



The Jurisdiction of God
August 30, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday of Trinitytide



MEDITATION

[I]f God were not angry at injustice and deception and did not make the final end to violence God would not be worthy of our worship. Here, however, I am less interested in arguing that God's violence is not unworthy of God than in showing that it is beneficial to us. . . . [I]n a world of violence we are faced with an inescapable alternative: either God's violence or human violence. Most people who insist on God's "nonviolence" cannot resist using violence themselves (or tacitly sanctioning its use by others). They deem the talk of God's judgment irreverent, but think nothing of entrusting judgment into human hands, persuaded presumably that this is less dangerous and more humane than to believe in a God who judges! That we should bring "down the powerful from their thrones" (Luke 1:51-52) seems responsible; that God should do the same, as the song of that revolutionary Virgin explicitly states, seems crude. And so violence thrives, secretly nourished by belief in a God who refuses to wield the sword. . . . My thesis that the practice of nonviolence requires a belief in divine vengeance will be unpopular with many Christians . . . in the West. . . . [But] it takes the quiet of a suburban home for the birth of the thesis that human nonviolence corresponds to God's refusal to judge. In a scorched land, soaked in the blood of the innocent, it will invariably die.

-Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace*

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, August 31st	Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18	Exodus 4:10-31	Revelation 3:1-6
Tuesday, September 1st	Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18	Exodus 5:1-6:13	Revelation 3:7-13
Wednesday the 2nd	Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18	Exodus 7:14-25	Matthew 12:22-32
Thursday the 3rd	Psalm 149	Exodus 9:1-7	2 Corinthians 12:11-21
Friday the 4th	Psalm 149	Exodus 10:21-29	Romans 10:15b-21
Saturday the 5th	Psalm 149	Exodus 11:1-10	Matthew 23:29-36

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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 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

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

**My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

Psalm 84:1-4

Gathering Hymn -Only A Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendor outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him, The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy, Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

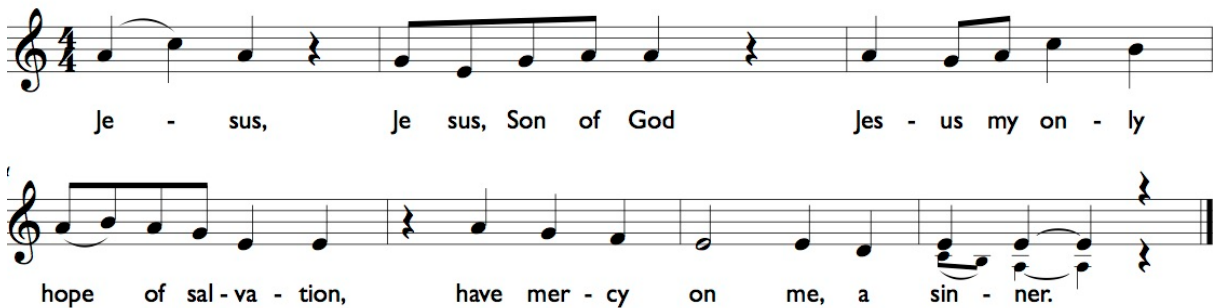
What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him
Come and behold Him, The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy, Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God

Come and behold Him, The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy, Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Confession Hymn - Jesus My Only Hope



Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

O Lord you made the heavens and the earth with all their vast array. All things quake with fear at your presence; they tremble because of your power. But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; it surpasses all that our minds can fathom. O Lord, you are full of compassion, long-suffering, and abounding in mercy. You hold back your hand; you do not punish as we deserve. In your great goodness, Lord, you have promised forgiveness to sinners, that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I know my wickedness only too well. Therefore I make this prayer to you: Forgive me, Lord, forgive me. Do not let me perish in my sin, nor condemn me to the depths of the earth. For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, and in me you will show forth your goodness. Unworthy as I am, you will save me, in accordance with your great mercy, and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life. For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness & Peace

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:1-2

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

Holy God We Praise Thy Name

Holy God we praise Thy name
Lord of all we bow before Thee
All on earth Thy scepter claim
All in heaven above adore Thee
Infinite Thy vast domain
Everlasting is Thy reign

Hark the loud celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising
Cherubim and Seraphim
In unceasing chorus praising

Fill the heavens with sweet accord
Holy holy holy Lord

Holy Father Holy Son
Holy Spirit Three we name Thee
While in essence only One
Undivided God we claim Thee
And adoring bend the knee
While we own the mystery

Yet Not I But Through Christ Is 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 Savior 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.

August Memory Verse

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

John 6:29

Psalm Reading

Psalm 82; page 582

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

Ecclesiastes 5:8-9; page 659

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 6:10-13; page 1163

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

Glory to you, O Lord!

John 10:31-36; page 1066

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Pastor Peter Rowan - *The Jurisdiction of God*

Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the Church using the Maasai Creed:

We believe in the one High God, who out of love created the beautiful world and everything good in it.

God created humankind and wanted us to be happy in the world.

God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the earth.

We have known this High God in the darkness, and now we know him in the light. God promised in the book of his word, the Bible, that he would save the world and all nations and tribes.

We believe that God made good this promise by sending his son, Jesus Christ, a human in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and man, showing that the meaning of religion is love.

He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died. He was buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, he rose from that grave.

He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through him.

All who have faith in Jesus must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God,

live by the rules of love, and share the bread together in love, to announce the good news to others until Jesus comes again.

We are waiting for him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

Offering of Prayers of the People

Dear Lord, we pray for teachers, educators, and school administrators as they begin the new school year. Thank you for the men and women who have dedicated their careers to teaching and leading. We pray that the classroom and school buildings can be a place where love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control flourish.

Lord, we pray for students and learners. Give them minds that are eager to learn, courage to ask good questions, confidence to take risks, and the discipline to focus and study. We pray for quality friendships and safety in and out of the classroom. We pray for the kids who struggle with anxiety and fear; may they feel your perfect love surround them, and give them the courage to get through each day. We pray that learning is engaging, valuable, and exciting. Give students focus and direction as they prepare for what lies ahead.

Heavenly Father, we pray for parents and caregivers of the students. May they have clear minds to juggle busy schedules of work, home, and school. Release them from fear and anxiety as they send kids off to learn, and give them grace and wisdom. We pray a special blessing upon the parents and caregivers who have students with special needs; give them guidance as they advocate for their children. And we pray that homes are safe places of love and acceptance so that the children may know their worth and value given by you.

For what else shall we pray?

All of this we ask in the name of our Lord Jesus, Amen.

Offering of Gifts

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35



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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks, for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever.

Fountain of all life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day, and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise.

Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we glorify your name and lift our voices in joyful praise:

Sanctus

Holy, holy holy Lord

God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he 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

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

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 - Instrument of Peace

Lord make me, an instrument of peace
An instrument of peace
Lord make me, an instrument of peace
An instrument of peace

Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is darkness, let me sow light
For in the giving, we shall receive
And in the dying, we're given life

Lord make me, an instrument of peace
An instrument of peace
Lord make me, an instrument of peace
An instrument of peace

Where There is sorrow, let me sow hope
Where there is doubt, let me sow faith
Where there is injury, your pardon give
Your consolation, to Those in pain

Lord make me, an instrument of peace
An instrument of peace
Lord make me, an instrument of peace
An instrument of peace

A - men, a - men

Dismissal

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!



ATTRIBUTIONS

Illuminate The Shadows

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Only A Holy God

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Jesus, My Only Hope

Based on the Jesus Prayer
Words and Music by M. Monticchio

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Words by Ignaz Franz (1719-1790)
Translated by Clarence A. Walworth (1820-1900)
TUNE: GROSSER GOTT

Yet Not I But Christ Through Me

Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren,
Rich Thompson
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Sanctus

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Instrument of Peace

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O Lord, Thou Judge of All the Earth

Words and Music by Graham George (1941)
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Judge Me, God of My Salvation

Words: Psalm 43
Tune:

O Lord Most High, with All My Heart

Words: Psalm 9:1-11
Tune: ROCKINGHAM OLD

Cover Art: Solomon Raj, *Incarnation*, 1980.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nursery Volunteer Training

There will be a nursery training for all current and prospective nursery this Sunday, August 30th. The training will be held from 12:00-12:45 in the nursery and will focus on new policies and procedures, including a nursery curriculum! If you are interested in learning more about volunteering in the nursery or would like to volunteer and are unable to attend the training please email hannah@secondcitychurch.org.

Children's Sunday school

Children's Sunday School will be beginning again in September. Sunday School classes are from 9:00-10:00am for children 3yrs-8th grade. We will meet September 13, 20, 27, October 4, and November 1, 8, 15, and 22.



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Second Sunday Picnic!

Join us at the upper pavilion at Negley Park in Lemoyne immediately after church on Sunday September 13 for our Second Sunday Second City Picnics. These are a great way to connect with other and get to know new people in our church. SCC will provide hot dogs, chips, drinks and plates and utensils. Please plan to bring a side of a dessert to share.

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. Thanks!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for the following people:

Erica Bryce
Virginia Anderson
Darwin Leshner
Nathaniel & Sophia Dorris, USAF

Dottie Roden
Christine Zubrod Perrin
Elizabeth James
Jon Yawger
Greg Nies
Bruce & Donna Weatherly

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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