

WORSHIP GATHERING

December 13, 2020
Advent, week 3

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

HOPE FOR EVERYONE

Matt Maher and Jason Ingram

Hear the angels sing, there's hope for everyone
To announce our King, there's hope for everyone
What good news they bring, there's hope for everyone
Angels sing there's hope for everyone

They came from afar, there's hope for everyone
Wise men saw the star, there's hope for everyone
Shepherds heard the choir, there's hope for everyone
From afar, there's hope for everyone

CHORUS

We are waiting on the promise
For the One who lights the darkness
Bending low to be among us
Bring Your glory in the highest, Jesus

Come then, on the clouds, there's hope for everyone
Hear the trumpets sound, there's hope for everyone
All of heaven shouts, there's hope for everyone
On the clouds, there's hope for everyone

CHORUS

All of heaven shouts, there's hope for everyone
Heaven shouts, there's hope for everyone
Heaven shouts, there's hope for everyone
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Call to Worship

Micah 5

Leader

Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops;
siege is laid against us;
with a rod they strike the judge of Israel
on the cheek.

Congregation

**But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.**

Leader

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

Congregation

**And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of
the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the
ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.**

Joyous Light

John Henry Gower, Chris Tomlin, David Crowder, Louie Giglio

Hail Gladdening Light, Sun so bright
Jesus Christ, End of night
Alleluia

Hail Gladdening Light, Eternal Bright
In evening time, 'round us shine
Alleluia, Alleluia

CHORUS

We hymn the Father, We hymn the Son,
We hymn the Spirit, Wholly Divine
No one more worthy of songs to be sung
To the Giver Of Life, All glory is Thine

Hail Gladdening Light, Such joyous Light
O Brilliant Star, Forever shine
Alleluia, Alleluia

CHORUS

Is He Worthy?

Andrew Peterson & Ben Shive

Leader: Do you feel the world is broken?

Congregation: **We do**

Do you feel the shadows deepen? — **We do**

But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? — **We do**

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? — **We do**

Is all creation groaning? — **It is**

Is a new creation coming? — **It is**

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? — **It is**

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? — **It is**

CHORUS

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?

Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave

He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave

Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?

Is He worthy of this? — **He is**

Does the Father truly love us? — **He does**

Does the Spirit move among us? — **He does**

And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? — **He does**

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? — **He does**

CHORUS

From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue

He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son

Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this?

He is! Is He worthy? Is He worthy? He is! He is!

Confession of Sin

Leader

Lord God, our lives are littered with sin.

We forget our neighbor's needs and do not love you above all else.

Congregation

We need a Savior.

Help us in this Advent to be ready for Jesus in our own hearts. O come, O come, Savior of the world. Amen.

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

Declaration of Pardon

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Leader

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

In Christ you are forgiven, free, and restored!

Congregation

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

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Andrew Peterson

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground
An angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around
"Fear not!" said he; For mighty dread had seized their troubled minds
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind

To you in David's town this day Is born of David's line
The Savior who is Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign:
The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed
All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands and in a manger laid"

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Christ is born

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Christ is born

"All glory be to God on high and to the earth be peace

Good will henceforth from God to man, begin and never cease."

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Christ is born

"All glory be to God on high and to the earth be peace

Good will henceforth from God to man, begin and never cease."

Confession of Faith

NEW CITY CATECHISM - QUESTION #9

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

Leader

What does God require in the first, second, and third commandments?

Congregation

First, that we know and trust God as the only true and living God. Second, that we avoid all idolatry and do not worship God improperly. Third, that we treat God's name with fear and reverence, honoring also his Word and works.

Prayer

Sermon

SEE ACCOMPANYING INSERT

Luke 15:25–32

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

**God graciously invites us to repent
of our self-righteousness and pride.**

*Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek
and to save the lost.*

The “Older Brother” Spirit

December 13, 2020

Luke 15:1–2 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

1. The “Older Brother” Spirit: Self-Righteousness and Pride

C. S. Lewis A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and, of course, as long as you are looking down you can’t see something that is above you.

J. C. Ryle We are all naturally self-righteous. It is the family disease of all the children of Adam.

C. H. Spurgeon Conceit of our own righteousness clings to us as the skin to the flesh.

2. The Father’s Response: Gracious Invitation

Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

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CHORUS

We are waiting on the promise
For the One who lights the darkness
Bending low to be among us
Bring Your glory in the highest, Jesus

Come let us adore, there's hope for everyone
On the manger floor there's hope for everyone
What are you waitin' for, there's hope for everyone
Come adore, there's hope for everyone

CHORUS

Come then, on the clouds, there's hope for everyone
Hear the trumpets sound, there's hope for everyone
All of heaven shouts, there's hope for everyone
On the clouds, there's hope for everyone

CHORUS

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Heaven shouts, there's hope for everyone
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Benediction

Colossians 1:11–12

Leader

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

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*

CONTACT

P.O. Box 19171

Indianapolis, IN 46219

admin@newcityindy.org

newcityindy.org

facebook.com/newcityindy

