

Sunday November 18, 2018

Revelation and the Christian Imagination

"The Last Word on the City"

Welcome.

Thanks for joining us today in worship. We hope you find City Church to be a warm, welcoming community—regardless of your background, beliefs, or life situation. To that end, we recognize that certain parts of the service may feel unfamiliar, so we've provided brief explanations throughout this guide.

Our worship is "liturgical." The Greek word "leitourgia" means a public work, the work of the people. Liturgical worship begins with God's call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity and then moving us outward into our world.

On pages 19-22, you'll find information about our community. We hope this helps you get to know us better and that, in turn, we can get to know you better. Help us welcome you by filling out the contact sheet on the back page and placing it in the offering basket or in our hands after the worship service.

All to say, we are glad you are here and look forward to meeting you.

— The Pastoral Staff

Tuck Bartholomew, Chris Currie, Jonathan Davis

Sunday Info

UCity

Nursery, Room 111 Children 4 – 24 months for the duration of the service

Children's, Church Room 112–113 Children ages 2 through 5th grade dismiss just before the sermon. 1st – 5th graders will return prior to communion.

Adult Ed Class, Upstairs Library On break until Jan Term

Accessibility A wheelchair ramp and elevator are on site. A Greeter can assist you.

Coffee is available at 9:15 am in the SE hallway.

Fairmount

Nursery, 2nd floor Blue Room Children 4 – 36 months for the duration of the service

Children's Church, 2nd floor Green Room Children ages 3 through 5th grade dismiss just before the sermon. 1st – 5th graders will return prior to communion.

Accessibility A wheelchair ramp is on site. A greeter can assist you.

Reflection

God's new city, the world to come, is a world of reconciliation, not homogenization. For God's new creation does not isolate or separate people but joins them together, celebrating unity in diversity.

-Mark Gornik, To Live in Peace

Church Calendar

ADVENT
EPIPHANY
LENT
EASTER
PENTECOST
ORDINARY TIME

We observe a season of Ordinary Time from Pentecost until Advent, which we count as weeks following Pentecost. During this time we especially remember the lives and actions of Jesus' followers. We think about how the first Christians lived their lives, and how we should live ours today. This season of Ordinary Time takes up half the year and it doesn't offer big exciting festivals such as Christmas or Easter. As a result, as one Sunday follows another, this season can begin to feel, well, ordinary.

GOD SUMMONS US AS HIS PEOPLE

As we meet together each week, we recognize in the preparation that God, through his word and Spirit, gathers us into his presence and calls us into his life and mission.

Prelude

Preparation

Gracious God, grant us diligence to seek you and patience to wait for you.

All Amen.

Silence is kept.

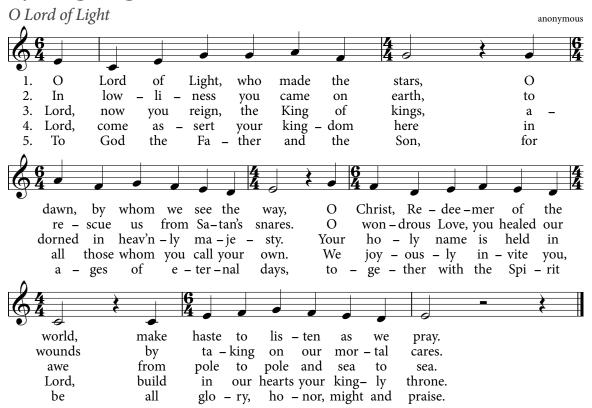
Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All And also with you.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord.

All Let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

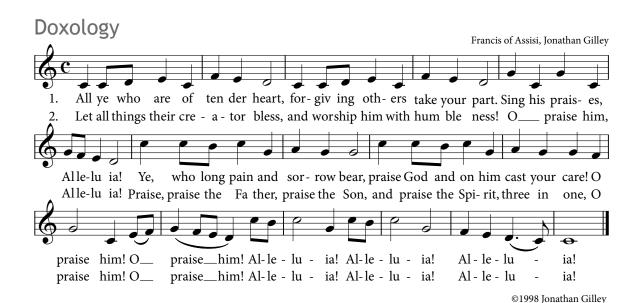
Opening song



The Opening of Worship

All and make his face shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you guide all nations upon earth. The earth has yielded its increase; the Lord our God has blessed us. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

from Psalm 67



Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

GOD SANCTIFIES US TO HIMSELF

Throughout Scripture, when people find themselves in God's presence, they sense how far short they fall and become aware of their own shame and brokenness. In the same way, we make a confession of sin, both as a community and also silently as individuals. In this, we remember that God is always ready, by his mercy and grace, to forgive us.

Confession of sin

All Lord Jesus, you weep over the sins of our city.
We have willfully misused your gifts of creation;
we have seen the ill-treatment of others
and have not gone to their aid;
we have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbors as ourselves.
Lord, be merciful; forgive us our sin.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May God, who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Savior, forgive you your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving





Children attending kindergarten and younger are invited to go to their classes at this time. 1st - 5th graders are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Offering.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Word of God

New Testament reading: Revelation 21:9-27

⁹Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." 10 And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. 11It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. ¹²It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; ¹³on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ¹⁵The angel who talked to me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. ¹⁶The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width; and he measured the city with his rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal. ¹⁷He also measured its wall, one hundred forty-four cubits by human measurement, which the angel was using. ¹⁸The wall is built of jasper, while the city is pure gold, clear as glass. ¹⁹The foundations of the wall of the city are adorned with every jewel; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, ²⁰the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. ²¹And the twelve gates are twelve pearls, each of the gates is a single pearl, and the street of the city is pure gold, transparent as glass. ²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

GOD SPEAKS TO US
IN HIS WORD

In the public reading of the word of God and its exposition in the sermon, God shares the story of his saving mission in Jesus, encouraging us to join in that mission and orienting us again to his priorities.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: John 14:23-29

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

²³Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"The Last Word on the City" - Rev. Tuck Bartholomew

Offering and Presentation of Gifts

"I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich" - 2 Corinthians 8:8-9

Creed

All 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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. The offering is an opportunity to participate in the ministry of City Church. Online giving is available at citychurchphilly. com/give. If you are visiting, please don't feel obligated to give—we're grateful simply for your presence here today.

Having offered ourselves up in faith through the creed, affirming the power of God's redemption, we lift up the church, our world, and other needs to God in prayer for his provision and healing.

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Father of all glory, who are we that we should be heirs to such love as this? Through your Son who bore our burden unto death, all our pain will one day end, all evil and injustice will be past.

While we wait for that day may your face shine upon us, that our lives testify to your goodness we already know. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord of all nations, how greatly the nations await your healing and cry out under the weight of brokenness. For those living under tyranny, preserve life. For those who hunger and thirst, provide daily bread. Give us eyes to see with compassion the neglected among us. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Spirit of all compassion, while we await the end of all tears, make us people who weep with those who weep: with the sick, with the lonely, with the lost, with the broken hearted.
While we share in the fellowship of your suffering, give us a foretaste of the healing you are bringing. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

And for what else should we pray?

Members of the congregation may add their own intercessions at this time, ending with,

For this, O Lord, we pray: All Lord, hear our prayer.

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly as our Savior has taught us:

All 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 and ever.
Amen.

Communion

All

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

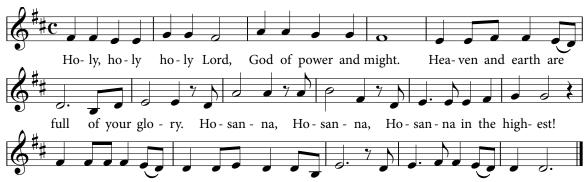
The Eucharistic Prayer

And now we give you thanks, O loving Father, for on that great day when you will be with us, the mirror through which we see dimly will give way to seeing you as you truly are, and the glory of the Lord shall be fully revealed. The one who has loved us while we were unlovable will give us himself: goodness beyond all describing, beauty beyond all imagining, wisdom beyond all searching. Though we struggle as we wait for faith to become sight, you guarantee you will finish the journey you have begun in us. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

Communion, also called the Lord's *Supper, is the family* meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus Christ to participate. If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer ("Prayers for Reflection" are included below). *We hope this time* is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with *Iesus Christ and with* his people, the church.

Sanctus



Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho-san-na in the_ high- est.

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The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The minister speaks the Words of Institution.

Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All Therefore, let us keep the feast.

We use wine in Communion. Nonalcoholic white grape juice and gluten-free rice cakes are also available if preferred. Please discard your Communion cup as you leave worship.

Prayers for Reflection

Prayer for those searching

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

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weak and sinful, but through you, I am loved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death in order to offer me forgiveness and renewal. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord.

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 faithfully follow you in life.

Communion Song



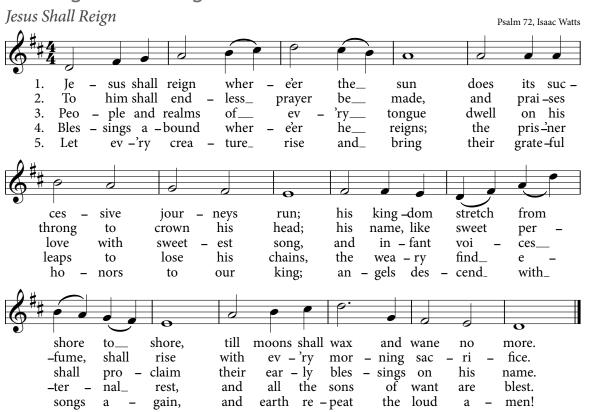
(Miserere nobis: have mercy on us; Agnus Dei: Lamb of God; Dona nobis pacem: give us peace)

Prayer after Communion

All Lord Jesus,

you have strengthened us through this meal; your body and blood are a foretaste of the table fellowship we await. As we journey from here to the places you have called us, let the light of Christ be our guide and our song as we go. Amen.

Blessing and Sending



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GOD SENDS US
INTO THE WORLD

We have responded to God's call, heard his word, offered ourselves to his service, and received strength at his table. Now, at the close of worship, God sends us out to carry forward the gospel story.

Benediction

May God the Father grow you and deepen you in the grace and in the knowledge and in the love of our Savior Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory both now and to the day of eternity; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Dismissal

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

West Philly

Esuga Abaya: liturgist Jonathan Davis: celebrant

Rachel Allison: voice

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Chad Brown: drums Andrew Warren: bass

Fairmount

Katie Davis: liturgist Chris Currie: celebrant

Rachel Allison: voice Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Chad Brown: drums
Andrew Warren: bass

CONNECT

COMMUNITY GROUPS range in size from 10-15 people and meet weekly in the home of a group member for spiritual formation and friendship. We encourage you to visit multiple groups to see which one might be a good fit. Contact a leader if you plan to visit. Contact Jonathan Davis, jonathan@citychurchphilly.com if you have questions.

West Philly

- 50th & Springfield, Tuesdays 7_{PM} Jessie Taylor, jessie.f.taylor@gmail.com
- 49th & Chancellor, Tuesdays 7_{PM}
 Candy Cason, candy.cason@gmail.com
- 46th & Cedar, Tuesdays 7:30_{PM}
 Jade Avelis, jade.avelis@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Linda's, Wed 6:30_{PM}
 Janet Nygren, janetnygren@gmail.com
- 49th & Baltimore, Thursdays 6_{PM}
 Vieen Leung, vieenleung@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Dick's, Thursdays 6:30_{РМ} Joel Bassett, jbassett4@gmail.com
- 51st & Chestnut, Fridays 6_{PM} Jason Turner, jason.h.turner@gmail.com

Fairmount

- 21st & Parrish, Wednesdays 7pm Chaney Widmer, chaney.widmer@gmail.com
- 24th & Brown, Thursdays 7_{PM}
 Katie Wildes, km.young.wildes@gmail.com
- 22nd & Poplar, Fridays 6:30_{PM}
 Liz Voboril, voborils@gmail.com

South Philly

• 12th & Wharton, Wednesdays 7:30_{PM} Kirstin Peth, kirstin.peth@gmail.com

Roxborough

• Tuesdays 6:30_{PM} Cale Weatherly, cale.weatherly@gmail.com

FAMILY MINISTRIES comes alongside families as they disciple their children, seeking to help them cultivate friendships, connect with the wider church community, and grow into maturity as people of faith.

- Children's Ministry Our children's classes use gospelcentered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to allow them opportunities to form spiritual friendships with their peers and teachers. See page 2 for site-specific details. Contact Ginger Hayes, ginger@ citychurchphilly.com.
- City Church Youth, Sundays 12:30-2:30pm. Students and Volunteer Leaders gather at a Woodland Presbyterian Church (42 & Pine) for fellowship, bible study, and prayer. Lunch is provided each week. Contact Jonathan Davis, jonathan@citychurchphilly. com.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS Ekklesia is our mid-week, liturgically oriented, worship space for college students. We meet together to pray, sing, confess, and hear from God's Word. Contact Natalie Harvey, natalie@citychurchphilly.com.

55+ is a group of older people attending City Church who gather monthly after Sunday services for a shared meal and shared prayer. Contact Ginny Toliver, ginny. toliver@verizon.net.

WOMEN'S DAYTIME BOOK STUDY Tuesdays 9:30AM, Childcare available. Contact Eeva, eevaduddleston@gmail.com.

GROW

City Church is a community committed to growing in our life of joy and peace through communion with God in Christ. God uses many means to form his children into his likeness. As a church family, City Church focuses on eight practices that Christians historically have embraced for their growth. At right are a few links to help you get started.

- Read about our approach to Spiritual Formation | citychurchphilly.com/spiritualformation
- Sign up to receive Daily Prayer in your inbox citychurchphilly.com/daily-prayer
- Check out current and upcoming Adult Ed classes | citychurchphilly.com/adult-ed

SERVE

Church

 Prepare the space for worship by joining one of our hospitality teams: setup, communion, coffee, greeters, and scripture readers.
 Contact Dan Cason (UCity), dan@citychurchphilly.com
 Ryan McCormick(Fairmount),

rmmccormick@outlook.com

 Serve our children and youth. Contact Ginger Hayes (children), ginger@citychurchphilly.com Jonathan Davis (youth), jonathan@citychurchphilly.com

City

- Serve dinners with University City Hospitality Coalition on Friday evenings at Woodland Presbyterian Church, 42nd & Pine. Contact Julia Snyder, julia.a.snyder@gmail.com
- Tutor 1st graders at Lea Elementary. Contact Stacy Bartholomew, stacy. bartholomew@gmail.com
- Read with K-3rd grade students or serve a meal at Family Homework Night in Brewerytown - Thursdays at United Missionary Baptist Church. Contact Chris Currie, chris@citychurchphilly.com

World

- Assist refugees
 with needs such as
 housing, employment,
 transportation, community
 resources, education, and
 social services through
 our partnership with HIAS
 Pennsylvania. Contact
 Esuga Abaya,
 esugaabaya@gmail.com
- Host international students for dinner.
 Contact Lyn Newbrander, Inewbrander@isionline.org

GIVE

The intentional financial participation of those who consider City Church their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own needs but to be able to serve others in our city and neighborhoods. Here are a few ways that you can contribute financially to City Church:

- Place cash or check in the offering basket on Sundays
- Give online | citychurchphilly.com/give
- Text any amount to 84321, follow the link, and select City Church Philadelphia
- Checks may be mailed or arranged through Electronic Bill Pay to be sent to: City Church, PO Box 30902, Philadelphia, PA 19104

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lessons & Carols is Sunday, December 9 at 5 PM in U City Please note that both the morning service in U City and the afternoon service in Fairmount are canceled on Sunday, December 9 – we'll gather for one service of Lessons & Carols at 5 pm that day in U City. The service will feature both traditional and lesser-known Christmas music arranged and performed by musicians from Philly's jazz, classical, and indie scenes. Bring something sweet or savory for the reception afterwards! Invitations and posters available in back.

Sign Up for Daily Prayer We participate in the cycle of prayer and bible readings found in the Daily Office, a structured form of prayer embraced across many traditions of Christianity. You can sign up to receive daily emails that include prayers, and texts of scripture for reflection and prayer at citychurchphilly.org/daily-prayer.

UCITY

University Students Invited to The Table" Today after Worship University students are invited to lunch after worship today at the home of Julia Snyder, 5031 Walton Avenue. Contact Natalie at Natalie@citychurchphilly.com for more information.

FAIRMOUNT

Interested in Helping with Hospitality at Worship? Help prepare the City School space for worship by joining one of our hospitality teams: setup, communion, coffee, greeters, and scripture readers. Contact Ryan McCormick at rmmccormick@outlook.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December

9 Lessons & Carols Service (5:00 PM in UCity)

February

9 Parenting Conference

November 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
Advent of Advent Sunday School Class, 9:15 AM	5	Women's Daytime Book Study, 9:30 AM	7	8	9	10
Advent of Advent Sunday School Class, 9:15 AM	12	Women's Daytime Book Study, 9:30 AM	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	Women's Daytime Book Study, 9:30 AM	28	29	30	

Staff

Tuck Bartholomew

Senior Pastor tuck@citychurchphilly.com 215.779.4242

Bethany Brooks

Worship Director bethany@citychurchphilly.com 215.280.6713

Dan Cason

Sunday Volunteers dan@citychurchphilly.com 803.543.8905

Chris Currie

Site Pastor, Fairmount chris@citychurchphilly.com 215.317.4571

Jonathan Davis

Assistant Pastor jonathan@citychurchphilly.com 678.458.7614

Natalie Harvey

University Ministry natalie@citychurchphilly.com 724.504.7589

Ginger Hayes

Children's Ministry ginger@citychurchphilly.com 917.583.2316

Instagram @citychurchphilly Twitter @citychurchphl Facebook @city.church.philadelphia

Help us welcome you.

Name(s):
Children & their ages:
If undergrad or grad student, school & year:
Address:
Phone number(s):
Email(s):
Would you like to receive our weekly e-newsletter? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Please contact me about:
☐ Community Groups
☐ Neighborhood Service Opportunities
☐ Volunteering on Sundays
☐ Children's & Youth Ministries
☐ Meeting with a Pastor
☐ Other:
Anything else you would like us to know about you?

Please tear off this back page and place in the offering basket.

