

WORSHIP GATHERING

October 10, 2021

Pre-service reflection:

(Augustine describing his own awakening to the majesty of Jesus)

Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours.

— St. Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions*

Call to Worship

Colossians 1

Leader

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Congregation

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven.

Come to Me

Buddy Greene

CHORUS

Come to me
All who are weary
And heavy laden,
And I will give you rest, rest, rest
I'll give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you
And learn from me
For I am gentle
And humble at heart
And you will find
Rest for your soul
For my yoke is easy
And my burden is light.

CHORUS

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CHORUS

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

His Mercy Is More

Matt Papa

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

CHORUS

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn'
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

CHORUS

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

CHORUS (X2)

Confession of Sin

Leader

Let us confess our sin together.

Congregation

God of Grace, You love us, but we have often not loved You. You call, but we have often not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns.

By our actions and our attitudes we often praise what You condemn. Help us to admit our sin, so that as You come to us in mercy we may repent, turn to You, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

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

Declaration of Pardon

From 1 Corinthians 15

Leader

“The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through
our Lord Jesus Christ.”

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

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

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)

CHORUS X2

The God of angel armies is always by my side

Confession of Faith

NEW CITY CATECHISM - QUESTION #52

Leader

What hope does everlasting life hold for us?

Congregation

It reminds us that this present fallen world is not all there is; soon we will live with and enjoy God forever in the new city, in the new heaven and the new earth, where we will be fully and forever freed from all sin and will inhabit renewed, resurrection bodies in a renewed, restored creation.

(kids version)

Leader

What hope does everlasting life hold for us?

Congregation

That we will live with and enjoy God forever in the new heaven and the new earth, where we will be forever freed from all sin in a renewed, restored creation.

Prayer

The Bride of Christ

October 10, 2021 | Ephesians 5:21-33 | Pastor Roger Williams

Jesus cherishes the church as his treasured bride.

Ephesians 5

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,

²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴**Now as the church submits to Christ**, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, **as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her**, ²⁶**that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word**, ²⁷**so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.** ²⁸In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own flesh, **but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church**, ³⁰**because we are members of his body.** ³¹“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³²**This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.** ³³However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Philippians 2

³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

2 Corinthians 11

²For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. ³But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

Revelation 21

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Sermon & Communion

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. We are intentionally using slightly larger samples of bread and wine than are normal in most Protestant churches. This is an attempt to slow down the process a bit and savor the taste while reflecting on the meaning.

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.

Come People of the Risen King

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend

Come people of the Risen King, who delight to bring Him praise
Come all and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace
From the shifting shadows of the earth, we will lift our eyes to Him
Where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in

CHORUS

Rejoice rejoice let ev'ry tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O Church of Christ rejoice

Come those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night
Come those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight
For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease
But follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace

CHORUS

Come young and old from ev'ry land, men and women of the faith
Come those with full or empty hands, find the riches of His grace
Over all the world His people sing, shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through ev'ry age: Our God is all in all

CHORUS X2

Benediction

Ephesians 6

Leader

Peace be to you brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

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*

Erin Winders — *Director of Nursery Ministries*

Emily Winter — *Director of Children’s Ministries*

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 **NEW CITY
CHURCH**