

At Christ Community Church, we value **wholeheartedness in corporate and private worship**. The gospel leads us to personally know God in deep and meaningful ways. God is primarily concerned with the condition of our hearts as we worship Him. Our pursuit of God is to mirror His passionate pursuit of us. Therefore, in light of this value, we seek to facilitate corporate worship that is...

## God-Centred & God-Directed

Our corporate worship is God-centred, focusing on His majesty and glory as revealed in Scripture and seen in creation. It is God-directed, primarily addressed to God and in response to Him (Ps 66:1-9, 1 Chr 29:10-13, Ps 96:1-9). We come before our Sovereign Lord humbly and reverently, but boldly in the name of Jesus, expecting God to minister to His people.

## Christ-Enabled & Christ-Exalting

Our corporate worship is made possible by Jesus, our great High Priest (Heb 4: 14-16) who intercedes for us (Rom 8:34, Heb 7:25, 1 Pet 2:5). All that we do points to the wonder of God's grace in Christ and His redeeming work on the cross (Col 1:15-20).

## Spirit-Guided and Spirit-Assisted

Our corporate worship is dependent on God the Holy Spirit to illuminate truth in our head and heart, helping us to believe and rest in the Biblical truths we are speaking and singing (John 4:24, 16:13-15, 1 Cor 2:6-16). God's Spirit draws us into worship, is present in our worship, and leads us to live lives of worship unto God.

## Gospel-Orientated

Our corporate worship seeks to retell, embrace, and celebrate the Gospel of Christ on a weekly basis. Throughout our services, we re-enact and re-present the Gospel narrative (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Consummation). Believers need to be reminded of the boundless grace of the Gospel and non-believers need to be confronted with the bad news of sin, but the good news of Jesus (John 1:12-17, Rom 5:20-21, 2 Cor 5:21).

## Fuelled by Prayer

Our corporate worship is driven by prayer before, during, and after our gatherings. Not only do we take many opportunities to pray explicitly, much of what we do, say, and sing reflects a posture of prayer before God. As our worship resembles a conversation with God, it is reliant on the ministry of prayer to the Father, by the Spirit, in Jesus' name (Matt 6:9-13, Acts 6:4, Eph 6:18, 1 Tim 2:1-2, Jms 5:13-16).

## Bible-Based and Bible-Saturated

Our corporate worship is permeated with and governed by Scripture, the authority for all Christian faith and life. We trust that God will use His Word to work in our hearts to bring Him glory as it fills us with wonder. Our worship reflects Biblical truth (Col 3:15-17), employing the Christ-ordained sacraments of Baptism & The Lord's Supper. Since we see corporate worship as a ministry of the Word, those serving in shepherding roles as Pastors, Teachers, and Worship Leaders, will be men who demonstrate Biblical character qualities (Titus 1 & 1 Tim 3).

## Participatory

Our corporate worship emphasises the engagement of the congregation. It is intentionally interactive, both for and by the people (Ps 34:3). Those leading and in the congregation bring praise to God, as one, united in Christ.

## Engaging of the Whole Person

Our corporate worship encourages authentic emotional engagement that flows from a deep knowledge of God, is grounded in Scripture, and is helpful to believers and guests (Ps 52:4, 63:3-4, 84:1-2, 100, 108:1-2, 149:3, Matt 15:8-9). We want to express love for God with our "heart, soul, mind, and strength," being sensitive of how our expressions affect others (Mark 12:30, Rom 14:19, 1 Cor 14:12).

## Unifying

Our corporate worship considers the varied tastes and diverse range of personalities and backgrounds present in the congregation, seeking unity together as the church of Christ. We gather as God's people, young and old, seeking to declare the wonders of God's grace in Christ to every generation. To this end, we take special care to welcome and include our children in our corporate worship gatherings (Deut 6:4-9, Acts 2:39).

## Informed by Church History

Our corporate worship stands to gain much from those traditions and liturgies handed down by our forebears. Therefore, we examine and employ the great legacy and heritage of generations past in many ways.

## THE THREE AUDIENCES OF OUR CORPORATE WORSHIP

### FIRST and foremost

We worship and glorify God alone, Father, Son, and Spirit as the object and author of our worship (Ex 20:1-5 | 1 Chr 16:23-31 | Is 42:8 | Phil 2:9-11 | Col 1:15-20 | Heb 1:1-4)

### SECOND

We worship together and edify one another as the body of Christ, across the globe and across the generations, for whom Jesus shed His blood, that we might be unified (Eph 4 | Rom 5 & 12). We need each other. Indeed, we worship God vertically, but we worship together, horizontally (Ps 96, Eph 5:19, Col 3:16).

### THIRD

We worship in front of the watching lost world. Whether they are literally watching from within our church walls or observing as we live lives of worship in the day-to-day, what we do is a testimony to non-believers around us (John 13:35).