

WORSHIP GATHERING

November 14, 2021

Pre-service reflection:

Modernity presents an interlocking system of values that has invaded and settled within the psyche of every person. Modernity is simply unprecedented in its power to remake human appetites, thinking processes, and values. It is, to put it in biblical terms, the worldliness of our time.

For worldliness is that system of values and beliefs, behaviors and expectations, in any given culture that have at their center the fallen human being and that relegate to their periphery any thought about God. Worldliness is what makes sin look normal in any age and righteousness seem odd.

Modernity is worldliness, and it has concealed its values so adroitly in the abundance, the comfort, and the wizardry of our age that even those who call themselves the people of God seldom recognize them for what they are.”

–David F. Wells, *God in the Wasteland*, 29.

Call to Worship

Psalm 36

Leader

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
your judgments are like the great deep;
man and beast you save, O LORD.

Congregation

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

**The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of
your wings.**

**They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

**For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.**

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

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Stewart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He would give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no powers, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

Confession of Sin

Leader

Let us confess our sin together.

Congregation

Living God, You call us to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives and to be zealous for good works, but we confess that our zeal for good works is often sluggish at best, and is many times altogether lacking.

When we do care about doing the good works to which you call us, we do so out of self-love, out of a desire to exalt ourselves before you and others, rather than out of love for you and a desire to see you exalted in this world.

Other times, we do good works out of a sense of guilt or shame, trying to make up for our lack of good works or for our hidden or overt sins.

We pursue works that are easy for us to do or even those which you never commanded, and we bind others to do the same.

All the while, we neglect to guard our hearts in the process, and we become filled with pride when we are able to succeed in doing good or self-loathing when we fail.

Father, forgive us for thinking so much of ourselves.

Leader

Jesus, thank you for being our representative before the Father. Thank you for never offering dead works, but always living perfectly, loving God and others, glorifying and enjoying your Heavenly Father in the midst of life's difficulties and temptations. You never gave in to pride or self-exaltation, nor to shame or self-loathing, but you did the good works that our Heavenly Father commands for his sake and for ours. Thank you for offering a perfect sacrifice on our behalf, for never tiring of doing good to all around you, not in order to save yourself, but in order to save us.

Congregation

Holy Spirit, make us quick to serve and obey you with glad hearts. Help us to see beyond ourselves to see Jesus as the one who has served and obeyed perfectly in our place.

Leader

Give us grace to want to do good works, and to want to do them for your glory and not our own.

Congregation

Comfort and encourage us when we fail with the knowledge that in Christ we are only victorious, and fill us with your enabling power to strive to do all that you have called us to, even when it is hard. We ask all of these things in the name of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Amen.

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

Declaration of Pardon

Ephesians 2:8-10

Leader

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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

Congregation

In Christ we are forgiven, free, and restored!

Death Was Arrested

*Adam Kersh, Brandon Coker, Heath Balltzglier, Paul Taylor,
and Paul Taylor Smith*

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin
Lost without hope with no place to begin
Your love made a way to let mercy come in
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains
My orphan heart was given a name
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance
When death was arrested and my life began

CHORUS

Oh Your grace so free washes over me
You have made me new now life begins with You
It's Your endless love pouring down on us
You have made us new now life begins with You

Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend
When death was arrested and my life began

CHORUS

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand
That's when death was arrested and my life began

CHORUS

Oh we're free free forever we're free
Come join the song of all the redeemed
Yes we're free free forever amen
When death was arrested and my life began

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

*Dave Cleveland, Edward Perronet, Fionan De Barra, John Rippon,
and Keith Getty*

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race
Ye ransomed from the fall
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all

Let ev'ry kindred ev'ry tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all

Confession of Faith

EACH WEEK WE CONFESS TRUTH SHARED BY CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD AND THROUGHOUT HISTORY. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FROM THE LAUSANNE COVENANT, AN INTERNATIONAL 20TH CENTURY WORK

(1. THE PURPOSE OF GOD)

Leader

We affirm our belief in the one-eternal God, Creator and Lord of the world, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who governs all things according to the purpose of his will.

Congregation

He has been calling out from the world a people for himself, and sending his people back into the world to be his servants and his witnesses, for the extension of his kingdom, the building up of Christ's body, and the glory of his name.

We confess with shame that we have often denied our calling and failed in our mission, by becoming conformed to the world or by withdrawing from it. Yet we rejoice that even when borne by earthen vessels the gospel is still a precious treasure. To the task of making that treasure known in the power of the Holy Spirit we desire to dedicate ourselves anew.

(Isa. 40:28; Matt. 28:19; Eph. 1:11; Acts 15:14; John 17:6, 18; Eph 4:12; 1 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 12:2; II Cor. 4:7)

Abide so Your Fruit Will Give Life

November 14, 2021 | John 15:18-27 | Pastor Roger Williams

Abiding in Jesus creates life-giving conflict.

John 15

¹“I am the true vine,... 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... ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you... **Abide in my love...** ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.....¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

¹⁸“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.

²¹But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. ²²If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³Whoever hates me hates my Father also. ²⁴If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: ‘They hated me without a cause.’

²⁶“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

John 7

Jesus said to them...⁷“The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil.”

John 17

¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

John 18

³⁶Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

1 John 2:15-17

¹⁵Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world,

*the lust of the flesh and
the lust of the eyes and
the boastful pride of life,*

is not from the Father, but is from the world. ¹⁷The world is passing away and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever.

Genesis 3

⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was

*good for food, and that it was
a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to
make one wise,*

she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Prayer

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.

He Will Rejoice

words: Zephaniah 3:17; music: Randall Goodgame

He will rejoice over you with gladness
He will quiet you with his love
He will rejoice over you with singing

He will rejoice over you with gladness
He will quiet you with his love
He will rejoice over you with singing

CHORUS

The Lord God is in your midst
The mighty one who saves
The Lord God is in your midst
The mighty one who saves

He will rejoice over you with gladness
He will quiet you with his love
He will rejoice over you with singing

He will rejoice over you with gladness
He will quiet you with his love
He will rejoice over you with singing

CHORUS X2

DURING THIS LAST SONG, WE INVITE KIDS TO GRAB SHAKERS FROM THE
BACK OF THE GYM AND PLAY ALONG WITH US.

Marvelous Light

Ellie Holcomb and Rusty Varenkamp

I am not who I once was
Defined by all the things I've done
Afraid my shame would be exposed
Afraid of really being known
But then You gave my heart a home

CHORUS

So I walked out of the darkness and into the light
From fear of shame into the hope of life
Mercy called my name and made a way to fly
Out of the darkness and in - to the light

Years of keeping secrets safe
Wondering if I could change
'Cause when you're hiding all alone
Your heart can turn into a stone
And that's not the way I want to go

CHORUS

There's no place I'd rather be
Your light is marvelous, Your light is marvelous
You have come to set us free
You are marvelous, Your light is marvelous to me

CHORUS

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

Leader

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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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