

WORSHIP GATHERING

November 21, 2021

Pre-service reflection:

Hope is one of the Theological virtues. This means that a continual looking forward to the eternal world is not (as some modern people think) a form of escapism or wishful thinking, but one of the things a Christian is meant to do. It does not mean that we are to leave the present world as it is. If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. The Apostles themselves, who set on foot the conversion of the Roman Empire, the great men who built up the Middle Ages, the English Evangelicals who abolished the Slave Trade, all left their mark on Earth, precisely because their minds were occupied with Heaven. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this. Aim at Heaven and you will get earth “thrown in”: aim at earth and you will get neither.

-C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Call to Worship

Psalm 84

Leader

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts!

Congregation

**My soul longs, yes, faints
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and flesh sing for joy
to the living God.**

Leader

Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

Congregation

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise!
Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

Jesus, I Come

words: William True Sleeper; music: Greg Thompson

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light
Jesus, I come to Thee

Out of my sickness, into Thy health
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth
Out of my sin and into Thyself
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come
Into the glorious pain of Thy cross
Jesus, I come to Thee

Out of earth's sorrows, into Thy balm
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm
Out of distress into jubilant psalm
Jesus, I come to Thee

Out of unrest and arrogant pride
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come
Into Thy blessed will to abide
Jesus, I come to Thee

Out of myself to dwell in Thy love
Out of despair into raptures above
Upward forever, On wings like a dove
Jesus, I come to Thee

The Cup Was Not Removed

Ben Wolverton, Justin Tweito, Taylor Agan

The cup was not removed, He drank it all
See Him hanging there where I belong
His tears were as scarlet, but there in the garden
The cup was not removed

O praise the Lamb who takes away my sin
He tore the veil, now I can enter in
For all my days my soul will praise Him

The law was not removed, it was fulfilled
The prayers of all the prophets now revealed
In the image of the Father, the yes of every promise
The law was not removed

CHORUS

O praise the Lamb who takes away my sin
He tore the veil, now I can enter in
For all my days my soul will praise Him
O praise the One with scars in his hands
O praise the Son who died and rose again
For all my days my soul will praise Him

My sins are now removed, yes every one
Taken by my Jesus at the cross
As far as east and west, I see His righteousness
My sins are now removed
O praise Him, O praise Him

CHORUS

Confession of Sin

Leader

Eternal Father, You are good beyond all thought, but we are sinful and often blind. Our lips are ready to confess, but our hearts are often slow to feel, and our ways reluctant to change. We bring our souls to you. Break us, expose us, bend us, mold us.

Congregation

Unmask sin's deformity to us that we may hate it, abhor it, and run from it. Work in us more profound and abiding repentance; give us the fullness of a godly grief which is ever powerful, and ever confident; grant that our repentance will enable us to see more clearly the brightness and glory of the cross of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US ON YOUR KNEES, OR BOWING
IN YOUR SEAT, FOR PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN.*

Declaration of Pardon

Romans 5:6, 8

Leader

“For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly [...] But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.”

In Christ, you are forgiven, free, and restored!

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

Love Constraining to Obedience

W. Cowper

CHORUS

To see the Law by Christ fulfilled
To hear His pardoning voice
Changes a slave into a child
And duty into choice

How long beneath the Law I lay
In bondage and distress
I toiled the precept to obey
But toiled without success

CHORUS

Then all my servile
Works were done
A righteousness to raise
Now freely chosen in the Son
I freely choose His ways

CHORUS X2

The Lord, My God, My Salvation

Will Duvall

Sing praise for what the Lord has done,
Who freely gave His Son, to be our sacrifice
By His grace greater than all our sin,
I stand no more condemned, washed in the blood of Christ

CHORUS

The Lord, my God, and my salvation, I will call upon His name
The Lord, my God, and my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid,
I will trust and not be afraid

Sing praise and drink from the Well of Life
Drink deeply and without price and never thirst again
For there is rest for the weary soul
And peace that overflows
For all who come to Him

CHORUS

Sing praise and shout for joy in all the earth
As we await the King's return, who is making all things new
In that day every tear will be wiped away
And with one voice we'll say, "All glory be to You!"

CHORUS 2

The Lord, my God, and my salvation
He is my song and my strength
The Lord, my God, and my salvation
I will trust and not be afraid, I will trust and not be afraid

Confession of Faith

EACH WEEK WE CONFESS TRUTH SHARED BY CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD AND THROUGHOUT HISTORY. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FROM THE LAUSANNE COVENANT, AN INTERNATIONAL 20TH CENTURY WORK

(2. THE AUTHORITY AND POWER OF THE BIBLE)

Congregation

We affirm the divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of both Old and New Testament Scriptures in their entirety as the only written word of God, without error in all that it affirms, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

Leader

We also affirm the power of God's word to accomplish his purpose of salvation. The message of the Bible is addressed to all men and women.

Congregation

For God's revelation in Christ and in Scripture is unchangeable. Through it the Holy Spirit still speaks today. He illumines the minds of God's people in every culture to perceive its truth freshly through their own eyes and thus discloses to the whole Church ever more of the many-colored wisdom of God.

(II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:21; John 10:35; Isa. 55:11; 1 Cor. 1:21; Rom. 1:16, Matt. 5:17,18; Jude 3; Eph. 1:17,18; 3:10,18)

Baptism & Prayer

GRAYSEN HENRY WILSON (10:45 SERVICE)

Sermon & Communion

During Communion today we ask you to go to a nearby table and receive the bread and (red) wine or (white) grape juice. You do not have to hurry through the line. Bring the bread and wine back to your seat and we will all partake together. We are intentionally using slightly larger samples of bread and wine than are normal in most Protestant churches. This is an attempt to slow down the process a bit and savor the taste while reflecting on the meaning.

Should you take Communion?

This is a “means of grace”— a method of encouragement and spiritual nourishment from God for those who entrust themselves to Jesus Christ and have received the sign of baptism. This is not for perfect people, it’s for broken people who are honest about their sin and trust in the mercy of Jesus. However, if you are harboring secret or unrepented sin or are in unaddressed conflict with another Christian, we ask that you first repent or go and be reconciled before coming to the table.

New City is happy to be a community where people are in process with what they believe and honestly struggle with sin and reconciliation. For this reason, it is not uncommon for folk to refrain from taking communion.

If not participating in Communion today, we encourage you to pray through one of the prayers on the next page.

Children

Children who profess faith in Christ and have been approved to receive communion by the Elders of New City Church or the leaders of your home church are welcome to partake. Children not receiving communion are heartily welcomed to go through the line with their parents to observe what is happening.

Longing for the Lord,

November 21, 2021 | Psalm 84 | Pastor Mike McBride

Psalm 84

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO THE GITTITH.
A PSALM OF THE SONS OF KORAH.

¹How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! ²My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

³Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. ⁴Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! Selah

⁵Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. ⁶As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. ⁷They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion.

⁸O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah ⁹Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!

¹⁰For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. ¹¹For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly. ¹²O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

I have been accustomed to call this book, I think not inappropriately, “An Anatomy of all the Parts of the Soul;” for there is not an emotion of which any one can be conscious that is not here represented as in a mirror. Or rather, the Holy Spirit has here drawn to the life all the griefs, sorrows, fears, doubts, hopes, cares, perplexities, in short, all the distracting emotions with which the minds of men are wont to be agitated. The other parts of Scripture contain the commandments which God enjoined his servants to announce to us. But here the prophets themselves, seeing they are exhibited to us as speaking to God, and laying open all their inmost thoughts and affections, call, or rather draw, each of us to the examination of himself in particulars in order that none of the many infirmities to which we are subject, and of the many vices with which we abound, may remain concealed. It is certainly a rare and singular advantage, when all lurking places are discovered, and the heart is brought into the light, purged from that most baneful infection, hypocrisy.

John Calvin, *Commentary on the Psalms*

[The Psalms] showed me that imagination was a way to get inside the truth.
-Eugene Peterson

[The Psalms] have this rawness; the psalmist has this brutal honesty about the explosive joy that he’s feeling, or the deep sorrow, or confusion, and it’s that that sets the psalms apart for me. I often think, “Why is church music not more like that?”

-Bono

Matthew 5

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Prayers During Communion

For those searching for truth:

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 open to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

For those who desire to profess faith in Christ:

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

A prayer for those struggling against sin:

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

A prayer for children of the Church:

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

Wisdom and Grace (Psalm 90)

Sandra McCracken

CHORUS

Teach us to number our days
That we may apply our hearts to Your ways
Teach us to number our days
with wisdom and grace.

You've been our home and our dwelling
our place in all generations.
Before the earth or the mountains were formed,
You are God.

CHORUS

Now the span of our lives,
It is made of sorrow and labor
As the days pass away like the grass
How soon we are gone.

CHORUS

Let the work of our hands bring you praise,
set Your favor upon us.
O establish the word of our hands,
May Your kingdom come!

CHORUS

*DURING THIS LAST SONG, WE INVITE KIDS TO GRAB SHAKERS FROM THE
BACK OF THE GYM AND PLAY ALONG WITH US.*

Forever

Chris Tomlin

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise

CHORUS

Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever, Forever

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
By the grace of God we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise

CHORUS

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good (x3)

His love endures forever (x4)

Sing praise, sing praise

Sing praise, sing praise

CHORUS 2

Forever You are faithful

Forever You are strong

Forever You are with us

Forever, Forever

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

Leader

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

Go in peace.

ACTIVE DEACONS & DEACONESSES (“DIACONATE”)

Tom Abbett, Katie Blodgett, Megan Flahive, Dave Ostendorf,
Rich Scott (Chairman), Emily Taylor, Paul Taylor, Rebekah Torzewski, Chris
Vincent, Teresa Wedges

ACTIVE ELDERS (THE “SESSION”)

Michael Erler, Ben Flack, Daryl Kapp, John McAllen, Mark Moss, Joe Sugimura,
Dustin Sutherland, Caleb Winter (Clerk)

STAFF

Taylor Bradbury — *Associate Pastor*

Ben Flack — *Director of Liturgy*

Rebekah Torzewski — *Church Administrator*

Roger Williams — *Senior Pastor*

Erin Winders — *Director of Nursery Ministries*

Emily Winter — *Director of Children’s Ministries*

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