



WORSHIP GATHERING

November 8, 2020

Welcome

New City Church is a spiritual family defined by the good news that God has taken loving initiative in Jesus Christ to bring salvation to sinners and a sin-marred world. Through Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, the restoration of all things has begun, beginning with those who admit their need and trust his gracious provision. This restoration will eventually reach to the ends of the earth and touch every part of creation.

This is our joyful confession
and the life-giving hope of our community.

Gathering Song

Feel free to join in as you find your seat and prepare for worship

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL

Isaac Wardell, Orlando Palmer, and Paul Zach

Blessed are the merciful
Blessed are the merciful
Blessed are the merciful
For they shall receive mercy, mercy

Forgive us as we forgive those who sin against us
Forgive us as we forgive those who sin against us

Lord have mercy on us
Show Your mercy through us
Lord have mercy on us
Show Your mercy through us
Lord have mercy on us
Show Your mercy through us

Mercy

Call to Worship

Isaiah 66

Leader

This is what the LORD says:

“Heaven is my throne,

and the earth is my footstool.

Where is the house you will build for me?

Where will my resting place be?

Has not my hand made all these things,

and so they came into being?”

declares the LORD.

Congregation

“These are the ones I look on with favor:

those who are humble and contrite in spirit,

and who tremble at my word.

Congregation

I cry out to God Most High,

to God who fulfills his purpose for me.

He will send from heaven and save me;

he will put to shame him who tramples on me.

God will send out his steadfast love and his faithfulness.

Sursum Corda

The Choir, Arr. Bruce Benedict

Leader: The Lord be with you

Congregation: **And also with you**

Leader: The Lord be with you

Congregation: **And also with you**

Leader: Lift up your hearts

Congregation: **We lift them to the Lord**

All: **Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God**

Leader: It is right to give him Thanks and praise

Congregation: **It is right to give him Thanks and praise**

Leader: Lift up your hearts

Congregation: **We lift them to the Lord**

All: **Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God**

Leader: It is right to give him thanks and praise

Congregation: **It is right to give him thanks and praise**

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

Confession of Sin

Leader

Let us confess our sin together.

Congregation

Father, sin is our disease, our monster, our enemy, born in our birth, alive in our life, present in our character, corrupting our abilities, following us as a shadow, intermingling with our every thought, our chain that holds us captive. And yet we embrace sin still.

But you have shown us tender compassion, and your heart moves quickly to our rescue. Your love endured our curse, your mercy bore our justice. Please humble and restore us again because Jesus has won your favor for us. Amen.

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

Declaration of Pardon

Hebrews 10:19–22

Leader

“Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.” In Christ you are forgiven, free, and restored!

Congregation

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

Love Constraining to Obedience

W. Cowper

CHORUS

To see the Law by Christ fulfilled
To hear His pardoning voice
Changes a slave into a child
And duty into choice

How long beneath the Law I lay
In bondage and distress
I toiled the precept to obey
But toiled without success

CHORUS

Then all my servile
Works were done
A righteousness to raise
Now freely chosen in the Son
I freely choose His ways

CHORUS X2

Confession of Faith

NEW CITY CATECHISM - QUESTION #4

(The underlined portions correspond to the Children's Catechism studied at home this week by New City families.)

Leader

How and why did God create us?

Congregation

God created us male and female in his own image to know him, love him, live with him, and glorify him. And it is right that we who were created by God should live to his glory.

Prayer

Sermon

SEE ACCOMPANYING INSERT

Pride Blocks Joy

November 8, 2020 | Luke 14:1-11 | Pastor Roger Williams

The Kingdom of God is a party, but pride blocks the joy.

Luke 14

¹One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere fleabites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind...Now what you want to get clear is that Pride is essentially competitive—is competitive by its very nature—while the other vices are competitive only, so to speak, by accident. Pride gets no pleasure out of having something, only out of having more of it than the next man. We say that people are proud of being rich, or clever, or good-looking, but they are not. They are proud of being richer, or cleverer, or better-looking than others. If everyone else became equally rich, or clever, or good-looking there would be nothing to be proud about. It is the comparison that makes you proud: the pleasure of being above the rest. Once the element of competition has gone, pride has gone. That is why I say that Pride is essentially competitive in a way the other vices are not.

- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, 122 (2001).

One of the great ironies of sin is that when human beings try to become more than human beings, to be as gods, they fall to become lower than human beings. To be your own God and live for your own glory and power leads to the most bestial and cruel kind of behavior. Pride makes you a predator, not a person.

-Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods*, 121.

Tell Out My Soul

words: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1962 ; music: Holly Dutton, 2004

Tell out, my soul the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice
Tender to me the promise of His word
In God my Savior shall my heart rejoice

Tell out, my soul the greatness of His name!
Make known His might the deeds His arm has done
His mercy sure from age to age the same
His holy name-the Lord the mighty One

Tell out, my soul the greatness of His might!
Powers, dominions lay their glory by
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high

Tell out, my soul the glories of His word!
Firm is His promise and His mercy sure
Tell out, my soul the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forever more!

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

Leader

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

ACTIVE DEACONS & DEACONESSES (“DIACONATE”)

Tom Abbett, Megan Flahive, Rich Scott (Chairman), Emily Taylor, Rebekah Torzewski, Chris Vincent, Teresa Wedges

ACTIVE ELDERS (THE “SESSION”)

Michael Erler, Ben Flack, Blake Williams, Caleb Winter (Clerk)

STAFF

Taylor Bradbury — *Director of Ministries*

Ben Flack — *Director of Liturgy*

Rebekah Torzewski — *Church Administrator*

Roger Williams — *Senior Pastor*

Emily Winter — *Director of Children’s Ministries*

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