

# WORSHIP GUIDE | CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

// Review of last Sunday- January 27th

**Sermon text:** [Mark 7:31-37](#)

**Sermon video:** <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/be-opened/>

**Songs:** [Spotify playlist](#)

## Readings:

### // Call to Worship //

Hallelujah! Servants of God, praise,  
praise the name of the Lord.  
Bless the Lord's name now and always.  
Praise the Lord's name here and in every place  
from east to west.  
—Psalm 113:1-3

### // Prayer of Confession //

Our Lord Jesus said:  
“ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your  
heart, and with all your soul,  
and with all your mind.’  
This is the greatest and first commandment. And  
a second is like it:  
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On  
these two commandments hang all the law and  
the prophets.”  
As God has instructed us in these great  
commandments, and because we have not lived  
in full obedience, let us now confess our sins to  
God,  
trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord.  
—based on Matthew 22:37-40

## Scripture for Meditation

Mark 7:37 And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

## Reflection Questions:

- For our *Assurance of Pardon* we read Jeremiah 33: 8, “I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.” Why is that such good news to you? What makes you doubt the “*all's*” in those verses? What sins do you continue to not allow yourself to receive forgiveness for? Why is that?
- Are you experiencing any suffering in your life right now? If so what is it? If not right now, was there a time when you experienced suffering? What makes this season (or made that season) so difficult for you?

### // Assurance of Pardon //

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin  
against me,  
and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and  
rebellion against me.  
—Jeremiah 33:8

### // Passing of the Peace //

As the peace of Christ is with each of you who  
have faith this morning, we invite you to pass the  
peace to one another by greeting each other here  
this morning.

### // Benediction //

May the God of endurance and encouragement  
grant you to live in such harmony with one  
another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together  
you may with one voice glorify the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
—Romans 15:5-6

Leader: Peace be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

- How do you view God in times of your suffering? How does the account of Jesus in Mark 7:31-37 change your view of that?
- Who do you know that is currently suffering? If you were in their shoes, how would you want a friend to comfort you? Now go and do that for them.

## FAMILY BIBLE TIME!

Read: Mark 7:31-37

Ask:

- What stuck out to you in that story?
- What does this story tell us about Jesus?
- Why do you think they couldn't keep silent about what Jesus had done? What would you have done?
- What could someone be going through that this story about Jesus would be helpful to them?

**Pray:** Great God, we are thankful that you are so powerful. Thank you for our Jesus who heals us from the disease of sin. Thank you Jesus for taking our sin upon yourself on the cross and giving us complete healing. Lord, help us to help others who are suffering. We pray for [insert any you know who are suffering], may you heal them. We love you Jesus. Amen.

**[next page: Prepare for Sunday]**

## // Prepare for this Sunday- January 27th

**Sermon Text:** [Ephesians 5:3-21](#)

**Songs:** [Spotify playlist](#)

### **Readings:**

#### **// Prayer of Preparation //**

Gracious God, we are eager to hear your word today. Eager to receive nourishment at your table. May our hearts be opened, our eyes unblinded, and our hearts softened. Speak to us, oh God, we are desperate for you today. Amen.

#### **// Call to Worship //**

Leader: We gather together to worship God, who, through the blood of Jesus Christ, has freed us from the darkness and emptiness of our former lives!

All: We who believe in Jesus have been reborn, and are now children of the living God!

Leader: Come, let's worship the God who has set us free!

—based on 1 Peter 1

#### **// Prayer of Confession //**

Leader: Lord God, You are faithful, loving, worthy of trust and praise. We are disloyal, hateful and deserve death. Lord, we forget that you are our true source of hope and strength.

We are tempted to lean upon our own power to accomplish good and to break the power of sin.

All: Lord we will fail without your help.

Leader: Forgive us for consulting the wisdom of man before bowing before you in prayer.

All: Forgive us for relying on the perishable rather than your enduring word.

Leader: Help us to trust in your son Jesus, and find rest in the promises that were made in His blood. In his name we plead for mercy, Amen.

#### **// Assurance of Pardon //**

Leader: Hear the good news!

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ lived for us, Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

—based on Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17

#### **All: Thanks be to God.**

#### **// Passing of the Peace //**

The peace we have with God is because Jesus Christ has lived for us and died in our place. And now as God's family we live at peace with one another. Let's display that peace by greeting one another here this morning, taking care to welcome those who are new to our community.

#### **// Benediction //**

Leader: May our covenant God encompass you with the mysterious power of the Spirit of God and transform you to become more and more like Christ.

Peace be with you.

All: And also with you