

**REFORMATION SUNDAY** | *On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther famously posted his 95 Theses on the church door at Wittenberg – an action which helped spark the Protestant Reformation. We are indebted to Reformers like Luther for their courageous stand for the purity of the Gospel against the civil and ecclesiastical forces of their day. Armed only with an unshakable confidence in God and his Word, many of these men were persecuted, some even giving up their lives. The liturgical color of Reformation Sunday, red, traditionally symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit and reminds us that the Reformation was truly a breaking in of the Spirit to preserve God’s people.*

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### prelude

*As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.*

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### preparing our hearts

But may all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you;  
may those who love your salvation  
say continually, “Great is the LORD!”

– Psalm 40:16 ESV

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### \*\* call to worship

*Leader:* Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely,

**All:** **And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,**

*Leader:* Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,

**All:** **Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

– Hebrews 12:1-2 ESV

*Leader:* We are gathered here in the unchanging Name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit. Amen.

\*\* Please stand if you are able

## A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing:  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabbaoth, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us:  
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth:  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

Words and Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther. Public Domain.

*Leader:* O most holy Christ, draw us, weak as we are, after yourself, for if you do not draw us, we cannot follow you. Strengthen our spirit, that it may be willing. If the flesh is weak, let your grace precede us. Give us a fearless heart, a right faith, a firm hope, a perfect love, that for your sake we may lay down our lives with patience and joy. Amen.

– Adapted from a letter sent by Czech reformer Jan Hus before he was burned at the stake  
July 6, 1415

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
The Creator of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,  
From whence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The holy catholic Church\*,  
The communion of saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

\* Here, “catholic” means “universal,” and refers to the Christian church in all places

## REFORMATION SONG

Your Word alone is solid ground, the mighty rock on which we build;  
In every line the truth is found and every page with glory filled.

Through faith alone we come to you; we have no merit we can claim.  
Sure that your promises are true, we place our hope in Jesus' name. \*

*\* Chorus:*

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone; gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.

In Christ alone we're justified; his righteousness is all our plea;  
Your law's demands are satisfied; his perfect work has set us free. \*

By grace alone we have been saved; all that we are has come from you.  
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved now by your pow'r have been made new. \*

"Reformation Song," Music & Words: Tim Chester and Bob Kauflin.

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## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Leader:* The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty[.]”

– Exodus 34:6-7<sup>ESV</sup>

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All:** **I, a poor sinner, acknowledge before you, my God and Creator,  
That I have terribly and in many ways sinned against you,  
Not only outwardly, but much more with inward blindness, unbelief,  
Doubts, despondency, impatience, pride, covetousness, envy,  
Hatred, malice, and other sinful affections, as you, my Lord and God,  
Know well, and I cannot deeply enough deplore.  
But I repent of these things, and am sorry for them,  
And heartily ask you for mercy,  
For the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

– From the *Reformed Liturgy of the Palatinate* (c. 1585)

*Please reflect and silently confess your sins.*

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE \*\*

*Leader:* O People of God, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

– Adapted from Psalm 130:7<sup>ESV</sup>

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 130 (FROM DEPTHS OF WOE)



**All:** From depths of woe I raise to thee the voice of lamentation;  
 To wash away the crimson stain, grace, grace alone avail eth;  
 There fore my trust is in the Lord, and not in my own merit;  
 Though great our sins and sore our woes his grace much more abundant;



Lord, turn a gracious ear to me and hear my supplication;  
 Our works, alas! Are all in vain; in much the best life fail eth;  
 On him my soul shall rest, his word up holds my fainting spirit;  
 His helping love no limit knows, our up most need it soundeth.



If thou iniquities dost mark, our secret sins and deeds dark,  
 No man can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might,  
 His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort and my sweet support;  
 Our Shepherd good and true is he, who will at last his Israel free



**Men:** O who shall stand before thee? O who shall  
 And live alone by mercy. And live a  
 I wait for it with patience. I wait for  
 From all their sin and sorrow. From all their



**Women:** O who shall stand before thee?  
 And live alone by mercy.  
 I wait for it with patience.  
 From all their sin and sorrow.



stand before thee?  
 lone by mercy.  
 it with patience.  
 sin and sorrow.



Who shall stand before thee?  
 Live alone by mercy.  
 Wait for it with patience.  
 All their sin and sorrow.

*Leader:* Exodus 6:2-13  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

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prayer

*An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.*

*Leader:* All these mercies we ask in the name of Jesus, who prayed saying,  
**All: Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,  
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

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\*\* passing the peace

*Leader:* Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” In a world filled with trouble, let us encourage one another to look to the one who has overcome the world. May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

**While your children are welcome and encouraged to worship with you, at this time they can be dismissed for an age-appropriate worship for ages 3-5.**

If you would like to hear more about CPC or would like to let us know of a prayer need, please include your contact information or prayer request in the welcome pad when it comes around to you.

*An elder will lead the passing of the peace. If you are joining us from your home, please unmute yourself so that you can greet one another. If you are gathered here with us today, greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.*

Series | “Romans: The Foundation of Our Faith”

Sermon | “The Freedom of the Christian”

November 5, 2023

**Romans 6:1-14** <sup>ESV</sup> | 1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

*Leader:* This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!



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**\*\* gospel charge**

*Leader:* In response to the Gospel of grace, how shall we then live?

**All:** But as for you, flee false doctrine and the love of money. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

– Adapted from 1 Timothy 6:11–12<sub>ESV</sub>

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## WELCOME TO HIS TABLE

*The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians — a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please use this time to meditate on the following prayer.*

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Please remain seated for communion. As a symbol of our unity in Christ, wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. Once you are finished with your cup, please pass it to the inside aisles and the ushers will retrieve them.*

*If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. During the celebration of communion, we will sing the printed hymn.*

**NOTE TO PARENTS:** *To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.*

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## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many."

— Mark 14:22-24<sup>ESV</sup>

*Minister:* Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them up to the Lord.

*Minister:* Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

**All:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Minister:* Let us pray.

**All:** O Lord and heavenly Father, when we celebrate and observe this memorial your Son has commended to us, we remember his suffering and death, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension; and we await his coming again with power and great glory. God of Mercy, hear our prayer and by your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Holy Name. Amen.

*Minister:* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*Minister:* Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

**All:** When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again.

*Minister:* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*As the elements are distributed, sing as one body, affirming that in Christ we are united to him and to one another.*

## 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, where the healing waters flow;  
Let the fire and 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 deaths, 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 –  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Bid my anxious fears, bid my anxious fears, goodbye.

“Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah,” Words & Music: William Williams & Jeremy Casella.  
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*The offering is a vital part of our response to God's grace provided for us in the preaching of his word and administration of the Lord's Supper. Our tithes and offerings represent the entirety of our lives being consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the coming of his kingdom to this world. As God's grace is freely given to us, so we give freely in return; not in any way to add to Christ's supremely adequate atonement for us, but in joyful response to this work and in thanksgiving for such unmerited grace.*

## HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said – to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”

“When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.”

“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;  
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.”

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake.”

Words: R. Keene; Music: FOUNDATION, American melody. Public Domain.

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**announcements**

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**\*\* benediction**

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**\*\*doxology**

**All: 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.**

### for first-time visitors

Whether you are visiting us from out of town or looking for a church to call home, we're so glad to have you with us. Please fill out the visitor section in the attendance pad when it circulates.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING | DECEMBER 3

The Session of CPC is calling a congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 3** immediately following the worship service for the purpose of electing new deacons. We are pleased to announce that **Larry Brown, Jacob Jennings, Donald Wilcox, and Chris Windsor** were nominated by the congregation, have been trained and examined by the Session, and are eligible for election by the congregation.

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to honor or remember someone this Advent season, as well as help to defray the cost of our Christmas poinsettias, please either make your check payable for \$15.00 per poinsettia (only 10 available) to Christ Presbyterian Church, write "Christmas Poinsettia" on the check memo line, and place your check in the Sunday offering plate OR go to [www.cpcgeorgetown.org/giving](http://www.cpcgeorgetown.org/giving) and choose the poinsettia fund. Then, email **Adrienne Herron** ([adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org](mailto:adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org)) with the "in memory of" or "in honor of" information, which will be included in our Sunday bulletins during Advent beginning December 3. Payment and information are due by **Sunday, November 26**. The poinsettias will be ready to take home at our Christmas Eve service.

### cpc children's christmas choir | december 17

Parents, we have selected the Christmas song the kids will be sharing on **Sunday, December 17**. You may begin practicing and teaching your kids the song at home! The song is titled, "All Because Jesus is Born." You can find the song on YouTube or the link is in the weekly email. The kids will begin practicing during the last ten minutes of Sunday School class. There will also be a scheduled practice on **Sunday, December 10, 930a**. Please reach out to **Korina Slabach** ([kids@cpcgeorgetown.org](mailto:kids@cpcgeorgetown.org)) if you would like to volunteer to help or with any questions.

### operation christmas child

Let's kick off the upcoming holiday season by blessing children in need! Stop by the lobby this Sunday to pick up an Operation Christmas Child shoebox to fill with toys, school supplies, and personal care items. Follow the instructions included on the attached shipping label and return your shoebox to us by **Sunday, November 19** so that CPC can bring the boxes to Operation Christmas Child for distribution. Contact **Kevin Tanner** ([kevinrtanner@gmail.com](mailto:kevinrtanner@gmail.com)) with questions.