



What do we do with a Judging God?
November 17, 2024
Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Trinitytide



MEDITATION

O Lord, you are not only that than which nothing greater can be conceived, but you are greater than all that can be conceived.

- Anselm

What is Christianity? Unembarrassed supernaturalism.

- B. B. Warfield

When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.

- G. K. Chesterton

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers and hymns. Set in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), a schedule of daily Bible readings in accord with the Church year, these scripture readings are designed around a three-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently.

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, November 18th	Psalm 3	1 Samuel 3:19-4:2	Hebrews 10:26-31
Tuesday the 19th	Psalm 3	Deuteronomy 26:5-10	Hebrews 10:32-39
Wednesday the 20th	Psalm 3	1 Kings 8:22-30	Mark 13:9-23
Thursday the 21st	Psalm 132:1-12	2 Kings 22:1-10	Acts 7:54-8:1a
Friday the 22nd	Psalm 132:1-12	2 Kings 22:11-20	1 Corinthians 15:20-28
Saturday the 23rd	Psalm 132:1-12	2 Kings 23:1-14	John 3:31-36

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WELCOME

Second City Church is a community that exists to worship the Triune God and to celebrate, in word and deed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Harrisburg.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We are glad you are here with us. We know that church can be hard to attend, sometimes because it is intimidating, sometimes because the week just seems to have been too hard, sometimes because the doubts seem too big. But Jesus rose from the dead and he has you here this morning, and for this we rejoice! We hope this guide will help you participate in our service. If you have any questions about our worship, faith, or how you can be a part of our mission to serve God and neighbor in Harrisburg, be sure to talk to our pastor.

For Parents:

Children of all ages are welcome to remain with us as we worship. We like the noise; it helps us remember we are alive. The following services are available for you and your children to get the most out of your time of worship:

Infant & Toddler Care

Infant and toddler care is available on the first floor of the east wing of our building. Ask one of our greeters if you need help locating this room. Nursery staff are well-trained, have required background checks, and maintain a safe environment for your child(ren).

Children & Worship

Children & Worship is for children ages preschool through 2nd grade and meets in a worship space below the sanctuary during the sermon. They are dismissed during the announcements and return during the offertory.

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY + LENT + EASTER + PENTECOST + TRINITY

Pentecost Season, sometimes called Trinity Season, the Time of the Church, or Ordinary Time, is the long season that follows Pentecost and lasts until the beginning of Advent. During this season we celebrate the Holy Spirit, the mission of the Church, and the growth of the church through the Spirit. The symbols of the season are any Trinity symbol, images of the Apostles or Saints, symbols of the church, or symbols of Christ. The liturgical color for the season is green, the color of growth and new life.

Please note that our services are live-streamed.



LITURGY OF PREPARATION

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

**Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!**

Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

**Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

**O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

Psalm 105:1-6

Gathering Hymn - For The Beauty of The Earth

For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies

Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise
Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise

Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise
Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise

For the joy of human love
Brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth and friends above
For all gentle thoughts and mild

For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night
Hill and vale, and tree and flower
Sun and moon, and stars of light

Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise
Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise

For the church, that evermore

Lifteth holy hands above
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love

Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise
Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise

For Thyself, best Gift Divine
To our race so freely given
For that great, great love of Thine
Peace on earth and joy in Heaven

Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise
Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise

Confession Hymn - Lord, Have Mercy

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one flat) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Lord have mer-cy, Christ have mer-cy, Lord have mer-cy, on my soul." The first staff contains the first four measures, and the second staff contains the remaining four measures, starting with a measure rest (5).

Lord have mer-cy, Christ have mer-cy,
5 Lord have mer-cy, on my soul.

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness & Peace

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should
²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he
did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting
himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that
we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 2:22-24

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

[Invitation for congregation to share a sign of peace with one another]

Hymns of Praise and Adoration

God Is So Good

God is so good
God is so good
God is so good
He's so good to me

He answers prayers
He answers prayers
He answers prayers
He's so good to me

Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah
He's so good to me

God is so good
God is so good
God is so good
He's so good to me

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us
And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son
[Repeat]

And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us
And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us
Give thanks
Give thanks



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Living Our Faith

Blessing our Children

Jesus called the children to him and said,

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,

for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

November Memory Verse

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33

Psalm Reading

Psalm 7:6-11; page 530

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 6:1-13, 7:17-24; pages 5 and 7

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

2 Peter 2:4-10; page 1208

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:
Glory to you, O Lord!

Matthew 24:37-39; page 986

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Pastor Peter Rowan - *What do we do with a Judging God?*

Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended to heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will 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 life everlasting. Amen.**

- *The Apostles' Creed*

Offering of Prayers of the People

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

(A time of open prayer)

○ Lord, show your mercy upon us;

And grant us your salvation.

○ Lord, guide those who govern us;

And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

And let your people sing with joy.

○ Lord, save your people;

And bless your inheritance.

Give peace in our time, ○ Lord;

And defend us by your mighty power.

Let not the needy, ○ Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, ○ God;

And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Amen.

Offering of Gifts

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

Friends and members of Second City Church support the extension of God's Kingdom with gifts of bread, wine, talents and resources. Guests are not expected to contribute. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plates, boxes on the wall as you leave, or can be made electronically. Instructions for setting up online giving are available at the donation boxes.



Doxology

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



LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Invitation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Praise God for His Mighty Acts

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

*Holy most holy Lord
Lord God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled, filled with your Holy light
Oh blessed is the one, the one who comes
Comes in the name of God
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest*

Praise for Christ's Sacrifice

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament, singing:

***Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life,
come, Lord Jesus, come, in glory.***

Calling on the Holy Spirit and Lord's Prayer

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come; thy 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 thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Christ our passover lamb was sacrificed for us once for all upon the cross.

Therefore let us keep the feast!

Sharing Holy Communion

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

- *Number 6:24-26*

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn - Lord, I Need You

Lord I come, I confess
Bowing here, I find my rest
Without You, I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are, Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

Dismissal

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!



ATTRIBUTIONS

For the Beauty of the Earth

Words by Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1864)

Music by Conrad Kocher (1838)

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie Eleison

Give Thanks

Words and Music by Henry Smith

© 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

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God Is So Good

Words by Stuart Townend

Music ©Thankyou Music

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Holy, Most Holy Lord

Paraphraser (into English): Greg Scheer

Tune: SANNANINA

God Rescues Noah From The Storm

Flo Paris, Sally Lloyd-Jones

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Lord I Need You

Words and Music by Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson,
Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, and Matt Maher

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving Gathering Tonight at 5 pm in the Social Hall

We will gather together for our annual Thanksgiving meal and service. Please bring a side dish or salad to share, along with your favorite Thanksgiving dessert! We will continue our tradition from the prior years: a competition for the best dessert. Let's see who will take home the honors this year!

Operation Christmas Child Deadline Tonight

If you've taken a box to fill with gifts for a child in need, please return it no later than tonight's Thanksgiving dinner. Return your box to the church, under the table outside the Social Hall. Please contact Hannah Hollander with any questions about this program.



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Memorial Service for Barb Koller Friday, December 6

We grieve the loss of Barb Koller, our sister in Christ who died earlier this month. A memorial service has been scheduled for 11 am on December 6 at the church.

There will be a light lunch after the memorial service. Contact Dot Fisher at daf2nd@msn.com if you'd like to help set up before lunch or clean up afterwards.

Christmas Choir

Interested in singing in a choir at Second City? We are looking for any vocalists with some prior choir experience to join! Please reach out to Jess Reapsome (jess@secondcitychurch.org) and Greysen Kemper (greysenkemper@gmail.com).

Ongoing Practices for Second City Children's Christmas Program

Practices for the children's Christmas program are happening every Sunday at 9 am.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following people:

Family and friends of Barb Koller
Darwin Leshner
Gail Pennay
Virginia Anderson

Sophia James, USAF
Dottie Roden
Nevin White

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please consider liking, following and subscribing to our social media! Also, when you see, read or watch something you like, share it with your friends. It's a helpful way to let others know we are here!

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



Your contact information

If you are our guest and would like to indicate your presence with us, or if you'd like to make us aware of a change in your contact information, fill out this form and place it in the offering plate.

_____ Visitor
_____ Regular Attendee
_____ Member

Name(s):

Address (please include city and zip):

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Prayer

Requests: _____

Contact us

(717) 232-0604
251 Verbeke St.
Harrisburg, PA 17102
www.seconddcitychurch.org

Office hours:

Tues. & Thurs., 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Pastor

Peter Rowan
peter@seconddcitychurch.org

Music Coordinator

Jess Reapsome
jess@seconddcitychurch.org

Children's Ministry Director

Hannah Hollander
hannah@seconddcitychurch.org

Administrator

Sylvia Olimpi
office@seconddcitychurch.org

Elders

Dan James
Jonathan Hendrickson (Clerk)
Dave Tanis
Bruce Weatherly