

WORSHIP GATHERING

October 31, 2021

Pre-service reflection:

"Oh, the power, the melting, conquering, transforming power of that dear cross of Christ! My brethren, we have but to abide by the preaching of it, we have but constantly to tell abroad the matchless story, and we may expect to see the most remarkable spiritual results. We need despair of no man now that Jesus has died for sinners. With such a hammer as the doctrine of the cross, the most flinty heart will be broken; and with such a fire as the sweet love of Christ, the most mighty iceberg will be melted. We need never despair for the heathenish or superstitious races of men; if we can but find occasion to bring the doctrine of Christ crucified into contact with their natures, it will yet change them, and Christ will be their king."

-C. H. Spurgeon, *The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*, 15: 146.

Call to Worship

Psalm 96

Leader

Oh sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Congregation

**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.**

Leader

Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Congregation

**Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!**

Sola

Zac Hicks

By Your Word alone
Our eyes have seen
Your salvation;
Through faith alone,
Not by the works of our hands;

By Your grace alone
We're purchased from
Every nation;
Through Christ alone we stand.
To God alone be all the glory!

CHORUS

Lead us now, O King,
In the worship of Your name;
Make us pure and clean,
Tune our hearts to
Sing Your praise.

Lord, we long to bring
Something worthy of Your fame:
Through Your Word
Accept our praise;
Through Your Word
Accept our praise.

Psalm 76 (God is Known)

Zac Hicks

God is known among His people, Every mouth His praises fill
From of old He has established, His abode on Zion's hill
There He broke the sword and arrow
Bade the noise of war be still

CHORUS

Awesome is the revelation, God is known among us here
Loudest songs of exultation, God is known among us here!

When from heaven your sentence sounded
All the earth in fear was still
While to save the meek and lowly
God in judgment wrought His will
Even the wrath of man shall praise You
Your designs it shall fulfill

CHORUS

Who is this King of Glory? His name is Jesus! Jesus!
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God
Jesus! Jesus! Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
His name is Jesus! Jesus!
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God
Jesus! Jesus! Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

CHORUS X2

He Will Hold Me Fast

Keith & Kristyn Getty

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

CHORUS

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

CHORUS

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

CHORUS X2

Confession of Sin

Leader

Let us confess our sin together.

Congregation

Lord God, eternal and almighty Father, we confess and acknowledge before your holy majesty that, apart from Jesus, we are sinners, born in iniquity and corruption, prone to do evil, and incapable of any true good relative to your character.

We turn from our sin and our sins with true repentance, asking for your grace to relieve our distress. Father, you are gracious and full of compassion. Have mercy upon us in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Declaration of Pardon

From 1 John 1:7-9

Leader

“The blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness”

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

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

He is Worthy

Nathan Stiff and David Zimmer

Holy, holy is the Son of God
None can stand before His majesty
Beautiful beyond our highest thought
Worthy! He is worthy!

Holy, holy is the Word made flesh
King who bore our pain and poverty
Come to claim the rebel and the wretch
Worthy! He is worthy!

CHORUS

All glory and honor, all power and praise
Be to Your Name, be to Your Name
For no one could rival Your glory and fame
We lift high the Name of Jesus

Holy, holy is the Lamb who died
Canceling our debt at Calvary
Rising from the grave to reign on high
Worthy! He is worthy!

CHORUS

Holy, holy, Lord Almighty
Worthy is Your Name
Holy, holy, none beside You
Greatly to be praised

CHORUS

Confession of Faith

EACH WEEK WE CONFESS TRUTH SHARED BY CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD AND THROUGHOUT HISTORY. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FROM THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM, ORIGINALLY WRITTEN IN 1562.

Leader

(Question 1) What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Congregation

That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

Christ has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

(Question 2) What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such redemption.

Prayer

Abiding for Joy

October 31, 2021 | John 15:8-11 | Pastor Taylor Bradbury

**Jesus calls us to abide in his love
so our joy will be full.**

John 15

¹ I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ **By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.**

John 17:24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

Philippians 2:12-13 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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.

Abide In Me

Abide in me, O Lord, and I in Thee,
From this good hour, oh, leave me nevermore;
Then shall the discord cease, the wound be healed,
The lifelong bleeding of the soul be o'er.

Abide in me; o'ershadow by Thy love
Each half formed purpose and dark thought of sin;
Quench e're it rise each selfish, low desire,
And keep my soul as Thine, calm and divine.

CHORUS

We raise our voices to the father.
He hears our prayers through His son.
We are enabled by His Spirit.
Let your name be hallowed. Let your kingdom come.

As some rare perfume in a vase of clay,
Pervades it with a fragrance not its own,
So, when Thou dwellest in a mortal soul,
All heaven's own sweetness seems around it thrown.

Abide in me; there have been moments blest
When I have heard Thy voice and felt Thy power;
Then evil lost its grasp; and passion, hushed,
Owned the divine enchantment of the hour.

CHORUS

These were but seasons beautiful and rare;
Abide in me, and they shall ever be;
Fulfill at once Thy precept and my prayer,
Come, and abide in me, and I in Thee.

CHORUS

Jesus Is Alive

*James Tealy, Jaywan Maxwell, Jesse Reeves, Michael Farren,
Niki Shepherd, Tiarne Tranter*

There is now a hope that lasts beyond our days
For the One that once was buried lives again
Now the tomb is bare and empty and the stone is rolled away
Praise the Risen One who overcame the grave

All you broken hearted, all you worn and weak
Come find living water, everlasting streams
To the wandering spirit, lost and searching, wanting something more
Find the Risen King who overcomes the world

CHORUS

Let there be dancing in the darkness
And let our song break through the night
Lift your voice and sing that Christ is King, for Jesus is Alive!

No more condemnation, no more doubt and fear
For our sin and shame they have no power here
In His resurrection perfect love has set the captives free
Praise the Risen King who stands in victory

CHORUS X2

Hallelujah, death is undone, Hallelujah, Jesus has won
Hallelujah, we overcome, Oh in Jesus, Oh in Jesus (x3)

CHORUS X2

Lift your voice and sing that Christ is King, for Jesus is Alive!

Benediction

Ephesians 6:23-24

Leader

Peace be to the 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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