



*Reconciled Ministers of Reconciliation*  
October 5, 2025  
*Seventeenth Sunday of Trinitytide*



# MEDITATION

God's design for human flourishing cannot be satisfied in isolation. In a broken, fragmented world, the church is called to be the firstfruits of a new creation by embodying a reconciled community.

-James K.A. Smith, *Desiring the Kingdom*

Jesus is a reconciler of people, not a divider. He wants to bring people together, not finalize separations.

- Kenneth Bailey

He that cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself: for every man has need to be forgiven.

- Thomas Fuller

The Church should be the society of the forgiven and the forgiving.

-William Spencer

We sometimes sing that hymn, "There is a Green Hill Far Away." It has the line, "He died that we might be forgiven." Amen! That's true. But it's also true that he died that we might be forgivers—forgivers of one another. And that kind of willingness to forgive others is itself a fruit of patience, this tough but tender fruit of the Spirit.

- Christopher Wright, *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, October 6th	Psalm 137	Lamentations 1:16-22	James 1:2-11
Tuesday the 7th	Psalm 137	Lamentations 2:13-22	1 John 5:1-5, 13-21
Wednesday the 8th	Psalm 137	Lamentations 5:1-22	Mark 11:12-14, 20-24
Thursday the 9th	Psalm 66:1-12	Jeremiah 25:1-14	2 Timothy 1:13-18
Friday the 10th	Psalm 66:1-12	Jeremiah 27:1-22	2 Timothy 2:1-7
Saturday the 11th	Psalm 66:1-12	Jeremiah 28:1-17	Luke 5:12-16

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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 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).

Pentecost Season, sometimes called Trinity Season, the Time of the Church, or Ordinary Time, is the long season that follows Pentecost until the end of the church year and the beginning of Advent. During this season we celebrate the Holy Spirit, the mission of the Church, and the growth that the church experiences guided by 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, symbolizing the new growth of the Church that the Spirit brings.

*Please note that our services are live-streamed.*



## LITURGY OF PREPARATION

### Words of Welcome

### Call to Worship

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

**His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

The Lord has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.**

All the ends of the earth have seen

the salvation of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

- Psalm Psalm 98:1-4

### Gathering Hymn -His Mercy Is More

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

*Refrain:*

*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

*[Refrain]*

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

*[Refrain]*

## **Confession Hymn - We Cry Mercy**

Leader: Lord have mercy  
**People: Lord have mercy**

Leader: Christ have mercy  
**People: Christ have mercy**

**Together: O Lord have mercy on us**  
[Repeat]

## **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**Gracious God, we know that You have forgiven us in Jesus Christ, but we often remain slow to forgive one other. You have sent Your Spirit to reconcile us to each other, but we resist Your work to bind us together. Fill us with gratitude for the grace of being in forgiven-fellowship with You. Change our hearts, making us ever more ready to extend peace. All this we pray through Jesus, the One who came from heaven to earth to reconcile us back to God, Amen.**

## **Words of Forgiveness & Peace**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

*2 Corinthians 5:17-19*

In Christ Jesus 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

## ***Come Ye Sinners***

Come ye sinners poor and needy  
weak and wounded sick and sore  
Jesus ready stands to save you  
full of pity love and pow'r

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome  
God's free bounty glorify  
True belief and true repentance  
Every grace that brings you nigh

I will arise and go to Jesus  
He will embrace me in His arms  
In the arms of my dear Savior  
Oh, there are ten thousand charms

Let not conscience make you linger  
Nor of fitness fondly dream  
All the fitness he requireth  
Is to feel your need of him

I will arise and go to Jesus  
He will embrace me in His arms  
In the arms of my dear Savior  
Oh, there are ten thousand charms

Come, ye weary, heavy laden  
Lost and ruined by the fall  
If you tarry till you're better  
You will never come at all

I will arise and go to Jesus  
He will embrace me in His arms  
In the arms of my dear Savior  
Oh, there are ten thousand charms

## ***Just As I Am***

Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark blot  
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt  
Fightings and fears within, without  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve  
Because Thy promise I believe  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come



## 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.**

*October Memory Verse*

For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.

*2 Corinthians 1:5*

### **Psalm Reading**

*Psalm 37:3-9, 39-40; page 550*

### **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**

*Isaiah 43:18-21; page 717*

The Word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Reading**

*2 Corinthians 5:11-21; page 1147*

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 5:2-12; page 962*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Sermon

Pastor Peter Rowan - *Reconciled Ministers of Reconciliation*

## 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

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*(A time of open prayer)*

O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

**And grant us your salvation.**

O 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.**

O Lord, save your people;

**And bless your inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord;

**And defend us by your mighty power.**

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**And take not your Holy Spirit from us.**

**Amen.**

## **Offering of Gifts**

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.<sup>8</sup> And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

*2 Corinthians 9:7-8*

*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 boxes on the wall as you leave, or can be made electronically on our website or by the QR code to the right.*



## **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. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. 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, holy holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory, Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is the one who comes, in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

#### **Praise for Christ's Sacrifice**

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

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## **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**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him by faith, with thanksgiving.

## **Sharing Holy Communion**

## **Closing Prayer**

**Set us free, loving Father, from the bondage of our sins, and in your goodness and mercy give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Benediction**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*- 2 Corinthians 13:14*

## **Closing Hymn - Bind Us Together**

Bind us together within your love  
Bind us together within your holy love  
As we shared in our sorrows, we will share in your joy  
Bind us together in love

Bind us together and be our peace  
Bind us together and be our perfect peace  
Though the tempest may rage, we will rest in your joy  
Bind us together in peace

Bind us together and give us hope  
Bind us together and give us endless hope  
Though our tears were our bread, we will feast in your joy  
Bind us together in hope

Bind us together and make us one  
Bind us together and make us truly one  
In your love, in your peace, in your hope, in your joy  
Bind us together as one

In your love, in your peace, in your hope, in your joy  
Bind us together as one

## **Dismissal**

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Details for Shaffer Retreat Campout, Worship Service and Picnic Saturday evening, October 11, 4 PM camp out:**

• Bring your own camping gear, tent, sleeping bag and food for Saturday evening and breakfast Sunday morning.

### **Sunday morning worship and picnic October 12:**

- \*Worship at 10 AM at Shaffer retreat. Please bring your own lawn chairs and blankets, and a friend or two.
- Coffee and donuts will be available before the service.
- A picnic will follow the worship service. The church will provide the main dish, sides, drinks, paper products and plasticware.
- Bring a fall dessert to share.

\* There will not be a worship service at the church building on Verbeke Street on October 12. Worship will be held at Shaffer Retreat. There will also not be an online service that day.

### **Directions to Shaffer Retreat, 2011 Fishing Creek Valley Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112:**

From the church parking lot:

- Take a left out of the church parking lot onto Verbeke St.
- Turn right onto 2nd Street
- Turn left at Division Street onto N. Front Street
- Follow North Front Street just past Fort Hunter park
- Turn right onto Fishing Creek Valley Road
- Shaffer Retreat is on the right in 3.9 miles. There will be a marker to let you know you are there.

### **Senior Saints Lunch**

If you are a senior saint, please come join us for lunch, a devotional and a time of hymn singing here at the church on Wednesday, October 8th from 11:30-1. Please bring \$10 to contribute to a soup and sandwich lunch.

### **Altar Flowers**

Today's altar flowers are presented by Virginia Anderson in honor of J. Nevin White, as he celebrates his 100th birthday today.

### **Concert in West Chester October 25**

Sandra McCracken is playing with Jon Guerra at Westminster Presbyterian Church in West Chester on Saturday, October 25 from 7-9 pm. Some women from the church are planning to go to the concert. If you would like more info, contact Tricia Tanis at 717-329-6328.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to  
pray for the following people:

Dottie Roden  
Darwin Leshner  
Virginia Anderson  
Elizabeth James

Nevin White  
Sophia James, USAF  
Eleanor Orner  
Christine Zubrod Perrin  
Jon Yawger

## 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



## ATTRIBUTIONS

### **His Mercy Is More**

Words and music by Matt Boswell & Matt Papa  
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Messenger Hymns (admin. Music Service, Inc.)  
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### **We Cry Mercy (Kyrie)**

Words and Music by Gregory W. LaFollette  
© 2018 Late Model Leadfoot Music  
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### **Come Ye Sinners**

Words by J. Hart (1759)  
Tune: RESTORATION

### **Just As I Am**

Words by Charlotte Elliot, (1836)  
Music by William Batchelder Bradbury (1849)

### **Sanctus**

Words from the Liturgy  
Music: American folk melody

### **Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted**

Words by Joseph Swain (alt. Twit)  
Music: by Kevin Twit ©2013 Kevin Twit Music  
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### **Bind Us Together**

Words and Music by Isaac Wardell, Kate Bluett,  
Paul Zach, Nick Chambers, and Leslie Jordan  
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**Cover Image:** Roger Kemp, *Ascension*, 1960.

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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