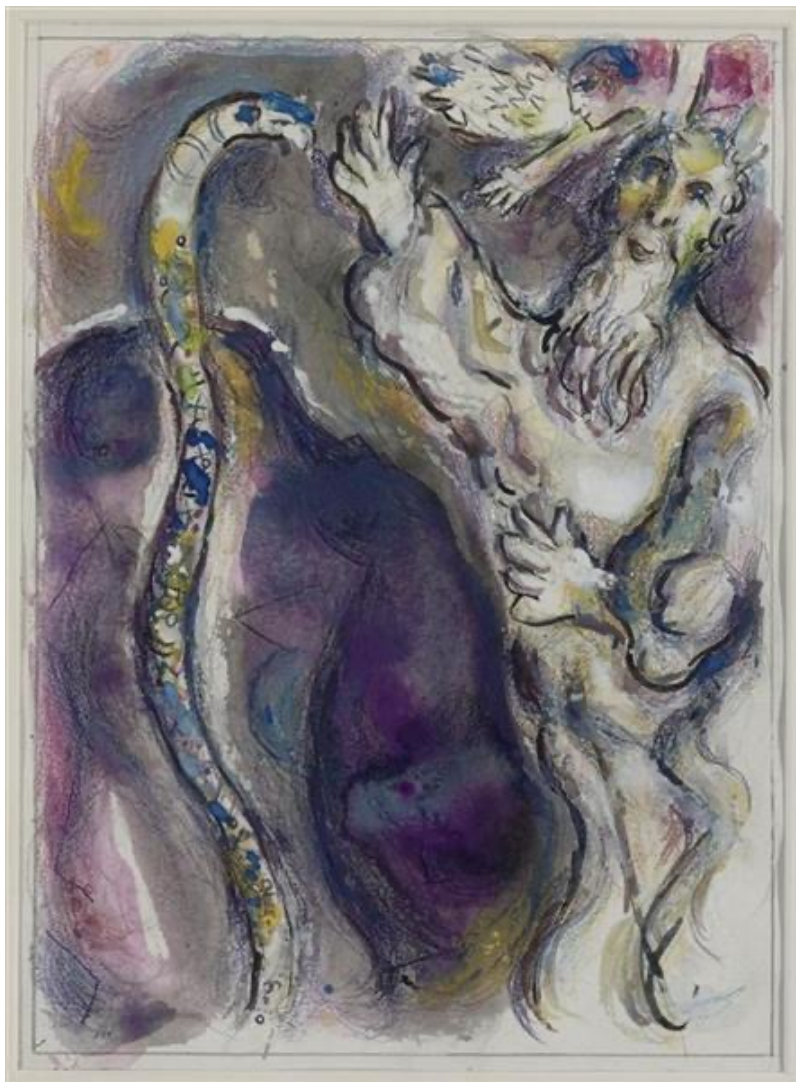




Judgement and the Battle of God
October 4, 2026
Nineteenth Sunday of Trinitytide



MEDITATION

Yet the most powerful and seductive images of God are not the ones we craft in the privacy of our hearts. They are the ones that seep into our minds as we watch TV, read books, go shopping at the mall, or socialize with our neighbors. Slowly and imperceptibly, the one true God begins acquiring the features of the gods of this world.

For instance, our God simply gratifies our desires rather than reshaping them in accordance with the beauty of God's own character. Our God then kills enemies rather than dying on their behalf as God did in Jesus Christ. To use Flaubert's metaphor, the dove of the Spirit becomes the parrot whose plumage bears a striking resemblance to our culture's values.

- Miroslav Volf

We have to be endlessly entertained and we have to have idols to fill the empty space from which the living God has been removed. In the end, the society we have is not a secular society but a pagan society in which men and women are giving their allegiance to no-gods.

- Lesslie Newbigin

No room remains empty for long. If God is driven out, the gods come trooping in.

-Lesslie Newbigin

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, October 5th	Psalm 119:49-56	Deuteronomy 5:1-21	1 Peter 2:4-10
Tuesday the 6th	Psalm 119:49-56	Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3	2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Wednesday the 7th	Psalm 119:49-56	Deuteronomy 6:10-25	John 11:45-57
Thursday the 8th	Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Exodus 24:1-8	1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14
Friday the 9th	Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Exodus 24:9-11	James 4:4-10
Saturday, November 10th	Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Exodus 24:12-18	Mark 2:18-22

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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

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

- Psalm 100

Gathering Hymn - O Worship The King

O worship the King all glorious above

And gratefully sing His power and His love

Our Shield and Defender the Ancient of Days

Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise

O tell of His might O sing of His grace

Whose robe is the light whose canopy space

His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form

And dark is His path on the wings of the storm

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite

It breathes in the air it shines in the light

It streams from the hills it descends to the plain

And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail

In Thee do we trust nor find Thee to fail
Thy mercies how tender how firm to the end
Our Maker Defender Redeemer and Friend

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

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not worshiped you as you deserve. We have turned from the living God and set our hearts upon other things.

We confess our idolatry: that we have loved, trusted, feared, and desired created things more than their Creator. We have made idols in our hearts, giving to people, possessions, success, security, pleasure, and ourselves the place that belongs to you alone.

We confess that we have fashioned gods according to our own desires rather than worshiping you as you have revealed yourself. We have sought a God we can control rather than submitting ourselves to the God who commands us.

Forgive us for trusting in ourselves, for seeking our own glory, and for giving to ourselves or to created things the praise that belongs to you alone.

Forgive us for exchanging your glory for the things you have made.

Turn our hearts again to you. Tear down the idols we have made, restore our worship, and teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness & Peace

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.
Psalm 32:5

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

Our Great God

Eternal God unchanging mysterious and unknown
Your boundless love, unfailing grace and mercy shown
Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight, around Your glorious throne
They raise their voices day and night, in praise to You alone

Hallelujah glory be to our great God
Hallelujah glory be to our great God

Lord we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm
Surround us with Your angels, hold us in Your arms
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm
Rise up O Lord and he will flee, before our sov'reign God

Hallelujah glory be to our great God
Hallelujah glory be to our great God

Let ev'ry creature in the sea, and ev'ry flying bird
Let ev'ry mountain, ev'ry field and valley of the earth
Let all the moons and all the stars, in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God, who rules them by His Word

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God
A bulwark never failing
Our helper He amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing
For still our ancient foe, doth seek to work us woe
His craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cruel hate
On earth is not his equal

Did we in our own strength confide
Our striving would be losing
Were not the right Man on our side
The Man of God's own choosing
Dost ask who that may be, Christ Jesus it is He
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same
And He must win the battle

And tho' this world with devils filled
Should threaten to undo us
We will not fear for God hath willed
His truth to triumph thru us
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him
His rage we can endure, for lo his doom is sure
One little word shall fell him

That word above all earthly pow'rs
No thanks to them abideth
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
Thru Him who with us sideth
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still
His kingdom is forever



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

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:8

Psalm Reading

Psalm 115:4-8; page 604

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.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 7:1-13; page 58

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Romans 1:18-23; page 1116

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you, O Lord!

Mark 1:28-31; page 994

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Pastor Peter Rowan - *Judgement and the Battle of 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

O Lord, we thank you that you have claimed us as your own
and born us anew through your Spirit.

Uphold us in this new life, that we may ever remain steadfast in faith,
joyful in hope, and rooted in your love;
for this, O Lord, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pour your blessing on all your people.

May our hearts ever praise you, and find their perfect rest in you.

Grant us the freedom of your service and peace in doing your will;
for this, O Lord, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Renew our nation in the ways of justice and peace.
Guide those who make and administer our laws
to nourish a society based on trust and respect.
Free us from crime and violence, and give us a vision for your rule among us;
for this, O Lord, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Look with compassion on all who suffer.
Support with your love all who are poor and oppressed,
who are unjustly imprisoned, who live without hope,
and who are homeless or abandoned.
As you abide with us lead us to be present with those who suffer
for this, O Lord, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Sustain those who need your healing touch.
Grant wholeness to the sick, give hope to the dying,
comfort those who mourn and those who suffer in mind and body,
not only those we know, but those known only to you,
that they may know your peace and joy
for this, O Lord, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For what else should we pray?

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Offering of Gifts

For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord.

2 Corinthians 8:3

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 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 for ever.

Fountain of 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 acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might

Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

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

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us

Therefore let us keep the feast!

Sharing Holy Communion

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 - The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)

Father let Your kingdom come, Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart
Father let Your kingdom come, Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart

Give us this day, our daily bread forgive us, forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned against us, forgive them
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us
From the evil one, let Your kingdom come

Father let Your kingdom come, Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart
Father let Your kingdom come, Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart

Give us this day, our daily bread forgive us, forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned against us, forgive them
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us
From the evil one, let Your kingdom come

It's Yours, it's Yours, all Yours, all Yours
The kingdom, the power, the glory are Yours
It's Yours, it's Yours, all Yours, all Yours
Forever and ever, the kingdom is Yours

Father let Your kingdom come, Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart
Father let Your kingdom come, Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart
On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart

Dismissal

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!



ATTRIBUTIONS

O, Worship the King

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Tune: LYONS

We Cry Mercy (Kyrie)

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The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Christianity Explored" Sunday School Class

From October 4 to November 22, the Adult Sunday School will be watching and discussing the Christianity Explored video series, which explains Christianity in beginners' terms, drawing from the Gospel of Mark. This is a great course for everyone who wants to grow in the faith, and is also useful as an evangelistic tool. Invite a friend! 9 am in the Social Hall.

A new small group is starting up!

You're invited to Dale and Shelley Kulp's house on the Second Sunday of the Month, to read and consider A.W. Pink's 'The Attributes of God.' (The first meeting will be on October 18th, which is the third Sunday.) Joe Sawanowich will lead the discussion; meetings will begin at 6 PM.

"All Our Minds"

Come explore our new theology discussion group! This will meet at the church on second Wednesdays at 7; the first meeting will be October 14th. We will learn systematics from the great theologian Herman Bavink over the course of the year. There will be brief readings to think through each month. And snacks!



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Children's Sunday school

Children's Sunday School classes are from 9:00-10:00 am for children 3yrs-8th grade. We will meet September 13, 20, 27, October 4, and November 1, 8, 15, and 22. Parents are invited to attend the adult Sunday School hour, which meets at the same time.

Children's Worship

There will be no children's worship on the October 11 & 18.

Ladies Tea to Celebrate Jess and Cammie

Today, Sunday, October 4th at 4pm.

Shaffer Retreat Campout, Worship and Picnic October 17-18

The retreat begins at 4 pm on Saturday 10/17. There will be a 10 am worship service on Sunday 10/18 at Shaffer retreat followed by a picnic. See more details in the newsletter. If you do not receive the newsletter, and would like to, please email office@secondcitychurch.org or see Mya.

* There will not be a worship service at the church building on Verbeke Street on October 18. Worship will be held at Shaffer Retreat. There will also not be an online service that day.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue
to pray for the following people:

Erica Bryce
Andrew & Rachel Crago
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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