSVP by Friday, April 24th** at: supportfcwc.com/banquet/
For more information, please see Susan Barham or Ransley Cummings.

WORSHIP SERVICE LOCATION, APRIL 26
Join us for worship at **8:45 a.m. at RTS Atlanta** (1580 Terrell Mill Road, Marietta 30067). Please note that there will be no children's or youth classes that morning.

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

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

April 12. 2026

Prelude
~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 24**
~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 -** ***The Lord Our God
~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Colossians 2:6-15**
~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

Songs of Comfort -** ***Rock of Ages (When the Day Seems Long)
Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah
~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - Eric & Rebecca Larsen, Next Ministries and First Presbyterian Church, Summerville
~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Gatherer's Exhortation to Be Still and Listen
Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

Song of Response -** ***Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor
~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.

SONG OF *Response*

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

Christ the sure and steady Anchor
In the fury of the storm
When the winds
Of doubt blow through me
And my sails have all been torn
In the suffering, in the sorrow
When my sinking hopes are few
I will hold fast to the Anchor
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady Anchor
While the tempest rages on
When temptation claims the battle
And it seems the night has won
Deeper still then goes the Anchor
Though I justly stand accused
I will hold fast to the Anchor
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady Anchor
Through the floods of unbelief
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now
Lift your eyes to Calvary
This my ballast of assurance
See His love forever proved
I will hold fast to the Anchor
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady Anchor
As we face the wave of death
When these trials give way to glory
As we draw our final breath
We will cross that great horizon
Clouds behind and life secure
And the calm will be the better
For the storms that we endure

Christ the shore of our salvation
Ever faithful, ever true
We will hold fast to the Anchor
It shall never be removed

"The Gatherer's Exhortation to Be Still and Listen"
Ecclesiastes 5:1-7
Robby Baxter

Key Truth: <u>God calls us to be still and know that He is God through a worshipful attentiveness to Him that is slow to speak and quick to listen.</u>

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7: The Call to Be Still and Know that the Lord is God:

"God's work of giving wisdom is a means to His chosen end of restoring and perfecting the relationship between Himself and human beings—the relationship for which He made them. For what is this wisdom that He gives? It is not a sharing in all His knowledge, but a disposition to confess that He is wise, and to cleave to Him and live for Him in the light of His Word through thick and thin. Thus the effect of His gift of wisdom is to make us more humble, more joyful, more godly, more quick-sighted as to His will, more resolute in the doing of it and less troubled (not less sensitive, but less bewildered) than we were at the dark and painful things of which our life in this fallen world is full. Thus, the kind of wisdom that God waits to give to those who ask Him is a wisdom that will bind us to Himself, a wisdom that will find expression in a spirit of faith and a life of faithfulness. Let us see to it, then, that our own quest for wisdom takes the form of a quest for these things, and that we do not frustrate the wise purpose of God by neglecting faith and faithfulness in order to pursue a kind of knowledge which in this world it is not given to us to have."

J.I. Packer, ***Knowing God***

Application Questions:

1. ***In what ways do you find yourself growing impatient at a seeming lack of answers to difficulties in your life or God's seeming slowness to resolve them? In what ways does the message of Ecclesiastes help you to wait patiently upon Him?***
2. ***How is your participation in worship affected by the things you have going on in your life and your plans to address them? In what ways does the message of Ecclesiastes encourage you to engage in worship in a spirit of quietness and a readiness to listen to the Lord?***

Application:

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 teaches us that God calls us to be still and know that He is God through a worshipful attentiveness to Him that is slow to speak and quick to listen.

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

CALL TO Worship

Psalm 24

1 The earth is the Lord's and the fullness
thereof, the world and those who dwell
therein,
2 for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.
3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
4 He who has clean hands and a pure
heart, who does not lift up his soul
to what is false and does not swear
deceitfully.
5 He will receive blessing from the Lord
and righteousness from the God of his
salvation.
6 Such is the generation of those who
seek him, who seek the face of the God
of Jacob.
7 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
8 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!
9 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
10 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts, he is the King of
glory!

CONGREGATIONAL *Response*

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***

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 Comfort

Rock of Ages (When the Day Seems Long)

Rock of Ages,
When the day seems long
From this labor and this heartache,
I have come
The skies will wear out,
But you remain the same
Rock of Ages, I praise your name
Rock of Ages,
You have brought me near
You have poured out your life-blood,
Your love, your tears
To make this stone heart
Come alive again
Rock of Ages, forgive my sin.
(Chorus)

Rock of ages.
Rock of ages.
Bind your children
Until the kingdom comes.
Rock of ages your will be done

Rock of Ages, when in want or rest,
My desperate need
For such a Savior I confess
Pull these idols
Out from my heart embrace.
Rock of Ages, I need your grace.
Rock of Ages,
Broken scorned for me.
Who am I that you would die
To make me free?
To give me glory,
You took the death and pain.
Rock of Ages, my Offering.
(Chorus)

Rock of Ages, "It is done!" you cried.
The curtain's torn
And I see justice satisfied
Now write your mercy,
On my heart and hands.
Rock of ages, in faith I stand.
Rock of Ages,
My great hope secure.
Your promise holds
Just like an anchor to my soul
Bind your children
With cords of love and grace.
Rock of Ages, we give you praise.
(Chorus)

SONG OF Praise

The Lord Our God

Promise maker, promise keeper
You finish what you begin
Our provision, through the desert
You see it through to the end
You see it through to the end

The Lord Our God is ever faithful
Never changing through the ages
From this darkness,
You will lead us
And forever we will say
You're the Lord Our God

In the silence, in the waiting
Still we can know You are good
All Your plans are for Your glory
Yes we can know You are good
Yes we can know You are good
(Chorus)

We won't move without you
We won't move without you
You're the light of all
And all that we need (3x's)
(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 we have often been quicker to offer our thoughts to others and to dream big dreams for ourselves than to humbly listen to You (**Ecclesiastes 5:1-7**).

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

6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the
Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up
in him and established in the faith, just as
you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
8 See to it that no one takes you captive by
philosophy and empty deceit, according to
human tradition, according to the elemental
spirits of the world, and not according to
Christ. 9 For in him the whole fullness of
deity dwells bodily, 10 and you have been
filled in him, who is the head of all rule and
authority. 11 In him also you were circumcised
with a circumcision made without hands,
by putting off the body of the flesh, by the
circumcision of Christ, 12 having been buried
with him in baptism, in which you were also
raised with him through faith in the powerful
working of God, who raised him from the
dead. 13 And you, who were dead in your
trespasses and the uncircumcision of your
flesh, God made alive together with him,
having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by
canceling the record of debt that stood against
us with its legal demands. This he set aside,
nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers
and authorities and put them to open shame,
by triumphing over them in him.

Colossians 2:6-15

(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!