NORSHIP GATHERING

April 25, 2021

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;

to all who mourn and long for comfort;

to all who struggle and desire victory;

to all who sin and need a Savior;

to all who are strangers and want fellowship;

to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;

and to all who will come,

New City opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome.

Call to Worship

Isaiah 9

Leader

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Congregation

You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Leader

For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

Congregation

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace

there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne

and over his kingdom,

establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness

from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

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

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Frederick Henry Hedge, Martin Luther, Jordan Critz, and Matt Boswell

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing
Our Helper He amidst the flood of mortal ills prevailing
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe
His craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cruel hate
On earth is not his equal

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He The Lord of Hosts His Name, from age to age the same And He must win the battle

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure One little word shall fell him

CHORUS

A mighty fortress, a rock unfailing The king of glory, forever amen For endless ages, enthroned in praises The king of glory, forever amen

That word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them abideth
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still
His Kingdom is forever

CHORUS

Whom Shall I Fear

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Scott Cash

You hear me when I call, You are my morning song Though darkness fills the night, it cannot hide the light Whom shall I fear?

You crush the enemy underneath my feet
You are my sword and shield, though troubles linger still
Whom shall I fear?

CHORUS

I know who goes before me, I know who stands behind The God of angel armies is always by my side The one who reigns forever, He is a friend of mine The God of angel armies is always by my side

My strength is in Your name, for You alone can save You will deliver me, yours is the victory
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

CHORUS

And nothing formed against me shall stand You hold the whole world in Your hands I'm holding on to Your promises You are faithful, You are faithful (x2)

The God of angel armies is always by my side

Confession of Sin

Leader

O Lord, we want to enter Your presence, worshipping You face to face, awed by Your majesty, greatness, and glory; but encouraged by Your love. Yet there is a coldness in our hearts, a hardness toward You, an unwillingness to admit our sin and need for You.

Congregation

Forgive us, for Jesus' sake. Come near and strengthen us until Christ reigns supreme within us, in every thought, word, and deed; in a faith that purifies the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to You, and always clings to the cross. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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

Declaration of Pardon

Romans 8:1-2

Leader

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. In Christ you are forgiven, free, and restored!"

In Christ you are forgiven, free, and restored!

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

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**

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 of this?

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

Confession of Faith

NEW CITY CATECHISM - QUESTION #28

(We are working our way through the New City Catechism. Today's question, taken in isolation, may seem stark. Keep in mind that it is embedded in a series of questions about redemption, what Jesus rescues us from, and his intention to rid the world he loves from the destruction of sin. For those who refuse rescue and choose to align themselves with the destructive forces of sin in this world, there is in unfortunate consequence.)

Leader

What happens after death to those not united to Christ by faith?

Congregation

At the day of judgment they will receive the fearful but just sentence of condemnation pronounced against them. They will be cast out from the favorable presence of God, into hell, to be justly and grievously punished, forever.

(kids version)

They will be cast out from the presence of God, into hell, to be justly punished forever.

Prayer

Sermon

SEE ACCOMPANYING INSERT

Be Still and Know that I Am God

April 25, 2021 | Psalm 46 | Pastor Roger Williams

The known presence of God brings rest in a restless world.

Psalm 46

To the choirmaster. Of the Sons of Korah. According to Alamoth. A Song.

- ¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- ²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- ³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*

rest from fear

- ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
- ⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

rest from stress

- ⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
- 10 "Be still, and know that I am God.I will be exalted among the nations,I will be exalted in the earth!"
- "The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

rest from striving

We sing this psalm to the praise of God, because God is with us and powerfully and miraculously preserves and defends his church and his word against all fanatical spirits, against the gates of hell, against the implacable hatred of the devil, and against all the assaults of the world, the fish, and sin.

-Martin Luther (quoted in Spurgeon, Treasury of David, 1.344)

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

- Jesus, in Matthew 11:28-30

Why Americans fear more when they have far less to fear than in other moments in the past is a question that puzzles numerous scholars. One argument used to explain this 'paradox of a safe society' is that prosperity encourages people to become more risk and loss averse.

-Dr. Frank Furedi, How Fear Works,: Culture of Fear in the Twenty-first Century, 22.

Lift High the Name of Jesus

Ed Cash, Fionan De Barra, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our King
Make known the power of His grace, the beauty of His peace
Remember how His mercy reached, and we cried out to Him
He lifted us to solid ground, to freedom from our sin

CHORUS

Oh sing my soul

And tell all He's done

'Til the earth and heavens are filled with His glory

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Lord
His pow'r in us is greater than, is greater than this world
To share the reason for our hope, to serve with love and grace
That all who see Him shine through us might bring the Father praise

CHORUS

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Light

No other name on earth can save, can raise us a soul to life

He opens up our eyes to see the harvest He has grown

We labor in His fields of grace as He leads sinners home

CHORUS X2

Benediction

Based on Psalm 46:10-11

Leader
As you go,
Be still, and know that He is God.
He will be exalted among the nations,
He will be exalted in the earth
The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
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, Mark Moss, Joe Sugimura, Dustin Sutherland, Caleb Winter (Clerk)

STAFF

Taylor Bradbury — Associate Pastor

Ben Flack — Director of Liturgy

Rebekah Torzewski — Church Administrator

Roger Williams — Senior Pastor

Emily Winter — Director of Children's Ministries

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