

WORSHIP GATHERING

March 13, 2022

Pre-service reflection:

Isn't our unbelief ... irrational? We believe and proclaim that our God created the universe out of nothing; yet we find it hard to believe that the results of a particular medical test belong to him. We believe and proclaim that our God directs the courses of kings and nations and that he has transformed our own dead hearts into living responsive flesh; yet we find it hard to believe that he can bring our stubborn friends and neighbors to faith in himself. We believe and proclaim that our God entered history as a baby in Bethlehem; yet we find it hard to believe that he is active in our own personal history, holding our hand through the events of this week and the next. We believe and proclaim that he suffered on a cross for our sins and rose again triumphant from the grave to free us from our sins; yet we find it hard to believe that this particular sin of ours could ever be forgiven or that the power of that sinful habit could ever be broken. Our unbelief is always fundamentally irrational, a sinful refusal to fear God, which results equally inevitably in a sinful fear of people and circumstance. It is as irrational for us to cling to our unbelief as it is for a drowning man to cling to a heavy stone.

-Dr. Ian M. Duguid, *Numbers: God's Presence in the Wilderness*, 172.

Call to Worship

Psalm 78

Leader

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth!
I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
things that we have heard and known,
that our fathers have told us.
We will not hide them from their children,
but tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.

Congregation

**He established a testimony in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our fathers
to teach to their children,
that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and arise and tell them to their children,
so that they should set their hope in God
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;
and that they should not be like their fathers,
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,
whose spirit was not faithful to God.**

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

Be Still My Soul

Jane Laurie Borthwick, Rick Jensen, and Katharina Amalia von Schlegel

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain
Leave to thy God to order and provide
In every change He faithful will remain

CHORUS

Be still my soul, the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt with us below
Be still my soul, when change and tears are past
All safe and blessed we shall meet Him at last

Be still my soul thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past
Thy hope thy confidence let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last

CHORUS

Be still my soul the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment grief and fear are gone
Sorrow forgot love's purest joys restored

CHORUS

All safe and blessed we shall meet Him at last
All safe and blessed we shall meet Him at last
Be still my soul

Confession of Sin

ADAPTED FROM *PRONE TO WANDER*, 32.

Leader

O God from whom all blessings flow, we have sinned times without number just this week and have repeatedly been guilty of searching for blessings in this world apart from you.

Congregation

Instead of delighting in your Word, we have chosen instead to be counseled by the godless wisdom of our culture. When we do read your Word, we are more prone to meditate on our own goodness for having done so than on your amazing love for us in Christ.

Leader

You have provided a rich feast for our souls in your Word and the Lord's Supper, yet we are careless in our use of those means, bored by your gospel of grace, and more captivated by your gifts than we are by you.

Congregation

Holy Spirit, we need you to remind us often that we are clothed every moment in the righteousness of Jesus. As we race through each day chasing blessing in sinful ways, stop us often and remind us that you have already given us every spiritual blessing in Christ and the rich gifts of your Word, fellowship, and worship.

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

Declaration of Pardon

Psalm 32

Leader

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

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

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

Statement of Faith

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

(from chapter 8.3: Of Christ the Mediator)

Congregation

The Lord Jesus, in his human nature united to the divine, was sanctified and anointed with the Holy Spirit beyond measure, having in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

It pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell in him, for the purpose that, being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, he might be thoroughly equipped to carry out the office of a mediator, and a payment for them.

He did not take this office to himself, but was called to it by his Father, who put all power and judgment into his hand, and gave him the command to carry it out.

census from twenty years old and upward, who have grumbled against me, ³⁹not one shall come into the land where I swore that I would make you dwell, except Caleb... and Joshua... ³¹But your little ones, who you said would become a prey, I will bring in, and they shall know the land that you have rejected....

³⁹When Moses told these words to all the people of Israel, the people mourned greatly. ⁴⁰And they rose early in the morning and went up to the heights of the hill country, saying, "Here we are. We will go up to the place that the LORD has promised, for we have sinned." ⁴¹But Moses said, "Why now are you transgressing the command of the LORD, when that will not succeed? ⁴²Do not go up, for the LORD is not among you, lest you be struck down before your enemies... ⁴⁴But they presumed to go up to the heights of the hill country... ⁴⁵Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and defeated them and pursued them, even to Hormah.



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.

Learning in the Wilderness

March 13, 2022 | Numbers 10-14 | Pastor Roger Williams

1 Corinthians 10 ¹ For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers ...were overthrown in the wilderness...⁶ Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did...¹¹ **Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.**

**From the Israelites in the wilderness,
we learn about faith, fear, and formation.**

Exodus 20-31: Giving of the law (civil, ceremonial, moral). Fourteen months later...

Numbers 13 ¹ The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a chief among them.” ³ So Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran, according to the command of the LORD, all of them men who were heads of the people of Israel. ⁴ And these were their names...from the tribe of...⁶ from the tribe of Judah, Caleb... ⁸ from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Nun...¹⁶ These were the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun Joshua...

...²⁵ At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. ²⁶ And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the people of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. They brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷ And they told him, “We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. ²⁸ However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. And besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. ²⁹ The Amalekites dwell in the land of the Negeb. The Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the hill country. And the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and along the Jordan.”

³⁰ But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, “Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it.” ³¹ Then the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are.” ³² So they brought to the people of Israel a bad

report of the land that they had spied out, saying, “The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height. ³³ And there we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak, who come from the Nephilim), and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.”

Numbers 14 ¹ Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. ² And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! ³ Why is the LORD bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?” ⁴ And they said to one another, “Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”

... ⁶ And Joshua...and Caleb... who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes ⁷ and said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, “The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land. ⁸ If the LORD delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. ⁹ Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them.” ¹⁰ Then all the congregation said to stone them with stones. But the glory of the LORD appeared at the tent of meeting to all the people of Israel.

¹¹ And the LORD said to Moses, “How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.” ¹³ But Moses said to the LORD...

²⁰ Then the LORD said, “I have pardoned, according to your word...²⁶ And the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²⁷ “How long shall this wicked congregation grumble against me? I have heard the grumblings of the people of Israel, which they grumble against me. ²⁸ Say to them, ‘As I live, declares the LORD, what you have said in my hearing I will do to you: ²⁹ your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness, and of all your number, listed in the

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.

Your Labor is Not in Vain

Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach, and Wendell Kimbrough

Your labor is not in vain
though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained
Your planting and reaping are never the same
But your labor is not in vain.

CHORUS

For I am with you, I am with you.
I am with you, I am with you
For I have called you, called you by name
Your labor is not in vain.

Your labor is not unknown
though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan.
The place of your toil may not seem like a home
but your labor is not unknown.

CHORUS

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
the fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth,
for all that is old will at last be made new:
the vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

CHORUS

The houses you labored to build
will finally with laughter and joy be filled.
The serpent that hurts and destroys shall be killed
and all that is broken be healed.

CHORUS

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

Sing to the King

Jordy Searcy

Oh Lord, we give you our lives
Let the veil be lifted from our eyes
You are God, You created us...to Sing to You

CHORUS

Sing to the King, all the people
Sing to the King, for He is the One
Who is worthy of all the praise
That we could ever give

Sing to the One who paid our ransom
Sing of His name, Higher than the heavens
Sing to the King for who He is

Oh Lord, we lift our praises high
May our voices and our hearts collide
And perform You a living sacrifice
We were made for You

CHORUS

Oh God above the nations
Oh God above our sin
Lean your ears to hear us
Let Your church sing again

CHORUS

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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