ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 8, 2026

CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

713-526-1188
www.cpchouston.org

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Prelude

Festive Voluntary on "Darwall's 148th" by David Lasky

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
Psalm 92:1–2, 4

Leader: It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

Let us worship the Lord together!

Hymn of Praise
Rejoice the Lord Is King

Rejoice the Lord is King
Your Lord and King adore
Rejoice give thanks and sing
And triumph evermore

Chorus
Lift up your heart
Lift up your voice
Rejoice again I say rejoice

Jesus the Savior reigns
The God of truth and love
When he had purged our stains
He took his seat above

Chorus

His kingdom cannot fail
He rules o'er earth and heav'n
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n

Chorus
Lift up your heart
Lift up your voice
Rejoice again I say rejoice

He sits at God's right hand
Till all his foes submit
And bow to his command
And fall beneath his feet

Chorus

Rejoice in glorious hope
Our Lord the Judge shall come
And take his servants up to
Their eternal home

Chorus

Words: Charles Wesley, 1746
Music: John Darwell, 1770

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
Hebrews 4:14–16; Hebrews 10:19–25

Leader: What is true of our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ?

People: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

Leader: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

People: Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Leader: Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

All: And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hymn
Before the Throne Of God Above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong a perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Whoever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on his hands
My name is written on his heart
I know that while in heav'n he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me
To look on him and pardon me

Behold him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with his blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God

One with himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with his blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

Words: Charitie Lees Smith, 1863; alt. Vikki Cook
Music: Vikki Cook, 1997

Call to Confession
Exodus 20:15
Westminster Shorter Catechism Q/A 73;
Heidelberg Catechism Q/A 110

Leader: What is the eighth commandment?

People: The eighth commandment is: You shall not steal.

Leader: What does God forbid in the eighth commandment?

All: He forbids not only outright theft and robbery, punishable by law. But in God's sight theft also includes cheating and swindling our neighbor by schemes made to appear legitimate, such as: inaccurate measurements of weight, size, or volume; fraudulent merchandizing; counterfeit money; excessive interest; or any other means forbidden by God. In addition, he forbids all greed and pointless squandering of his gifts.

Public Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins together.

All: Almighty God, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly acknowledge that we have not lived in a manner worthy of your redeeming grace. You have raised us up with Christ who is seated at your right hand. You have commanded us to set our mind on things above and not on the things of earth. Yet we have transgressed your laws by loving ourselves more than you our God, or our neighbor. We are so easily caught up in the materialism of our day, worshipping the creature and the creation, rather than you, our Creator. When we do this, we forget your mighty victory over sin and death.

Have mercy upon us, O God. Deliver us from immorality, impurity, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. Do not leave us to ourselves but send your Spirit that we may live above this fallen world and show forth your resurrection power. In the exalted name of our risen Savior, we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort
1 Timothy 1:15

Leader: The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

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

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes & Offerings

Musical Offering
Who Is Like the Lord

Whose wisdom stood before the ages
Whose voice sang out creation's light
And whose word remains
Though earth and heaven pass away
The Word revealed to all mankind

Who wakes the mind's imagination
Who stirs the soul to endless awe
And who shaped the heart
To hold the deepest joy of life
The nearness of the living God

Chorus
Who is like the Lord God Almighty
High and lifted up the Holy One
Blessed be his name
The King who reigns forevermore
Who is like the Lord our God

Whose hand could write the song of mercy
That moves the sinner's heart to sing
And whose arm is strong
To save us with redeeming love
In Christ to reconcile all things

Chorus
Who is like the Lord God Almighty
High and lifted up the Holy One
Blessed be his name
The King who reigns forevermore
Who is like the Lord our God

He is the Lord there is no other
To him belongs the highest praise
So as we draw near
With deepest joy and reverent fear
Our hearts we bow our voices raise

Chorus

Who is like the Lord God Almighty
High and lifted up the Holy One
Blessed be his name
The King who reigns forevermore
Who is like the Lord our God
Who is like the Lord our God

Words and Music: Matt Boswell, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Matt Papa, 2026

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

"A Victory Won, a King Longed For"
Esther 9–10
Rev. Richard Harris

Closing Hymn
Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross

Jesus keep me near the cross
There a precious fountain
Free to all a healing stream
Flows from Calv'ry's mountain

Chorus
In the cross in the cross
Be my glory ever
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river

Near the cross my trembling soul
Heard the Savior calling
There he died that I may know
Grace and peace abounding

Chorus

Near the cross O Lamb of God
Bring its scenes before me
Help me walk from day to day
With its shadow o'er me

Chorus

Near the cross my heart will stay
Hoping trusting ever
Till my eyes shall see the face
Of my blessed Savior

Chorus

Words: Fanny Crosby, 1869; alt. Matt Boswell, Keith Getty
Music: William H. Doane, 1869

Benediction

Postlude
Fuga by Josef Seeger

All music used by permission: CCLI#33408

Announcements

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 this Thursday, November 12. Sign up online at cpchouston.org/hymn.

Congregational Meeting November 15

A Congregational Meeting to elect the 2027 Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) will be held Sunday, November 15, immediately following the 8:30 am worship service. The elders appointed to the ONC by the Session are Craig Brown and Clif Kageler. The diaconal ministry team members appointed by the Diaconate are Celeste Garbarino and Lee Shuchart. The appointed members of the ONC recommend to the congregation Danielle Olson, Alyssa Graham, Chris Horgan, and John Moore as our at-large members. A Town Hall meeting to hear a brief budget update from the Finance Committee will follow. Adult Sunday school classes will meet afterward.

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. **The deadline to RSVP has been extended to Thursday, November 12.** Please sign up 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. There's only about two weeks left to bring your gifts to the church; the deadline is November 23.

March 2027 CPC Trip to Israel

Richard Harris will lead a trip to Israel for a small group of CPC members March 6–16, 2027. The trip will include visits to Joppa, Caesarea Philippi, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Temple Mount, the City of David, Bethlehem, and more. There is also an optional Jordan extension that can be added to see Petra and spend a night in Wadi Rum. If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Richard Harris at rharris@cpchouston.org or 713-304-9875. **The deadine to pay the trip deposit is Monday, November 9**.

Join a City Group

City Groups at Christ Presbyterian Church provide a great way for people to enjoy fellowship, build strong friendships, and encourage one another through prayer and Bible study. Learn more and join a City Group at cpchouston.org/city-groups.

Announcements

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.

Women's Bible Study

Join Mikie Bellis and the women of CPC for our Bible study this fall, "Hosea and The Epistles of John: *Hesed*, God's Covenant Love." We meet Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary. Online-only small groups meet Tuesdays at 7 pm and Wednesdays at 1:30 pm. Learn more & register at cpchouston.org/BibleStudy.

Wednesday Night Dinner

For groups meeting at church on Wednesday nights, dinner on November 11 is cheese quesadillas, chicken taquitos, guacamole, rice, beans, salad, and dessert. Bring $5 per person, max $20 per family, or pay online at https://givebutter.com/cepcwednesday.

Operating Fund Contributions

ANNUAL BUDGET	**$3,400,000**
YTD GIVING AS OF 11/05/2026	**$2,513,179**
REMAINING TO REACH BUDGET	**$886,821**

"Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." *Matthew 6:31-33 ESV*

Give online at cpchouston.org/Give.

Sermon Notes

November 8, 2026 | "A Victory Won, a King Longed For"
Esther 9–10 | 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 8

Elder on Call
Chip Mealy

Diaconal Member on Call
David Jackson

CHURCH OFFICE

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to submit an electronic Connect Card or prayer requests.