

# WORSHIP GATHERING

February 20, 2022

*Pre-service reflections:*

The fundamental problem in the evangelical world today is not inadequate technique, insufficient organization, or antiquated music, and those who want to squander the church's resources bandaging these scratches will do nothing to stanch the flow of blood that is spilling from its true wounds. The fundamental problem in the evangelical world today is that God rests too inconsequentially upon the church. His truth is too distant, his grace is too ordinary, his judgment is too benign, his gospel is too easy, and his Christ is too common.

- David Wells

The central message of the New Testament is reconciliation through justification because of substitution. God made us his friends (reconciliation) by not counting our sins against us (justification) because Jesus died for us (substitution).

- Drew Hunter, [Made for Friendship](#)



# Call to Worship

*from Exodus 15*

*Leader*

I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;

*Congregation*

**The Lord is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation;  
this is my God, and I will praise him,  
my father's God, and I will exalt him.**

*Leader*

Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?  
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,  
awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

*Congregation*

**The Lord will reign forever and ever.**

# Here For You

*by Matt Maher, Matt Redman, Jesse Reeves, and Tim Wanstall*

Let our praise be Your welcome, let our songs be a sign  
We are here for You, we are here for You  
Let Your breath come from heaven, fill our hearts with Your life  
We are here for You, we are here for You

## *CHORUS*

To You our hearts are open, nothing here is hidden  
You are our one desire  
You alone are holy, only You are worthy  
God let Your fire fall down

Let our shout be Your anthem, Your renown fill the sky  
We are here for You, we are here for You  
Let Your Word move in power, let what's dead come to life  
We are here for You, we are here for You

## *CHORUS*

We welcome You with praise  
We welcome You with praise  
Almighty God of love be welcome in this place (**repeat**)  
Let ev'ry heart adore Let ev'ry soul awake  
Almighty God of love be welcome in this place (**repeat**)

# Reason to Sing

*Alli Rogers, David Leonard, Leslie Jordan*

When the pieces seem too shattered  
To gather off the floor  
And all that really matters  
Is I can't feel you anymore  
No, I can't feel you anymore

## *CHORUS*

I need a reason to sing, I need a reason to sing  
I need to know that You're still holding  
The whole world in your hands  
I need a reason to sing

When I'm overcome by fear  
And I hate everything I know  
If this waiting lasts forever  
I'm afraid I might let go  
I'm afraid I might let go

## *CHORUS*

If there be a victory  
Would you sing it over me now  
Your peace is the melody  
You sing it over me now  
*(repeat)*

I need a reason to sing, I need a reason to sing  
I need to know that You're still holding  
The whole world in your hands  
That is a reason to sing

# Confession of Sin

ADAPTED FROM *PRONE TO WANDER*, BARBARA DUGUID

*Leader*

O God, our Savior, we come before you today as foolish sheep who find it our natural inclination to wander far from you. You have set your love upon us, chosen us, and saved us, but we find it hard to trust you and prefer to turn to our own wisdom and understanding.

*Congregation*

**You lead us in green pastures for your own name's sake, but we reject the feast that you lay before us and try frantically to fill ourselves up with things that cannot satisfy. You lead us beside still waters to restore our souls, yet we recklessly dabble with strong currents of temptation and are easily swept away by torrents of sinful cravings and lust. You call us to straight paths of righteousness, but we scorn your warnings, ignore your guidance, and rebel against your discipline.**

*Leader*

You have given us the great privilege of knowing and worshiping our Creator, the one true God, but we prefer to bow before our worthless idols day after day in search of morsels of comfort or pleasure they offer us.

*Congregation*

**Lord, we stray from you every day and turn to our own ways; forgive us for our many sins.**

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

# Declaration of Pardon

*1 Corinthians 1:27–30*

*Leader*

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

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

*Congregation*

**In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!**

# God Has Come

*Glenn Packiam*

When darkness falls, and sorrow finds me  
This joy I know comes in the morning  
When all seems lost, and strength is fading  
This hope I've found is, Everlasting, Everlasting

*CHORUS*

Our God has come to save, He holds us in His hands  
His promise will remain, His Kingdom has no end  
God has come...

Now faith is here, and strength is rising  
This grace You've shown is so amazing, so amazing

*CHORUS*

Sing hosanna for God has come, Sing hosanna the King has won  
Sing hosanna for God has come, Sing hosanna the King has won  
Salvation comes

*CHORUS*



# Hymn of the Ages

*Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson*

All history shall bow before your throne  
Time and space on bended knee shall come  
Though kingdoms pass away, Your majesty remains  
How great you are, how great must be Your song

The Alpha and Omega without end  
The Everlasting makes this wretch His friend  
The angels stand in awe, this beggar heart responds  
How great you are, how great must be Your song

*CHORUS*

You're the hymn of the ages, the hope of all the world  
You carried our redemption on Your shoulders  
You're the anthem of salvation, Jesus, Lord of Lords  
Your legacy will echo through the ages

Oh, for a countless choir in my lungs  
To sing Your praises with a thousand tongues  
The purpose in my days is ever to proclaim  
How great You are, How great must be Your song

*CHORUS*

We raise the never-ending song  
The greatest song we've ever known  
The song of angels, the hymn of ages: Holy is the Lord

We praise the never-ending One  
The greatest joy we've ever known  
All hail King Jesus, forever glorious, Holy is the Lord

*CHORUS*

# Statement of Faith

*EACH WEEK WE CONFESS TRUTH SHARED BY CHRISTIANS THROUGHOUT HISTORY. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FROM AN ADAPTATION OF "THE NICENE CREED," ORIGINATING IN 325 AD.*

*Leader*

We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

*Congregation*

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin  
Mary,  
and was made human.  
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried.**

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.  
He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again with glory  
to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life.  
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
He spoke through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come.

Amen.

# 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.

# Red Sea Road

*Christa Wells, Ellie Holcomb, and Nicole Witt*

We've buried dreams, laid them deep into the earth behind us  
Said our goodbyes at the grave, but everything reminds us  
God knows we ache  
When He asks us to go on...How do we go on?

*CHORUS*

We will sing to our souls, we won't bury our hope!  
Where He leads us to go, there's a red sea road  
When we can't see the way, He will part the waves  
And we'll never walk alone down a red sea road

How can we trust, when you say you will deliver us from  
All of this pain, that threatens to take over us well  
This desert's dry  
But the ocean may consume...and we're scared to follow you

*CHORUS*

Oh help us believe, You are faithful you're faithful  
When our hearts are breaking, You are faithful you're faithful

Oh grant us eyes to see, You are faithful you're faithful  
Teach us to sing, You are faithful you're faithful, you're faithful

*CHORUS*

No we'll never walk alone down a red sea road...

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

# Here is Our King

*David Crowder*

From wherever spring arrives to heal the ground  
From wherever searching comes the look itself  
A trace of what we're looking for  
So be quiet now and wait  
The ocean is growing  
The tide is coming in, here it is

*CHORUS*

Here is our king, here is our love  
Here is our God who's come  
To bring us back to him  
He is the one, He is Jesus, Jesus

And what was said to the rose to make it unfold  
Was said to me here in my chest, So be quiet now and rest  
The ocean is growing  
The tide is coming, here it is

*CHORUS*

*CHORUS 2*

He is our king, He is our love  
He is our God who's come  
To bring us back to him  
He is the one, He is Jesus, Jesus

Majesty, Finally  
Majesty, Finally here

*CHORUS*

*CHORUS 2*

# Benediction

*from 2 Corinthians 13*

*Leader*

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you...

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, 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*

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