

WORSHIP GATHERING

January 23, 2022

Pre-service reflection:

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

- Apostle Paul, *1 Corinthians 1:20-31*.

Call to Worship

Isaiah 66

Leader

Thus says the LORD:

“Heaven is my throne,

and the earth is my footstool;

what is the house that you would build for me,

and what is the place of my rest?

All these things my hand has made,

and so all these things came to be,

declares the LORD.

Congregation

But this is the one to whom I will look:

he who is humble and contrite in spirit

and trembles at my word.

Build Your Kingdom Here

Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson

Come, set Your rule and reign in our hearts again
Increase in us, we pray, unveil why we're made
Come, set our hearts ablaze with Hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your power in us

We seek Your kingdom first, we hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize
To see the captive hearts released
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are Your church
We pray, 'revive this earth'

CHORUS

Build Your kingdom here, let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand, heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire, win creation back
Change the atmosphere, build Your kingdom here, we pray

Unleash Your kingdom's power, reaching the near and far
No force of Hell can stop your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this, awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth

CHORUS X2

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Eric Wyse & Dawn Rogers

Wonderful merciful Savior, precious redeemer and friend
Who would have thought that a lamb could
Rescue the souls of men
Oh You rescue the souls of men

Counselor, comforter, keeper, Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts have
Hopelessly lost the way
Oh we hopelessly lost the way

CHORUS

You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace our
Hearts always hunger for
Oh our hearts always hunger for

Almighty infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness you find us
Falling before Your throne
Oh we're falling before Your throne

CHORUS X2

Confession of Sin

Leader

Lord Jesus Christ, though being in very nature God, when You came to redeem us You humbled yourself and made Yourself nothing. We confess how unlike You we are in our attitudes and actions.

Congregation

We strive for recognition and acclaim from others, and we sulk and become bitter if we do not get it. We look out for our own needs and concerns, failing to care for others except when it serves our own purposes.

Forgive us our sin and renew our hearts. Work in us by the power of Your Spirit so that we become more like You and so bring glory to our Father in heaven. Amen.

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

Declaration of Pardon

Galatians 4:4-5

Leader

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

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

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

Wounded Healer

Audrey Assad

Image of the invisible
In our pain we feel you near
God of heaven in flesh and bone
By your wounds we shall be healed

CHORUS

Wounded healer
We give our hearts to you
Wounded healer
We give our hearts to you

Arms stretched out
Not to part the sea
But to open up the grave
Blood poured out
Not for war but peace
And to show us God's own face

CHORUS

No fire, no fury, just death into life
Over and over 'til all things are right
No fire, no fury, just death into life
Over and over 'til all things are right

CHORUS X2

You Are

Peter Taylor

Father amongst us
Spirit within
Son work through
Until we see clearly again

CHORUS

For my strength is weak Father Father
And my love grows thin, Son assist
When I'm told to reach out I pull back
Spirit deliver me from this

Breathe life into our bones
Pierce us through with the crown of glory
That we may proclaim you're the Holy of holies
'til we are what you made us
In the garden we'll be
Broken and asking
Yahweh do this to the Body

CHORUS

We lay
This petition before you

For in our frailty You are strong
In our mistakes You are good
In our defeats You have won
For You are, You are
(repeat)

Statement of Faith

EACH WEEK WE CONFESS TRUTH SHARED BY CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD AND THROUGHOUT HISTORY. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FROM "OUR WORLD BELONGS TO GOD."

Our World Belongs to God – adapted from Original #1-2

Leader

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world—which some seek to control, but which others view with despair—we declare with joy and trust: Our world belongs to God!

Congregation

From the beginning, through all the crises of our times, until his kingdom fully comes, God keeps covenant forever.

Our world belongs to him!

God is King!

Let the earth be glad!

Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah!

The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation.

Praise the Lord!

Redemptive Reversal

January 23, 2022 | Genesis 48:8-21 | Pastor Roger Williams

Recap to this point: God's promises gain momentum. They pass from Abraham to Isaac and to Jacob, and now Jacob has twelve sons, who will later become the twelve tribes of Israel. Yet once again God's promise appears threatened. Joseph is Jacob's favorite son, which the other brothers come to resent. They sell Joseph into slavery in Egypt and tell their father that he is dead. Yet God is with Joseph, causing him to gain favor with Pharaoh and to rise to second-in-command over Egypt.

When a famine comes upon the land of Canaan, Jacob's only hope is to send his remaining sons to Egypt for grain. When they arrive, they meet their long-lost brother and learn an important lesson: God has been in control all along, planning for their blessing and keeping his promise alive.

- Drew Hunter, Unfolding Grace, 74-75

**God redeems through humility, availability, and faithfulness
in a world that prizes power, strength, and promotion.**

Hebrews 11

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen....
By faith Abel... By faith Noah... By faith Abraham... By faith Isaac...

²¹ By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.

Genesis 48

¹ After this, Joseph was told, "Behold, your father is ill." So he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. ² And it was told to Jacob, "Your son Joseph has come to you." Then Israel summoned his strength and sat up in bed. ³ And Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, ⁴ and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples and will give this land to your offspring after you for an everlasting possession.'..."

...⁸ When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "Who are these?" ⁹ Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." And he said, "Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them." ¹⁰ Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see. So Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them. ¹¹ And Israel said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face; and behold, God

has let me see your offspring also." ¹² Then Joseph removed them from his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth. ¹³ And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him. ¹⁴ And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on the head of Manasseh, **crossing his hands** (for Manasseh was the firstborn). ¹⁵ And he blessed Joseph and said,

"The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked,
the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day,
¹⁶ the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys;
and in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham
and Isaac;
and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."

¹⁷ When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he took his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. ¹⁸ And Joseph said to his father, "Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head." ¹⁹ But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations." ²⁰ So he blessed them that day, saying,

"By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying,
'God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.'"

Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh. ²¹ Then Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your fathers.

Prayer

LED BY A NEW CITY CHURCH ELDER

Sermon

SEE ACCOMPANYING INSERT

Communion

Receiving communion is an active profession that, “I receive and rest on Jesus alone for salvation and humbly submit to his Lordship in my life.”

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.

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.

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.

All My Ways Are Known to You

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Dustin Smith, and Michael Farren

In days of peace and days of rest
In times of loss and loneliness
Though rich or poor, Your word is true
That all my ways are known to You

No trial has come beyond Your hand
No step I walk beyond Your plan
The path is dark outside my view
Still all my ways are known to You

CHORUS

And oh what peace that I have found
Wherever I may be
For all my ways are known to You
Hallelujah, they are known to You!

I do not fear the final night
For death will be the door to life
You take my hand and lead me through
For all my ways are known to You

CHORUS

Open up my eyes so I may see
That You have made these ways for me
Open up my eyes so I may see
That You my God, will walk with me

CHORUS

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

My One Comfort

Dustin Kensrue

My one comfort
Both in life and death
Is that I am not my own
I was bought with blood
And I confess
I belong to You alone

CHORUS

By the Father's good decree
Jesus, You've delivered me
By Your Spirit set me free
To follow You

My one comfort
Both in life and death
Is that I am not my own
I was bought with blood
And I confess
I belong to You alone

CHORUS

Jesus, You have
Taken hold of me
And in Your grip of grace
I'm finally free

CHORUS

Benediction

from Ephesians 3

Leader

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

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, Joe Sugimura, Dustin
Sutherland, Caleb Winter (Clerk)

STAFF

Taylor Bradbury — *Associate Pastor*

Ben Flack — *Director of Liturgy*

Claire Snethen — *AV Coordinator*

Rebekah Torzewski — *Church Administrator*

Roger Williams — *Senior Pastor*

Erin Winders — *Director of Nursery Ministries*

Emily Winter — *Director of Children’s Ministries*

CONTACT

P.O. Box 19171
Indianapolis, IN 46219

admin@newcityindy.org

newcityindy.org

facebook.com/newcityindy

 **NEW CITY
CHURCH**