



Comfort in Affliction
August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday of Trinitytide



MEDITATION

Conflicts may be the sources of defeat, lost life and a limitation of our potentiality but they may also lead to a greater depth of living and the birth of more far-reaching unities, which flourish in the tensions that engender them.

-Karl Jaspers

If you look for truth, you may find comfort in the end; if you look for comfort you will not get either comfort or truth only soft soap and wishful thinking to begin, and in the end, despair.

- C. S. Lewis

There's been a quantum leap technologically in our age, but unless there's another quantum leap in human relations, unless we learn to live in a new way towards one another, there will be a catastrophe.

- Albert Einstein

The point is not that this world is too sad to love or too glad not to love; the point is that when you do love a thing, its gladness is a reason for loving it, and its sadness a reason for loving it more.

-G. K. Chesterton

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, September 1st	Psalm 58	Jeremiah 2:23-37	Hebrews 13:7-21
Tuesday the 2nd	Psalm 58	Jeremiah 3:1-14	Titus 1:1-9
Wednesday the 3rd	Psalm 58	Jeremiah 3:15-25	Luke 14:15-24
Thursday the 4th	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	Jeremiah 15:10-21	Philippians 2:25-30
Friday the 5th	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	Jeremiah 16:14-17:4	Colossians 4:7-17
Saturday the 6th	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	Jeremiah 17:14-27	Matthew 10:34-42

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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

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,
who comforts us in all our troubles,
so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

Gathering Hymn - He Is Exalted

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high
I will praise Him
He is exalted forever exalted, and I will praise His name

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign
Heaven and earth, rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high
I will praise Him
He is exalted forever exalted, and I will praise His name

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign
Heaven and earth, rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

Confession Hymn - We Cry Mercy (Kyrie)

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.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness & Peace

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:11

Passing of the Peace

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

Hymns of Praise and Adoration

Leaning On The Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the Everlasting Arms

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
O how bright the path grows from day to day
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the Everlasting Arms

What have I to dread, what have I to fear
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me



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.

September Memory Verse

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Psalm Reading

Psalm 119:49-56; page 608

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

Jeremiah 6:14; page 753

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 1; page 1131

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 5:1-11; page 962

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

Sermon

Pastor Peter Rowan - *Comfort in Affliction*

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

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.



Almighty God, You have enriched Your Church with the proclamation of the Gospel. Grant that we may firmly believe these glad tidings and daily walk according to Your Word.
Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, Your Son proclaimed, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." Enable us by Your Spirit to turn from the rival kingdoms of this world to follow Jesus as the true King.

Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of love, teach us to look, live and love more like Jesus. Daily dying to self and living for You, may our lives be conformed to the image of Your Son, our servant King. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, guide us to make manifest the love and strength of Christ to our troubled and fearful world. Deliver us from disease and everything else that would threaten our homes and families. Protect the police, firefighters, disaster-relief workers and medical personnel who attend to us, as well as the places where we live and work. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, give Your aid and relief to all who suffer want or need, to the sick in their afflictions, to those troubled in mind, and to those to whom death draws near. Heal and sustain them according to Your gracious will, and preserve them in faith to eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray?

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Offering of Gifts

Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

Proverbs 11:25

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is your living Word from before time and for all ages; by him you created all things, and by him you make all things new. 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 God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Holy God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who willed that your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and thereby remove from us the power of the adversary, help us to remember and give thanks always for our Lord's Passion that we may abide in the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation that flows to us from his pierced side. We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the passion and death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we receive Your pardon and the gift of Your comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

Closing Hymn - Joy of Jesus

May the grace of my God be with you
May the grace of my God be with you
May you know the grace of my God
And may the grace of my God be with you

May the love of my Lord be with you
May the love of my Lord be with you
And may you know the love of my Lord
And may the love of my Lord be with you

And may you dance and laugh and sing
May you know the warmth of His embrace
May you feel the brush of angel wings
Like the wind upon your face

May the joy of Jesus be with you
May the joy of Jesus be with you
May you know the joy of Jesus
And may the joy of Jesus be with you

May the joy of Jesus be with you
May the joy of Jesus be with you
May you know the joy of Jesus
And may the joy of Jesus be with you

Dismissal

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!



ATTRIBUTIONS

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Leaning On the Everlasting Arms

Words by Elisha A. Hoffman (1887)
Music by Anthony J. Showalter (1887)

Yet Not I But Christ Through Me

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Man (At Eternity's Gate)*, 1890

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Sunday School Starting September 7

Sunday school for the four weeks of September will start September 7. There will also be four weeks of Sunday school during the month of November. Classes will be broken into the following age groups:

Age 3 - 1st grade
2nd - 4th grade
5th - 8th grade

Classes will take place in the Logos wing of the church building. Exact locations for each group will be provided.

Final Second Sunday Picnic at Negley Park September 14

Don't miss our last picnic of the summer on Sunday, September 14! We will meet at the upper pavilion of Negley Park, located at 418 Cumberland Road in Lemoyne.



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Intro to Second City

If you are interested in joining the church or simply learning more about SCC, please join Pastor Peter for an Intro to Second City class on September 16th from 8:30-12. Please contact Pastor Peter for more information.

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, September 10th from 11:30-1. Please bring \$10 to contribute to a soup and sandwich lunch.

Want to Share Your Pictures with Us?

If you have pictures of the canoe float, recent picnics, or other church activities, feel free to share them with the Communications Team. The team may use them on our website or other online resources to keep our digital presence current. You can send pictures by email to Tim Cope or the church office at tech@secondcitychurch.org or office@secondcitychurch.org.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue
to pray for the following people:

Dottie Roden
Darwin Leshar
Virginia Anderson

Nevin White
Sophia James, USAF
Eleanor Orner
Christine Zubrod Perrin

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

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