



THE LORD'S SERVICE

August 9, 2026

Gathering & Hospitality
Welcome & Announcements

Welcome! If you would like to receive our E-announcements, leave your contact info (including email) at the welcome stand. Please reference the insert for upcoming events and announcements.



THE LORD CALLS US INTO HIS SPECIAL PRESENCE

****Call to Worship***

From Psalm 36.5-7, 10 (ESV)

*O come, let us worship our God,
who is glorious in faithfulness and steadfast love.*

**Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

*Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your righteousness to the upright of heart!*

****Songs of Praise***

“O God Our Help In Ages Past”

Isaac Watts (1714)

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne, Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last and our eternal home.

A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun

Prayer

Scripture Reading

1 John 2.12-17 (ESV)

¹² I am writing to you, little children,
because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

¹³ I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.

I write to you, children,
because you know the Father.

¹⁴ I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,
and the word of God abides in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

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

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
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

Chorus

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 x 2



THE LORD CLEANSSES US

† Confession of Sin

Almighty God, who is rich in mercy to all those who call upon you,
Hear us as we come to you humbly confessing our sins;
And imploring your mercy and forgiveness.
We have broken your holy laws by our deeds and by our words;
And by the sinful affections of our hearts.
We confess before you our disobedience and ingratitude,
Our pride and willfulness;
And all our failures and shortcomings toward you and toward fellow men.
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
And of your great goodness grant that we may hereafter
serve and please you in newness of life;
Through the merit and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

Micah 7:18-19 (ESV)

*Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.*

**He has had compassion on us;
he has tread our iniquities underfoot.
You have cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.**

***Prayer of Petition**

Leader: Lord, in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: And now let us offer the prayer that our Lord has taught us:

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, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

Children's Homily

Dismissal to Little Sprouts. (Available for kids 3-PreK, to be picked up at the beginning of the Lord's Supper. Drop-off and pick-up are as you exit the sanctuary.)



THE LORD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

**Scripture Reading*

Ecclesiastes 4.4-16

Pastor: This is the word of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Jim Powell

“Something BETTER than better.”



THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Jesus Christ himself invites all true believers to his table. If you are a baptized Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, and a faithful member or adherent of this or some other congregation, recognizing its belonging to the fellowship of Christian believers, please know how welcome you are to eat this gracious meal with us. By taking the bread and the wine, you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in God's sovereign mercy, and that you are trusting in Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any questions about your participation in the Lord's Supper, please speak to one of our elders.

“Behold Our God”

Baird, Altrogge (2011)

Who has held the oceans in His hands
Who has numbered every grain of sand
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

*Behold our God seated on His throne
Come let us adore Him
Behold our King nothing can compare
Come let us adore Him*

Who has given counsel to the Lord
Who can question any of His words
Who can teach the One who knows all things
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

Chorus

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus Savior risen now to reign

Chorus (x2)

***We Confess Our Faith**

from Romans 8:31-39, except v. 36

Leader: What then shall we say to any and every enemy of our salvation?

All: If God be for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Leader: Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?

All: It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword.

All: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For we are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our LORD.

Collection of Offerings

Leader: What gifts do you offer to your Lord in response to His grace?

**People: We offer ourselves through praise and thanksgiving,
We offer our prayers and offerings for the sake of the world.**

"Romans 11"

Andrew Peterson (2014)

Oh the depth of the riches and the wisdom and knowledge of God
How unsearchable His judgments, how untraceable His paths
Who knows the mind of our God? Who could bring counsel to Him?
Who has given to God that God should repay?
For from Him through Him to Him is everything

*To God be the glory forever and ever
To God be the glory forever a men*

***Hymn of Response**
"Take My Life And Let It Be"

Frances Ridley Havergal (1874)

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be, swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my silver and my gold not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use every power as Thou shalt choose,
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine it shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart it is Thine own, it shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store;
Take my self and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.
Ever, only, all for Thee.



THE LORD BLESSES AND COMMISSIONS US

***Benediction**

** all who are able, please stand*

† all who are able, please kneel

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

Luke 24.44-47

So we persevere, with eyes on the glory that is coming, knowing that perseverance doesn't keep us but that we are kept by our Savior's power.

On those days when sin haunts us, when our kids resist us, when our marriages seem cold, when we feel like aliens at our university, when we are sick and physically weak, when our job is a daily burden and our church disappoints us, we stand firm, not because life is easy but because our future glory is secure. We keep doing those things that our Lord has called for us to do, remembering that they are his means of drawing us close and keeping us safe. We face each day knowing that even though right now things seem secure, one thing is absolutely secure: “We shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:2)

Paul David Tripp, *Do You Believe? (On Perseverance and Glorification)*

Pastor Jim Powell, Preaching & Leadership | Pastor Bill Leuzinger, Counseling & Care
Pastor AJ Babel, Discipleship & Community | Pastoral Intern Troy Cash, Liturgy & Music
Pastoral Intern JT Reagor, Students & Young Adults

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UPCOMING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BEGINNING AUG 16, 1st Service Starts at 8:30am | We are thankful to have 2 full worship services each week, as well as plenty of opportunities for conversation and classes between the services. To give more time for our classes and to help Sunday mornings be less rushed, we are moving the 1st service 15 minutes earlier, to start at 8:30.

BEGINNING AUG 16, 10-10:50, KIDS AND YOUTH CLASSES LAUNCH | Our 2026-2027 classes will kick off Sunday August 16! **All classes are served by multiple adults and meet between worship services (including High School).**

K-1st, with Elaine DeVusser
2nd-3rd, with Arika Smith & Peter Gaultney
4th-5th, with Josh Beatty & Caleb Osborne
6th-8th, with Matt & Kelly Russell, Bill & Susan Kowalski, Hayley Joyner, Daniel Milligan
9th-12th, with JT & Mackenzie Reagor, Rex & Lina Hardy

FRI, AUG 21, 1:00-2:30PM | ETSU PRAYER WALK: All are welcome to join as we pray on campus for the students of ETSU. We will meet in the lot next to the parking garage.



THUR, AUG 27, 5:30PM | CAMPUS HOUSE: Campus House is a ministry to ETSU students. We provide dinner for their gathering, 'Thursday Night Live'. We need volunteers to bring food and/or hang out with students. Please contact John or Emily Barrett (barrettemily25@gmail.com, 423-741-9698) if you have any questions.

FRI, AUG 28, 6-9PM | MEN'S HANGOUT @ CHRIS GABLER'S: Men, young men, and boys- join us for burgers, hot dogs, and outdoor games! RSVP so we know how much meat to buy, and bring a side to share and a camp chair. RSVP by Monday 8/24.



SUN, AUG 29, 6PM ARTIST'S COLLECTIVE: Artists (musicians, painters, photographers, poets, writers)!!! Join us on Sunday, August 29 at 6pm to recast a vision for this ministry at CCC! We will discuss a "commissioning" for you to create and share art that is connected to Ecclesiastes, and further discuss a ministry that will support one another as artists- for the glory of God, the good of his Church, and the redemption of all things!

SUN, AUG 30, BETWEEN SERVICES, 3RD FL | VISITOR'S MINGLE: Visitors and new attendees, this is a great opportunity to learn more about community groups, kids & youth programs, & how to get involved at CCC. Light refreshments will be served.



SAT, SEPT 19, 7 P.M. | DAVID NEVUE IN CONCERT @ CCC: We are thrilled to host a concert featuring the piano performance and storytelling abilities of our very own CCC member (and Billboard charting artist), David Nevue! Bring your friends and family and enjoy an evening that will inspire and encourage you. Use QR to access tickets. Childcare (10 and under) will be provided for children of CCC members only at no cost.

SCHEDULE

EACH LORD'S DAY

8:45-10:00, 1st Worship Service
10:10-10:50, Classes & Fellowship
11-12:15, 2nd Worship Service

Adult Classes

Fullbright Community Group: 2nd Floor, 10:10-10:50
Basic Biblical Greek: 3rd Floor, 10:10-10:50

Children's Classes, 10:10-10:50

Elementary (K-5th): On Summer Break

Youth Classes

Middle School (6th-8th): On Summer Break
High School (9th-12th): On Summer Break



FAMILIES AND CHILDREN:

We are thankful to be an intergenerational congregation that prioritizes family worship. We love little ones in our gathered worship learning the rhythm of corporate worship.

FRONT ROOM & 2ND FLOOR LARGE CLASSROOM: A live stream of the service is available in the front room & on the second floor in the large classroom.

NURSERY: On 2nd floor for children under 3, for the duration of the worship services.

LITTLE SPROUTS (3-PREK): On 2nd floor, during the sermon with age-appropriate teaching. Check your child in/out of class in the front room (after children's homily & before Communion).

COMMUNING MEMBERSHIP: If you or your child is ready to profess faith in Christ and partake of the Lord's Supper, please contact Pastor AJ (or any elder), so we can arrange a time to talk.

MEN

WEDNESDAYS @ 8AM | MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Scriptural study for the upcoming sermon on the CCC 2nd floor. Bring your Bible and coffee, and contact Paul Gorman (423-483-8782) if planning to attend for the first time, as the location can change.

WOMEN

Ladies, we look forward to finalizing details and sharing our Fall Bible Study options in the coming weeks! As we close out Summer and the school year begins, we hope you can make use of these opportunities to gather and connect with one another!

- **FRIDAY, AUG 21, 7PM | GIRLS NIGHT** @ the Hungerford Home (2826 Woodhill Rd, JC). Bring a snack and your suit! RSVP to shannon@christcommunityjc.com
- **SATURDAY, AUG 22, 9:30AM | MIX & MINGLE:** Bring a brunchy something to share, and we will get to know one another a little better! RSVP to patriciajansen19@yahoo.com
- **OCT 16-17 | SAVE THE DATE** for our Fall Gathering @ the Chruch!

⁴ Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work come from a man's envy of his neighbor. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

⁵ The fool folds his hands and eats his own flesh.

⁶ Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind.

⁷ Again, I saw vanity under the sun: ⁸ one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, "For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy business.

⁹ Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. ¹⁰ For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! ¹¹ Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? ¹² And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

¹³ Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice. ¹⁴ For he went from prison to the throne, though in his own kingdom he had been born poor. ¹⁵ I saw all the living who move about under the sun, along with that youth who was to stand in the king's place.

¹⁶ There was no end of all the people, all of whom he led. Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and a striving after wind.
(ESV)

Something BETTER than better.

Enviousness or Idleness.

Something better.

Isolated and Unsatisfied.

Something better.

Favor and forgetfulness.

Something better.

Better than better.