

Sunday November 24, 2019 Christ the King

> The Gospel of Mark "Confessing Jesus"

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

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 No classes are currently meeting.

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

Coffee is available in the SE hallway at 10:15am and before Adult Ed classes when offered.

Reflection

How will my soul wake up to the risky joy of authentic faith?

- Karen Wright Marsh, Vintage Saints and Sinners

Church Calendar

ADVENT CHRISTMAS EPIPHANY LENT EASTER PENTECOST **ORDINARY TIME** Christ the King

Sunday

The annual cycle of the Church's year now ends with the Feast of Christ the King. The year that begins with the hope of the coming Messiah ends with the proclamation of his universal sovereignty. The ascension of Christ has revealed him to be Lord of earth and heaven, and final judgement is one of his proper kingly purposes. The Feast of Christ the King returns us to the Advent theme of judgement, with which the cycle once more begins.

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

Let us take a moment in silence

to remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

All Amen.

Silence is kept.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Opening Song

Wondrous King, All Glorious Joachim Neander, tr. William J. Schaefer Won-drous king, all glo - rious, sov-ereign Lord vic - to - rious, oh, re-ceive our 1. 2. Hea-vens, spread the stor - y of our ma-ker's glo - ry, all the pomp of prai-ses voic - ing, 3. Oh my soul, re - joic - ing, sing, thy sing, with hymns of 4. Hal - le - lu - jahs ren - der to the Lord most ten - der, ve who know and θ praise with fa vor! From thee welled God's kind - ness though we in our thy bright beams ex earth ob-scur ing. Sun. thy ravs be sen - ding. a - dore All who here have ing, shout, your voi - ces faith be him! the Sa Hal - le - lu - jahs re-deemed, oh, love vior. sing ve ve. Θ strayed from thee, our bles-sed Sa Strength-en thou, blind - ness vior. ding, light to all the earth as - sur Moon and star. - pen ing. free bow down in the dust be - fore him. He is God ing, bring hearts that yield him glad be - ha vior. Blest are ye ye help us now; let our tongues be sing thee our prai-ses bring ing, ing. praise a - far him who glor-ious made you; the vast hea-vens aid you. Sa - ba - oth; Praise a - lone the Sa vior, here and there for e ver. end-less-ly; sin-less there for ye shall laud him e ver, e ver.

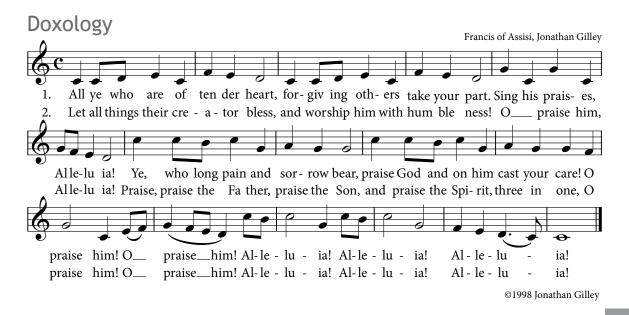
Opening of Worship

Give the king your justice, O God,

All and your righteousness to a king's son. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice. May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more. May he have dominion from sea to sea. and from the River to the ends of the earth. May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun. May all nations be blessed in him; may they pronounce him happy. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

from Psalm 72

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation



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 our God,
 in our sin we have avoided your call.
 Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
 like the dew that goes away early.
 Have mercy on us;
 deliver us from judgement;
 bind up our wounds and revive us,
 in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given you a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will, and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

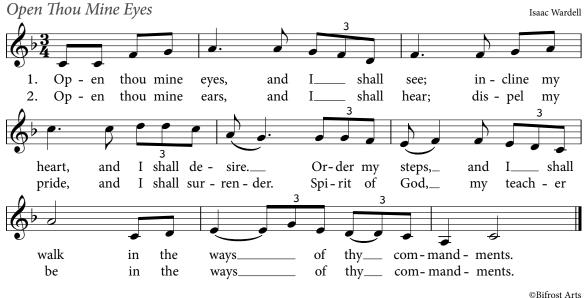
Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving

Jesus, I Come

William Sleeper, Greg Thompson



©2000 Greg Thompson



Children attending kindergarten and younger are invited to go to their classes at this time. $1^{st} - 5^{th}$ 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. And also with you. All

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Word of God

New Testament reading: | Peter 4:12-19

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. ¹⁵But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or even as a mischief maker. ¹⁶Yet if any of you suffers as a Christian, do not consider it a disgrace, but glorify God because you bear this name. ¹⁷For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸And "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinners?" ¹⁹Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with God's will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator, while continuing to do good.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Mark 8:22-9:1

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. *All* Glory to you, O Lord.

²²They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. ²³He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?" ²⁴And the man looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking." ²⁵Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶Then he sent him away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village." ²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And

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. he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."¹And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

"Confessing Jesus" - 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

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.

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.

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Father God, you know our hearts. We confess our doubts and fears, our inward questions and complaints. Forgive us our lack of faith. Restore trust in your power, hope in your loving kindness, and certainty of your redemption, that we may rest in your salvation. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

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. Jesus you humbled yourself in service and death, even death on a cross. Our desire for comfort and acceptance keeps us from speaking of you. Forgive us our silence. Strengthen us to face rejection with security in your unchanging love, that we may confess your name with joy. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit, protector, counselor, and teacher, be with our ministry partners around the world. May they know your loving presence when separated from family and friends. Give perseverance to learn languages, empathy to understand cultures, loving mercy in relationships, and wisdom to know when and how to share the Gospel. 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.

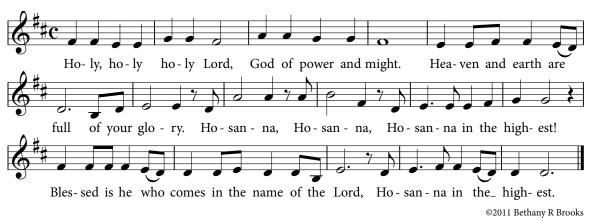
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

The Eucharistic Prayer

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For with the oil of gladness you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son, to be our great high priest and king of all creation. As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the altar of the cross and redeemed the human race by this perfect sacrifice of peace. As king he claims dominion over all your creatures, that he may bring before your infinite majesty a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace. And so with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise:

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 *Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.* Sanctus



We use wine in Communion. Nonalcoholic white grape juice and a glutenfree option are also available if preferred. Please discard your Communion cup as you leave worship.

If you would like prayer for healing and anointing with oil, please come to the back of the room after you have been served, and an elder will pray for you. This will be a time of liturgical prayer; you will not be asked to share your particular situation. 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.**

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.

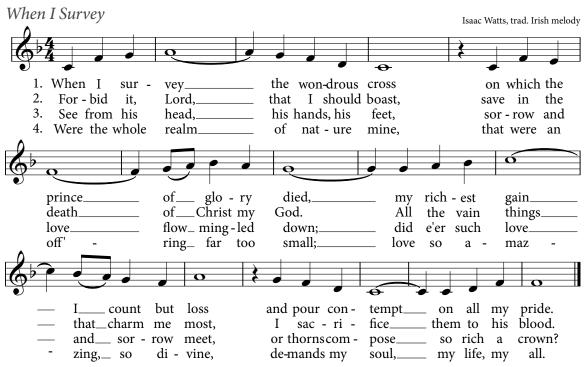
Prayer of belief

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



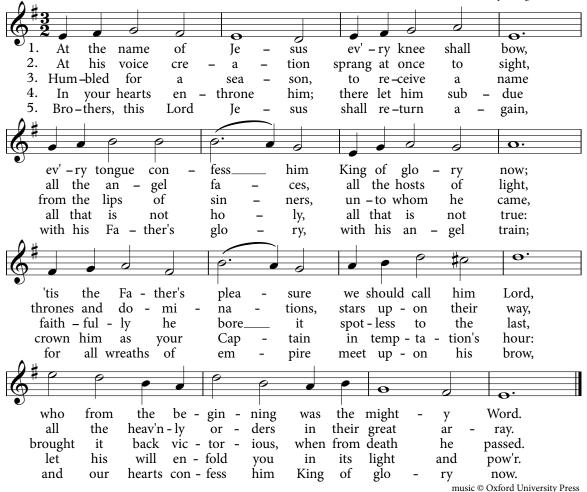
Prayer after Communion

All God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end, for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. Amen.

Blessing and Sending

At the Name of Jesus

Caroline Noel, Ralph Vaughan Williams



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 Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; 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.

Stacy Bartholomew: liturgist Chris Currie: celebrant

Bethany Danel Brooks: piano, voice Christopher McDonald: keyboards, voice Jaron Olevsky: bass Matt Scarano: drums

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, jona-than@citychurchphilly.com if you have questions.

West Philly

- 50th & Springfield, Tuesdays 7_{РМ} Jessie Taylor, jessie.f.taylor@gmail.com
- 52nd & Larchwood, Tuesdays 7рм Jade Avelis, jade.avelis@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Linda's, Wed 6:30_{PM} Janet Nygren, janetnygren@gmail.com
- 49th & Baltimore, Thursdays 6_{РМ} Vieen Leung, vieenleung@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Dick's, Thursdays 6:30_{PM} Joel Bassett, jbassett4@gmail.com

Fairmount

- Ringgold & Poplar, Wednesdays 7рм Su Jin Kim, splujin@gmail.com
- 22nd & Poplar, Sundays 4_{РМ} Bonnie Currie, bonnie.currie@gmail.com

South Philly

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

Roxborough

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

FAMILY MINISTRIES come 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 a gospel-centered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to allow them opportunities to form spiritual friendships with their peers and teachers. See page 2 for details. Contact Amy Lee, amy@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 Eric Burrows-Stone, eric@citychurchphilly.com

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS The

Gathering is an intentional Community Group for college students from any university in West Philly that meets once a week for a (FREE) meal and topical discussion. Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm in Houston Hall 225. 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 Miriam Wattenbarger, mwattenb@hotmail.com.

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

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

SERVE

We seek to be a church that demonstrates the love of Christ to our city. Over the years, our deacons have cultivated partnerships with several local organizations. To view current opportunities to serve, please visit citychurchphilly.org/serve-city.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Officer Nominations Open Through December 2 We are accepting nominations for the offices of Elder and Deacon through December 2nd. To learn more and submit nominations, visit citychurchphilly.com/nominate.

Service of Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 8 at 5 pm Plan to join us for this annual tradition. Childcare is available for children under 5 years old. Stay to enjoy the after party in the West Catholic library! If you're able to bring something sweet or savory to share, please sign up via the link in the enews or on the website. Please note: there will not be a morning service on this Sunday.

Help Congregation Sing at Lessons & Carols Enthusiastic singers are invited to help lead two congregational songs in our Lessons & Carols service on December 8. The only required rehearsal will happen shortly before the service on the 8th; you can learn the music at home with the help of emailed sheet music and recordings. To participate, please email Bethany at bethany@ citychurchphilly.com.

Advent Prayer Guide Starts December 1 Join us in the practice of waiting and longing this Advent season through an Advent Prayer Guide. We'll also be sending these daily readings out each day via our regular morning & evening prayer emails (one reading per day). If you aren't a regular prayer email subscriber but want to join for Advent, you can sign up for advent emails at citychurchphilly. com/daily-prayer. If you'd like a print copy of this resource, please contact Jonathan at jonathan@citychurchphilly.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 25 Consistory Mtg December 1 Advent begins 2 Officer nominations end

- 8 Lessons & Carols, 5 pm (No AM service)
- 18 Seekers' Group
- 24 Christmas Eve Service, 5 pm

November 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Daylight Savings Time					1	2
3 Baptisms, Youth Fund- raiser Lunch	4	5	6	7	8	9 City Church 101
10 Seminar: Nav- igating School Choice, 9:15 am	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Adult Ed: Missionary Report	18	19	20 Seekers' Group, 7:30 pm	21	22	23
24 4th Sunday Prayer	25 Consistory Meeting	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30

Staff

Tuck Bartholomew Senior Pastor tuck@citychurchphilly.com

Eric Burrows-Stone Youth Ministry eric@citychurchphilly.com

Dan Cason Sunday Volunteers dan@citychurchphilly.com

Chris Currie Site Pastor, Fairmount chris@citychurchphilly.com **Bethany Danel Brooks** Worship Director bethany@citychurchphilly.com

Jonathan Davis Assistant Pastor jonathan@citychurchphilly.com

Natalie Harvey University Ministry natalie@citychurchphilly.com

Amy Lee Children's Program Administrator amy@citychurchphilly.com Anne Smith Children's Lead Teacher anne@citychurchphilly.com

Liz Voboril Communications Coordinator liz@citychurchphilly.com

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):
Please send me: Weekly Newsletter Morning & Evening Prayer
Please contact me about:
Community Groups
Neighborhood Service Opportunities
□ Volunteering on Sundays
□ Children's & Youth Ministries
Meeting with a Pastor
Other:

Prayer Requests

Our staff prays weekly on Tuesdays, and our deacons pray monthly on 4th Sundays. Fill out your name above if you'd like to be prayed for by name.

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

