

WORSHIP GATHERING

March 20, 2022

Pre-service reflection:

[The] high and holy Christ does not cringe at reaching out and touching dirty sinners and numbed sufferers. Such embrace is precisely what he loves to do. He cannot bear to hold back. We naturally think of Jesus touching us the way a little boy reaches out to touch a slug for the first time—face screwed up, cautiously extending an arm, giving a yelp of disgust upon contact, and instantly withdrawing. . . . This is why we need a Bible. Our natural intuition can only give us a God like us.

-Dr. Dane Ortlund, **Gentle and Lowly*. 24.

* *Gentle and Lowly* is currently available for FREE at the New City book stand in the foyer.

Call to Worship

1 Peter 1

Leader

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Congregation

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Leader

Though you have not seen him, you love him.

Congregation

Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Michael Bleecker

Come behold the wondrous mystery in the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord, He is alive
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as will we be when He comes.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord, He is alive

Praise the Lord Ye Heavens

Eric J. Marshall

Praise the Lord, Ye heavens adore Him
Praise Him, angels in the height
Sun and moon rejoice before Him
Praise Him all ye stars of light

Praise the Lord for He hath spoken
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed
Laws which never shall be broken
For their guidance He hath made

CHORUS

All creation join the song of praise
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy
All of our days

Praise the Lord for He is glorious
Never shall His promise fail
God hath made His saints victorious
Sin and death shall not prevail

CHORUS

Glory, Glory, All glory to You Lord...

Praise the God of our salvation
Hosts on high His power proclaim
Heaven and earth and all creation
Laud and magnify His Name

CHORUS

Confession of Sin

ADAPTED FROM *PRONE TO WANDER*, 34.

Leader

We confess with our lips the blessedness of taking refuge in you. However, our lives often proclaim a different story. We sing the wonders of your love, but in our hearts we grumble and complain about your perfect law, under whose wise counsel we chafe.

Congregation

We declare that we long for your coming, but in truth we are often more wrapped up in the gifts that you give us than we are in you yourself. Instead of rejoicing in the heritage you have given us, and humbly resting in your wisdom in the trials into which you bring us, we are constantly concerned about the present and fearful for the future. Father, forgive us.

Lord Jesus, thank you that you are the King who rules in truth and grace. You are the First and the Last, the Lord of the nations, worthy of the praises of all peoples. Thank you that you bore the curse of Adam's sin and ours, and that through your perfect obedience you bring unbounded blessing to all those who trust in you.

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

Declaration of Pardon

from Heidelberg Catechism 18

Leader

And who is this mediator—true God and at the same time truly human and truly righteous? Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was given us to set us completely free and to make us right with God!

In Christ you are forgiven, free, and restored!

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

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

Wood and Nails

Isaac Wardell, Keith Watts, and Madison Cunningham

O humble carpenter down on your hands and knees
Look on your handiwork and build a house
So you may dwell in Me, So you may dwell in Me

CHORUS

The work was done with nothing but
Wood and nails in Your scar-borne hands
O show me how to work and praise
Trusting that I am Your instrument

O loving laborer with the sweat upon your face
O build a table that I too may join you In the Father's place
Oh in the Father's place

CHORUS

The kingdom's come and built upon
Wood and nails gripped with joyfulness
So send me out within Your ways, Knowing that the task is finished

The dead will rise and give You praise
Wood and nails will not hold them down
These wooden tombs, we'll break them soon
And fashion them into flower beds

The curse is done the battle won,
Swords bent down into plowshares
Your scar-borne hands, we'll join with them
Serving at the table You've prepared

Statement of Faith

EACH WEEK WE CONFESS HISTORICAL CHRISTIAN TRUTH AND ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FROM AN ADAPTATION OF THE “THE WESTMINSTER LARGER CATECHISM” - A QUESTION AND ANSWER TEACHING TOOL THAT HAS BEEN SHAPING CHRIST’S CHURCH SINCE 1648.

(QUESTIONS 1-3)

Leader

Q. 1. What is the main and highest purpose of mankind?

Congregation

Mankind’s main and highest purpose is to glorify God, and to fully enjoy him forever.

Leader

Q. 2. How do we know that there is a God?

Congregation

The true light of nature in all people and the works of God declare plainly that there is a God, but only his Word and Spirit reveal him to people sufficiently and effectually for their salvation.

Leader

Q. 3. What is the Word of God?

Congregation

The holy Scriptures of the Old and New Covenant are the Word of God, the only rule of faith and obedience.

The Promised Land

March 20, 2022 | Joshua 1 | Pastor Roger Williams

The Lord empowers *redemptive courage* by promise, word, and presence.

Joshua 1

¹After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, ²"Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. ³Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory.

Why the Promised Land?

⁵No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. ⁶**Be strong and courageous**, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

Strong courage through promise

⁷Only **be strong and very courageous**, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. ⁸This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Strong courage through word

⁹Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous**. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Strong courage through presence

What about "Holy War"?

Is God the "vindictive, racist, genocidal, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser" that famous atheist Richard Dawkins claims in *The God Delusion*?

1. Genesis 12, 15, 17

Promise of land to Abraham

2. Typology

Hebrews 3-4: The Promised Land was a type/foreshadowing of the heavenly rest that is in Jesus and will eventually be in the whole earth.

3. Hundreds of years before, God warned of the wicked evil of the Canaanites"

Genesis 15:16 "And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

4. "Complete destruction" is war-rhetoric expressed in many cultures to mean thorough defeat. Here, especially, it means removing false worship.

Deuteronomy 7 ¹"When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you... ²and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must devote them to complete destruction. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them. ³You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, ⁴for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. ⁵But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their carved images with fire.

5. God was not playing ethnic favorites. His removal of the Canaanites was because of their evil and wicked practices for hundreds of years.

Deuteronomy 9 ⁵Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas O. Chisholm, William M. Runyan

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

CHORUS

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

CHORUS

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

CHORUS X2

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

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

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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 **NEW CITY
CHURCH**