ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 11, 2026

CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

713-526-1188
www.cpchouston.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP
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Prelude

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
Ephesians 1:3–6

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

Let us praise his glorious grace together!

Hymn of Praise
Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns
The Lamb upon his throne
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own
Awake my soul and sing
Of him who died for thee
And hail him as thy matchless King
Thro' all eternity

Crown him the Lord of love
Behold his hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
All hail Redeemer hail
For thou hast died for me
Thy praise and glory shall not fail
Thro'out eternity

Crown him the Lord of life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
Who rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die

Crown him the Lord of heav'n
One with the Father known
One with the Spirit thro' him giv'n
From yonder glorious throne
To thee be endless praise
For thou for us hast died
Be thou O Lord thro' endless days
Adored and magnified

Words: Stanzas 1,2,4 Matthew Bridges, 1851; st.3, Godfrey Thring, 1871
Music: George Elvey, 1868

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
Romans 8:31–38

Leader: What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

People: He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Leader: Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?

People: It is God who justifies.

Leader: Who is to condemn?

People: Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

All: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hymn
The Church's One Foundation

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord
She is his new creation
By water and the Word
From heav'n he came and sought her
To be his holy bride
With his own blood he bought her
And for her life he died

Elect from every nation
Yet one o'er all the earth
Her charter of salvation
One Lord one faith one birth
One holy name she blesses
Partakes one holy food
And to one hope she presses
With every grace endued

‘Mid toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won
O happy ones and holy
Lord give us grace that we
Like them the meek and lowly
On high may dwell with thee

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866
Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

Call to Confession
Exodus 20:8–11
Westminster Shorter Catechism Q/A 57–59, 62

Leader: What is the fourth commandment?

All: **The fourth commandment is: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.**

Leader: What is required in the fourth commandment?

All: **The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.**

Leader: Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly Sabbath?

All: **From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.**

Leader: What are the reasons annexed to the fourth commandment?

All: **The reasons annexed to the fourth commandment are – God's allowing us six days of the week for our own employments; his challenging a special propriety in the seventh; his own example; and his blessing the Sabbath day.**

Public Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sin together.

All: **Our God in heaven, if you should mark iniquities, who could stand? We know that if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. Not one of us does good, no, not one. We have stiffened our necks against your will, hardened our hearts to your Word, refused to hear your voice, pulled away from your loving embrace, despised correction, and forgotten you in our thoughts. Yes, we have sinned against you. Father, we repent. We come to Christ, who has promised rest for our souls. We take his yoke upon us. We desire to learn from him. Grant that we may bring forth the fruits of repentance from sincere hearts, which are precious in your sight. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort
Ephesians 1:7

Leader: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

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

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Tithes & Offerings

Musical Offering
Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in his hands
Who has numbered every grain of sand
Kings and nations tremble at his voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Chorus
Behold our God seated on his throne
Come let us adore him
Behold our King nothing can compare
Come let us adore him

Who has given counsel to the Lord
Who can question any of his words
Who can teach the One who knows all things
Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds

Chorus

Who has felt the nails upon his hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus Savior risen now to reign

Chorus

You will reign forever
(Let your glory fill the earth)
(REPEAT)

Chorus 2x

Words & Music: Stephen Altrogge; Jonathan, Meghan and Ryan Baird, 2011

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 Golden Scepter and the Gallows"
Esther 5
Rev. Richard Harris

Closing Hymn
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be

Chorus
Great is thy faithfulness
Great is thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand hath provided
Great is thy faithfulness Lord unto me

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside

Chorus

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923
Music: William M. Runyan, 1923

Benediction

Postlude

All music used by permission: CCLI#33408

Announcements

Memorial Service for O'Banion Williams Friday

We extend our sympathy to Molly Williams in the loss of her husband, O'Banion, on Wednesday, September 30. A memorial service will be held this Friday, October 16, at 11 am in the Sanctuary. May the comfort of Christ be with Molly and the whole Williams family during this difficult time.

March 2027 Trip to Israel Meeting October 18

Richard Harris will lead a trip to Israel for a small group of CPC members March 6–16, 2027. To help answer questions and provide clarity for the trip, our Israeli tour guide, Shai Nahon, will be at CPC for an information/interest meeting and Q&A during the Sunday School hour next Sunday, October 18, in the Chapel. If you have already committed to the trip or are interested in joining our small group, please contact Richard Harris.

Men's Steak Night November 6

Come for fellowship and great food 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 afterwards. This will be an evening of giving thanks to God for his abundant love and faithfulness. RSVP by November 6 at cpchouston.org/thanksgiving.

Messiah Rehearsals

Rehearsals for Handel's Messiah are Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. 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.

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.

Announcements

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.

Ushers Needed

Ushers are needed for each worship service Sunday mornings to extend hospitality to guests and church members so that everyone has a positive worship experience. Will you volunteer your time to serve in this important part of CPC's worship services? Learn more and sign up by visiting cpchouston.org/deacons.

Wednesday Night Dinner

For groups meeting at church on Wednesday nights, dinner on October 14 is spaghetti & meatballs, 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 10/09/2026	**$2,300,316**
REMAINING TO REACH BUDGET	**$1,099,684**

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." *Matthew 6:19-21*

Give online at cpchouston.org/Give.

Sermon Notes

October 11, 2026 | "The Golden Scepter and the Gallows"
Esther 5 | 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

Cor Van Dyk, Chairman, Personnel Committee

ON CALL OCTOBER 11

Elder on Call
Craig Brown

Diaconal Member on Call
Wes Wolffe

CHURCH OFFICE

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