

# WORSHIP GATHERING

March 6, 2022

*Pre-service reflection:*

"It is difficult to imagine the world in the year A.D. 2000, by which time versatile micro-processors are likely to be as common as simple calculators are today. We should certainly welcome the fact that the silicon chip will transcend human brain-power, as the machine has transcended human muscle-power. Much less welcome will be the probable reduction of human contact as the new electronic network renders personal relationships ever less necessary. In such a dehumanized society the fellowship of the local church will become increasingly important, whose members meet one another, and talk and listen to one another in person rather than on screen. In this human context of mutual love the speaking and hearing of the Word of God is also likely to become more necessary for the preservation of our humanness, not less."

- John Stott in 1982 (*Between Two Worlds*, 69)

# Call to Worship

*John 1*

*Leader*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it...

*Congregation*

**<sup>9</sup>The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.**

*Leader*

<sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

*Congregation*

**<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth...<sup>16</sup>For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.**

# Glorified

*Jared Anderson*

Praise belongs to You, Let every kingdom bow  
Let every ocean roar, Let every heart adore You now

Praise belongs to You, What can I do but sing  
The greatest joy I've found is to lay a crown before my King,  
Before my King

*CHORUS*

I've come to worship, I've come to lift up Your name  
For You deserve this life laid down like the one that You gave  
I have but one voice, One heart, and one sacrifice  
So would you take this life laid down and be glorified  
Be glorified

Praise belongs to You, Let songs of children rise  
You silence all Your foes, You set Your glory in the skies  
Praise belongs to You, Creation's calling now  
For the King to be revealed, Oh King of Heaven come down

*CHORUS X2*

Be glorified

# Jesus Strong and Kind

*Rich Thompson, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Colin Buchanan*

Jesus said that if I thirst  
I should come to him  
No one else can satisfy  
I should come to him

Jesus said if I am weak  
I should come to him  
No one else can be my strength  
I should come to him

## *CHORUS*

For the Lord is good and faithful  
He will keep us day and night  
We can always run to Jesus  
Jesus, strong and kind

Jesus said that if I fear  
I should come to him  
No one else can be my shield  
I should come to him

## *CHORUS*

Jesus said if I am lost  
He will come to me  
And he showed me on that cross  
He will come to me

## *CHORUS*

# Confession of Sin

ADAPTED FROM *PRONE TO WANDER*, 76.

*Leader*

Redeeming God, We thank you for making us capable of knowing you, and for awakening our souls to desire you. Help us to approach you with reverence and awe; not with presumption or servile fear, but with holy boldness and joyful expectation.

*Congregation*

**We confess to you today that we are prone to love our own wisdom better than yours. In our weakness we forget to think of you, to ask for your help, or to remember how foolish we are.**

*Leader*

In our pride and rebellion, we spurn your wise commandments and instruction. We confess to you that we find it difficult to trust you, and we fear you in all the wrong ways. Jesus has taken the debt of our sin and you have given us spiritual riches beyond imagination, yet we often live as though you love us and bless us when we are good, and as though you are angry and punish us when we sin.

*Congregation*

**Father, help us to believe that there is no wrath left for us, because it has been poured out on Christ in our place. O God, melt our hearts. Give us greater faith to believe that Christ has made an end to all our sin: past, present, and future. In our greatest moments of fear and pride, show us our sin and give us sweet repentance. Open our eyes to see our wonderful Savior and fly to him for refuge. Fill us with vibrant gratitude for your Son, who has trusted you fully in our place, and worshiped you with perfect reverence.**

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

# Declaration of Pardon

*Isaiah 1:18*

*Leader*

Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD:  
though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.

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

*Congregation*

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

# How Great the Love

*Rick Jensen and John J. Moment*

How vast the mercy and the love  
My heart can now proclaim  
Dry bones to flesh and blood were brought  
Now sing the Father's name

*CHORUS*

*Women* How great the love  
*Men* That He would leave the throne  
*Women* How great the love  
*Men* The Word became flesh and bone  
*Women* How great the love  
*Men* Came here to dwell and die  
*All* And now the Father lifts the Son up high

How vast the patience, and the grace  
To chase us to the end  
Out to a wretched wicked man  
My God now condescends

*CHORUS*

Wandering and lost You sought us and found us  
Wrap now your peace Like a mantle around us

How deep the unseen holiness  
That calls me to His name  
Breathes life into this heart of stone  
To glorify His name

*CHORUS*

# Come to Me

*Randall Goodgame*

*CHORUS*

Come to me  
All of you who are  
Weary and burdened,  
And I will give you rest  
(Repeat)

All of you  
Take up my yoke  
And learn from me  
For I am gentle  
And humble in heart  
And you will find  
Rest for your souls

All of you  
Take up my yoke  
And learn from me  
For I am gentle  
And humble in heart  
And you will find  
Rest for your souls

*CHORUS*

My yoke is easy  
My burden is light  
(Repeat x3)

*CHORUS*



# Statement of Faith

*EACH WEEK WE CONFESS TRUTH SHARED BY CHRISTIANS THROUGHOUT HISTORY. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FROM AN ADAPTATION OF "THE WESTMINSTER CONFSSION OF FAITH," 1648.*

*(from chapter 8: Of Christ the Mediator)*

*Congregation*

**The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being truly and eternally God, of one substance and equal with the Father, when the fullness of time came, took upon himself mankind's nature, with all the essential properties and common infirmities of it, yet without sin, being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the virgin Mary, and of her substance.**

**Thus two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. This person is truly God and truly man, and yet is one Christ, the only mediator between God and man.**

## Ezekiel 14

<sup>1</sup>Then certain of the elders of Israel came to me and sat before me. <sup>2</sup>And the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>3</sup>“Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and set the stumbling block of their iniquity before their faces. Should I indeed let myself be consulted by them?”

## 1 John 5

<sup>20</sup>And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. <sup>21</sup>Little children, keep yourselves from idols.



Illustration by Phillip Voth

## Unfolding Grace

2022 Sermon Series

*We are spending several weeks in 2022 exploring the unfolding grace of God in major portions of the Old Testament. This means we often cover large sections of Scripture and skip many otherwise important things. We encourage you to supplement these sermons with depth reading of the surrounding passages on your own.*

# Idolatry and the Glory of God

March 6, 2022 | Exodus 32-34 | Pastor Roger Williams

## God's graciously reveals his glory to his people in response to both failure and faithfulness.

**Exodus 32** <sup>1</sup>When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." <sup>2</sup>So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your

sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." <sup>3</sup>So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. <sup>4</sup>And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"

... <sup>21</sup>And Moses said to Aaron, "What did this people do to you that you have brought such a great sin upon them?" <sup>22</sup>And Aaron said, "Let not the anger of my lord burn hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. <sup>23</sup>For they said to me, 'Make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' <sup>24</sup>So I said to them, 'Let any who have gold take it off.' So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf."

**Exodus 33** <sup>18</sup>Moses said, "Please show me your glory." <sup>19</sup>And he [the Lord] said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. <sup>20</sup>But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." <sup>21</sup>And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, <sup>22</sup>and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup>Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

**Exodus 20** <sup>2</sup>"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

<sup>3</sup>"You shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

**Exodus 34** <sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. <sup>2</sup>Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain. <sup>3</sup>No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain." <sup>4</sup>So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. <sup>5</sup>The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>The LORD passed before him and proclaimed,

"**The LORD, the LORD,**

**a God merciful and gracious,**

**slow to anger, and**

**abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,**

**<sup>7</sup>keeping steadfast love for thousands,**

**forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin,**

**but who will by no means clear the guilty,**

**visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."**

<sup>8</sup>And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. <sup>9</sup>And he said, "If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance."

<sup>10</sup>And he said, "Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the LORD, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.

**John 1** <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... <sup>16</sup>For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

# 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.

# In Christ Alone

*Keith Getty and Stuart Townend*

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, What depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, When strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death: this is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand

No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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

# God Is For Us

*James Ferguson, James Tealy, Jesse Reeves, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren,  
Rich Thompson, and Tiarne Kleyn*

We won't fear the battle, we won't fear the night  
We will walk the valley, with You by our side  
You will go before us, You will lead the way  
We have found a refuge, only You can save

*CHORUS*

Sing with joy now, our God is for us  
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress  
Raise your voice now, no love is greater  
Who can stand against us if our God is for us

Even when I stumble, even when I fall  
Even when I turn back, still Your love is sure  
You will not abandon, You will not forsake  
You will cheer me onward with never ending grace

*CHORUS*

Neither height nor depth can separate us  
Hell and death will not defeat us  
He who gave His Son to free us  
Holds us in His love (x2)

*CHORUS (x2)*

# Benediction

*1 Timothy 1:17*

*Leader*

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever 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*

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