



CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Ecclesiastes

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

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

September 20, 2026

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 111**

~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 Love of God

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

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - 1 John 4:7-12**

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

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

Song of Comfort - *How Deep the Father's Love for Us

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - Jim & Shari Whittle, ELI India and

Christian Community Presbyterian Church, Marietta

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Gatherer's Call to Fear God and Keep His Commandments Ecclesiastes 12:9-14

Baptism - George Andrew Maphet

~Practiced on a regular basis to make the Word visible.

***Doxology**

Song of Response - *Wash Me Clean

~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*

CALL TO Worship

¹ Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who delight in them.

³ Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful.

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy;

⁸ they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹ He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!

¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

Response
CONGREGATIONAL

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

The Love of God

The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair
Bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin

*O love of God, how rich and pure
How measureless and strong
It shall forevermore endure
The saints' and angels' song*

Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies
Of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll
Contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky

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 properly fear
You and keep Your commandments as our
whole duty choosing instead to try to find
other means of contentment
(Ecclesiastes 12:9-14).

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

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

1 John 4:7-12

(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

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He would give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar
The chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no pow'r's, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

“THE GATHERER’S CALL TO FEAR GOD AND
KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS”
ECCLESIASTES 12:9-14
CAMERON BARHAM

Key Truth: God calls us to fear Him and keep His commandments as our whole duty in Christ.

Introduction:

Q: What wisdom have you received that brought you delight?

Ecclesiastes 12:9-14: Our Whole Duty: Fear God and Keep His Commands:

“The fear of God in some ways defies our attempts at definition, because it is really another way of saying ‘knowing God.’ It is a heart-felt love for him because of who he is and what he has done; a sense of being in his majestic presence. It is a thrilling awareness that we have this greatest of all privileges, mingled with a realization that now the only thing that really matters is his opinion. To have the assurance of his smile is everything; to feel that he frowns on what we do is desolation. To fear God is to be sensitive to both his greatness and his graciousness. It is to know him and to love him wholeheartedly and unreservedly.”

Sinclair B. Ferguson, *The Pundit’s Folly: Chronicles of an Empty Life*

Application Questions:

1. *What helps you to rightly fear God who loves you and gives you good gifts?*
2. *What helps you to keep God’s commandments to love Him and your neighbor in Christ?*

Application:

Ecclesiastes 12:9-14 teaches us that God calls us to fear Him and keep His commandments as our whole duty in Christ.

Baptism: George Maphet

Benediction: *Ecclesiastes 12:13*

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Amen

SONG OF
Response

Wash Me Clean

*Wash me clean
In the warm sun dry me
Cleanse my heart
From all iniquity
Baptize me
In the Holy Spirit sea
Renew my mind
That wickedness may flee*

In those days
His Son will save
His Spirit will pour
On all who call on the Lord
In those days
His Son will save
His Spirit will fill
Empty jars of mud and clay

In these days
Barren fields will sprout trees
The deaf and blind will hear and see
The dead will raise and begin to breathe
The dead will raise and begin to breathe
The earth will groan in pain to see
The sons of God declared to be
His full and glorious family
The beautiful, perfect bride of Thee

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

NO YOUTH GROUP, SEPTEMBER 20

There will be no youth group tonight due to the beginning of fall break.

COLLEGE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP GROUP, SEPTEMBER 20

College students are invited to a new **fellowship group and lunch at the Stuckerts' house** beginning on **9/20 from 12:30 to 2:00 PM**. We hope you can join us for good food, fellowship, and discussions about navigating life and faith during the college years! The Stuckerts' address is 2789 Crown Mill Ct. Marietta, GA 30068. Due to limited parking, please carpool if you can!

COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL, SEPTEMBER 27

College students and young adults are invited to a Sunday school at **9:30 AM on 9/27** for a class about how to grow in your personal devotions. We hope you can join us!

NEXT LORD'S TABLE SERVED, SEPTEMBER 27

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are still seeking **two Preschool volunteers to serve in our 10:30 a.m. classes once a month**. If you are a member or regular attendee, please consider joining our Children's Ministry team so we can continue offering this class to the children and families of CCC. To volunteer or learn more, please contact Bonnie or Ransley.

FALL YOUTH RETREAT

Registration for the presbytery-wide fall youth retreat is now open!

Here's everything you need to know:

When: November 6-8

Where: Camp Westminster

Who: 6th-12th graders

Speaker: John Sutton, associate pastor from Grace Presbyterian Church

Cost: \$100 per student

Register: Please see the Weekly Update to register and pay by October 2nd. Contact Matt with any questions!