

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MARK



Anna Long

LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. LOVE ASHEVILLE.

Sunday, 19 April 2020, 10:00 AM
citychurchavl.org

CITY CHURCH

ASHEVILLE

FOR REFLECTION

“Jesus was a strange hobo who walked on water.”

– Jack Kerouac

“The brain is wider than the sky,
For, put them side by side,
The one the other will include
With ease, and you beside.”

– Emily Dickinson

“Jesus Christ is indeed a crutch for the lame, to help us walk upright, just as he is also medicine for the spiritually sick, bread for the hungry and water for the thirsty. We do not deny this; it is perfectly true. But then all human beings are lame, sick, hungry and thirsty. The only difference between us is not that some are needy, while others are not. It is rather that some know and acknowledge their need, while others either don't through ignorance or won't through pride.”

– John Stott

“Not all storms come to disrupt your life, some come to clear your path.”

– Unknown

“Your Rock is Christ, and it is not the Rock which ebbs and flows, but your sea....”

– Samuel Rutherford

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN

O God of Our Salvation

Written by Michael Bleecker and Matt Boswell | © 2009 Bleecker at The Village (ASCAP); Dayspring Music, LLC

O God of our salvation
Who reigns upon the throne
The sovereign Father, great is he
From whom all blessings flow (Chorus)

Behold the Son our Savior
Who for our sin was slain
The Christ who purchased with his blood
The wretched souls of men (Chorus)

O God, the Holy Spirit
Revealing deity
The fount of life and love divine
Throughout eternity (Chorus, Bridge)

Chorus: O God of our salvation,
from whom redemption comes
O Father, Son and Spirit,
the blessed three in one

Bridge: Ascribe unending praises
to the God who reigns on high
How matchless is his power,
his glory how divine
Ascribe, oh church the greatness
and the glory due his name
One God, One Being, One Essence,
Oh Triune God proclaimed. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

from 2 Corinthians 6:2

Minister: Let us come before God in humility, gladness and confidence,
for “now is the acceptable time.”

All: “**Now is the day of salvation!**”

Minister: Grant us, Lord, the inspiration of the Holy Spirit
to realize this promise of your presence in our lives.

All: **Let us worship God!**

HYMN OF ADORATION

The Lord Is King

Words: Josiah Conder, 1824; alt. by Nathan Partain, 2003 | Music: Nathan Partain, 2003

The Lord is King! Lift up your voice,
O earth, and all ye heav'ns, rejoice!
From world to world the joy shall ring,
“The Lord omnipotent is King!”

Chorus: Sing His praise, sing His praise
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days
Sing His praise, sing His praise
All your days, all your days.

The Lord is King! Who then shall dare
Resist his will, distrust his care?
Or murmur at his wise decrees,
Or doubt his royal promises?

The Lord is King! Bow down you must,
The Judge of all the earth is just;
Holy and true are all his ways;
Let ev'ry creature sing his praise.

One Lord, one kingdom, all secures;
He reigns, and life and death are yours:
Through Heav'n and earth one song shall ring,
"The Lord omnipotent is King!"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Belgic Confession, Article 26

Minister: What do you believe concerning Jesus' love for you?

All: **For neither in heaven nor among the creatures on earth is there anyone who loves us more than Jesus Christ does.**

HYMN OF ADORATION

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

Words: Anonymous | Arranged by Isaac Wardell and John Totten © 2008 New Jerusalem Music

Jesus, Savior, pilot me
Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal.
Chart and compass come from Thee;
Savior, pilot me.

Though the sea be smooth and bright,
Sparkling with the stars of night,
And my ship's path be ablaze
With the light of halcyon days,
Still I know my need of Thee;
Savior, pilot me.

As a mother stills her child,
Thou canst hush the ocean wild;
Boisterous waves obey Thy will,
When Thou sayest to them, "Be still!"
Wondrous Sovereign of the sea,
Savior, pilot me.

When at last I near the shore,
And the fearful breakers roar
'Twi'x me and the peaceful rest,
Then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me,
"I will pilot thee."

CALL TO CONFESSION

Psalms 86:5

“For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.”

CONFESSION OF SIN

Minister: God our Father, we recount from the Scriptures the old stories of your saving power, yet we doubt that you are powerfully at work in our lives today. We are crushed by the waves of misery, distrust, misfortune, distress, anger, disease, war, broken governments, broken families, and broken lives, and we wonder how we can still these waves. The pressures of the world, the flesh, and the devil bring a fear into our lives we cannot silence ourselves. Fear threatens to drown us, and we wonder where you are and if you care.

All: **Forgive us for the littleness of our faith.
Forgive us for our doubts.**

(You're invited to take a moment of silent confession.)

Minister: O Lord, when the waters rage and foam,
All: **still the storms and grant us your peace.**

Minister: When the gift of creation becomes a burden,
All: **still the storms and grant us your peace.**

Minister: When our fears threaten to overtake us,
All: **still the storms and grant us your peace.**

Minister: Speak your word to the wind and to the sea.
All: **Fill us with faith.**

Minister: Show us your presence through our storms.
All: **Fill us with hope.**

Minister: Make the joy of your peace overflow in our lives.
All: **Fill us with love.**

Minister: Help us to place our trust in you, Lord Jesus.
All: **Help us to fix our eyes on you and to respond in faith.
For we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from Lamentations 3, Psalm 30

“This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.... You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!”

HYMN OF PARDONING GRACE

Abide With Me

Words by Henry Lyte alt by Justin Smith, Music by Justin Smith. © 2007 Justin Smith Music

Abide with me; falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

We encourage you to take 30 seconds to send a text or video message sharing the peace of Christ to others in City Church. Consider an exchange like this:

May the peace of Christ always be with you!

And also with you.

DOXOLOGY

tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Mark 6:45-56

45 Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. **46** After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.

47 Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. **48** He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, **49** but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, **50** because they all saw him and were terrified.

Immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” **51** Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, **52** for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

53 When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. **54** As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. **55** They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. **56** And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Grace upon Grace

Words and Music by Sandra McCracken Adapted from #214 Valley of Vision

In every station, new trials and new troubles
Call for more grace than I can afford
Where can I go but to my dear Savior
For mercy that pours from boundless stores.

Chorus:

Grace upon grace, every sin repaired
Every void restored, you will find Him there
In every turning He will prepare you
With grace upon grace.

He made a way for the fallen to rise
Perfect in glory and sacrifice
In sweet communion my need He supplies
He saves and keeps and guards my life

To Thee I run now with great expectation
To honor You with trust like a child
My hopes and desires seek a new destination
and all that You ask Your grace will provide.

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

SENDING HYMN

He Will Hold Me Fast

Words & Music Ada Habershon, Matthew Merker | © 2013 Matthew Merker Music, Getty Music Publishing

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.

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!

DISMISSAL & SENDING

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING :: WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 AM

Join us Wednesday mornings for an informal prayer meeting via Zoom. Email John Hopple (john@citychurchavl.org) for details on how to join the meeting via Zoom.

COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

From lost wages to lost jobs, the financial need of those within City Church is constantly evolving. In anticipation of increased financial needs created by this crisis, and with a desire to help carry the burdens of individuals and families within the church, we've created the "COVID-19 Relief Fund". As the hands and feet of the church body, we encourage you to give generously to the needs of others as you have opportunity! If you're interested in giving specifically to this fund, please text any dollar amount and the word **covid19** to **84321** (e.g. 100 covid19). Gifts will be distributed by the Session to meet the needs of those in distressed situations. Email John Hopple (john@citychurchavl.org) for more information and alternate ways to give to the fund.

ABCCM URGENT NEEDS

ABCCM is in immediate need of donations for dry goods and frozen meals. You can support them by following the link below or by delivering food and supplies to one of their four crisis ministry locations. www.abccm.org/abccm-catalog. For current crisis needs, please visit [here](#).

Want to connect with City Church?

If you'd like to keep up with news, information, and events in the life of the church, please text the word **"visiting"** to **94000** and follow the prompts. We'll receive your basic contact information and keep you in the loop!

Have prayer requests?

We invite you to text your prayer requests to the elders and staff at **828.374.8883**. Unless otherwise specified by you, prayer requests will only be made known to the Session and staff of City Church.



Elders

Nat Belz (nat.belz@gmail.com)

Scott Bridges (engineer.bridges@gmail.com)

Staff

Rev. Duff James (duff@citychurchavl.org) :: Pastor

John Hopple (john@citychurchavl.org) :: Administration & Men's Discipleship

Kristi James (kristi@citychurchavl.org) :: Children's Programs & Women's Discipleship

Will Long (will@citychurchavl.org) :: Music Arts Director

Volunteer Coordinator

Amy Noll (acnoll89@gmail.com) :: Room Setup

Musicians

Will Long (will@citychurchavl.org) :: Guitar/Vocals/Director

Tyler Caruso :: Vocals

Ellen-Anne Harboe :: Vocals

Dean Peteet :: Bass

Amanda Johnson :: Fiddle/Vocals

Sheryl Olguin :: Guitar/ Vocals

Leon Olguin :: Keyboard/Vocals

Brandon Smith & Mark Iverson :: Sound Technicians

WANT TO SUPPORT CITY CHURCH FINANCIALLY?

We have several ways that you can give to God's work through your gifts. You may give online by visiting citychurchavl.org/give, you may use our "Text to Give" platform by texting the amount you'd like to give to: 84321, you may give through an automatic payment via your personal bank, or you may mail a check to the church: City Church, PO Box 1378, 28802.

