ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 1, 2026

CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

713-526-1188
www.cpchouston.org

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Prelude

Bell Prelude by Esther Megargel

Welcome

To all who are weary and need rest;
To all who mourn and long for comfort;
To all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares;
To all who fail and desire strength;
To all who sin and need a Savior;
To all who hunger and thirst for righteousness;
And to whoever will come–
This church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship
1 Timothy 1:17

Leader: To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Let us worship the King of the ages together!

Hymn of Praise
Give to Our God Immortal Praise

Give to our God immortal praise
Mercy and truth are all his ways
Hallelujah Hallelujah
Wonders of grace to God belong
Repeat his mercies in your song

Chorus
Hallelujah Hallelujah
Hallelujah Hallelujah
Hallelujah

Give to the Lord of lords renown
The King of kings with glory crown
Hallelujah Hallelujah
His mercies ever shall endure
When lords and kings are known no more

Chorus

He built the earth he spread the sky
And fixed the starry lights on high
Hallelujah Hallelujah
Wonders of grace to God belong
Repeat his mercies in your song

Chorus

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906

Invocation

The Lord's Prayer

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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

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

Words: Traditional 2nd Century
Music: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**Jesus "descended into hell" as he suffered the pain and torment of divine wrath.*
***The term catholic refers to the church universal, knowing no racial, economic, geographical, or language barriers.*

Leader: Christian, what do you believe?

All: **I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.* The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn

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 Savior he will stay
I labor 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
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
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Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Words & Music: Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, 2018

Call to Confession
Exodus 20:14
Westminster Larger Catechism Q/A 137–138; Heidelberg Catechism Q/A 109

Leader: What is the seventh commandment?

All: The seventh commandment is: You shall not commit adultery.

Leader: What does the seventh commandment require?

All: The seventh commandment requires us to be sexually pure in body, mind, inclinations, words, and actions, and to maintain that purity in ourselves and others. We are to monitor what we look at as well as what we experience with our other senses; and we are to live temperately, keeping pure company and dressing modestly. Those who cannot control their sexual desires should marry, loving and living together with their spouses. We should also work hard at whatever we are called to do, avoiding all opportunities for indecency, and resisting any temptation to say, think, or do anything indecent or obscene.

Leader: Does God, in this commandment, forbid only such scandalous sins as adultery?

All: We are temples of the Holy Spirit, body and soul, and God wants both to be kept clean and holy. That is why he forbids everything which incites unchastity, whether it be actions, looks, talk, thoughts, or desires.

Public Confession

Leader: Most merciful Father, we have sinned against you and are guilty before you. Forgive us the sins of our tongues:

All: For deception and untruthfulness in our dealings with others; for resentment, impatience, and tempers out of control.

Leader: Forgive us for the sins of our eyes:

All: For impurity in our glances and imagination, for pining after more beauty, comfort, status, and wealth than you have already given us.

Leader: Forgive us the sins of our hearts:

All: For hard-heartedness toward you and our neighbors; for pride, self-absorption, self-pity and, above all, for rebelling against your Lordship and doubting your love. Holy Father, kill our envy, remove our pride, and melt our hearts. Give grace to be holy, kind, gentle, and pure, to live for you and not for ourselves, being transformed into your likeness.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort
Isaiah 1:18

Leader: Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

Hear and receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Tithes & Offerings

Musical Offering
The Worship Choir
Prayer to Jehovah

Guide me O thou great Jehovah
Pilgrim through this barren land
I am weak but thou art mighty
Hold me with thy pow'rful hand
Bread of heaven Bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more
Bread of heaven Bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream o'er flow
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through
Strong Deliverer strong Deliverer
Be thou still my strength and shield
Strong Deliverer strong Deliverer
Be my strength and shield

When I tread the verge of Jordan
Bid my anxious fears subside
Death of death and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side
Songs of praises songs of praises
I will ever give to thee
Songs of praises songs of praises
I will ever give to thee

Arr. Molly Ijames

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost
Amen

Words: Thomas Ken, 1709
Music: Louis Bourgeois's Genevan Psalter, 1551

Prayer of Dedication

Sermon

"The Great Reversal"
Esther 8
Rev. Richard Harris

The Service of Communion

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is fitting and right that we give you thanks and praise, O God, at all times and in all places. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify your name, saying, "Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts: heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory to God in the highest."

Words of Institution

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Communion Hymn
Christ the True and Better

Christ the true and better Adam
Son of God and Son of man
Who when tempted in the garden
Never yielded never sinned
He who makes the many righteous
Brings us back to life again
Dying he reversed the curse then
Rising crushed the serpent's head

Christ the true and better Isaac
Humble Son of sacrifice
Who would climb the fearful mountain
There to offer up his life
Laid with faith upon the altar
Father's joy and only son
There salvation was provided
Oh what full and boundless love

Chorus
Amen amen from beginning to end
Christ the story his the glory alleluia amen

Christ the true and better Moses
Called to lead a people home
Standing bold to earthly powers
God's great glory to be known
With his arms stretched wide to heaven
See the waters part in two
See the veil is torn forever
Cleansed with blood we pass now through

Chorus

Christ the true and better David
Lowly shepherd mighty king
He the champion in the battle
Where O death is now thy sting
In our place he bled and conquered
Crown him Lord of majesty
His shall be the throne forever
We shall e'er his people be

Chorus

Words & Music: Matt Boswell, Keith Getty, Matt Papa, 2020

Benediction

Postlude

Praise the Almighty, My Soul, Adore Him setting by J. Wayne Kerr

All music used by permission: CCLI#33408

Announcements

Youth and Children's Lunches Today

Youth and children are invited to stay after the second worship service today, 12:30–2:30 pm, for lunch, fellowship, and fun! Students will enjoy time together in the Barn, and children will be on Main Street.

Men's Steak Night November 6

Come for fellowship and great food this Friday, November 6, 6:30-10 pm! Bring your favorite cut of meat, and we will supply the rest. You can grill it yourself or leave it to one of our highly trained grill masters. Please register by November 2 at cpchouston.org/steak.

Women's Hymn Sing November 12

Ladies, join us for an evening of singing hymns & joining together in fellowship. We will meet at the Moore home at 7:00 pm on Thursday, November 12. Sign up online at cpchouston.org/hymn.

Thanksgiving Worship Service & Dinner

Mark your calendars for our annual, all-church Thanksgiving worship service on Sunday, November 22, at 5:30 pm, followed by a delicious holiday meal. This will be an evening of giving thanks to God for his abundant love and faithfulness. RSVP by November 6 at cpchouston.org/thanksgiving.

Angel Tree Christmas

We invite you to select Christmas gift suggestions to bless the children of prisoners and children attending Cedar Brook and Lion Lane schools. Visit the Angel Tree table on Main Street or contact Larry Dawson or Long Tran.

Officer Nominating Committee

Elders Craig Brown and Clif Kageler and Diaconal Ministry Team members Lee Shuchart and Celeste Garbarino have been appointed to serve on the 2027 Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) by the Session and Diaconate. CPC's bylaws also call for four at-large members from our congregation to serve on the ONC. If you would like to nominate someone to serve on the Officer Nominating Committee, please email Steve Bellis by Monday, November 2, with your nomination.

Messiah Rehearsals

Rehearsals for Handel's *Messiah* are Wednesdays at 7:30 pm. Performances are December 10, 11 & 12. Please contact BJ McDougal if you are interested in joining the concert choir.

Worship Choir

New voices are welcome in the Worship Choir this fall! Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. For more information, please contact BJ McDougal.

Wednesday Night Dinner

For groups meeting at church on Wednesday nights, dinner on November 4 is chicken alfredo, salad, and dessert. Bring $5 per person, max $20 per family, or pay online at https://givebutter.com/cepcwednesday.

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

Because CPC is a church that is not only for convinced Christians, but also for people at different stages in their spiritual journey, we gladly extend room for you to process, think, and dialogue. Use the prayers provided below as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through You I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, You have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Operating Fund Contributions

ANNUAL BUDGET	**$3,400,000**
YTD GIVING AS OF 10/30/2026	**$2,453,325**
REMAINING TO REACH BUDGET	**$946,675**

"You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day."
Deuteronomy 8:18 ESV

Give online at cpchouston.org/Give.

Sermon Notes

November 1, 2026 | “The Great Reversal”
Esther 8 | Rev. Richard Harris

Church Ministry Staff & Ruling Elders

MINISTRY STAFF

Richard Harris
Senior Pastor

Steve Bellis
Executive Director

Gina Grieb
Student Ministry Coordinator

Alicia Harris
Women's Ministry and Special Events Coordinator

Anne Henderson
Director of Children's Ministry

BJ McDougal
Director of Music and Worship

David Newland
Interim Director of Young Adults Ministry

Kristin Page
Associate Director of Children's Ministry

Kyler Parkman
Director of Student Ministry

Darren Smith
Director, Congregational Care

Axel Sotelo
Assistant Pastor of Community Outreach

RULING ELDERS

Matt Baker, Personnel Committee

Craig Brown, Chairman, Worship Committee

Eric Hambly, Chairman, Finance Committee

Marshall Henderson, Chairman, Children's Ministry

Clif Kageler, Personnel Committee

Chip Mealy, Chairman, Campus Vision Committee

Paul Oliphant, Chairman, Missions Committee

Dan Olson, Chairman, Student Ministry

Keith Pendergrass, Vice-Chairman, Missions Committee

Brian Rose, Clerk of Session

ON CALL NOVEMBER 1

Elder on Call
Eric Hambly

Diaconal Member on Call
Greg Mayer

CHURCH OFFICE

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Scan here for recent announcements and
to submit an electronic Connect Card or prayer requests.