

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO  
**MARK**



*Anna Long*

**LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. LOVE ASHEVILLE.**

Sunday, 23 August 2020, 10:00 AM  
[citychurchavl.org](http://citychurchavl.org)

# CITY CHURCH

ASHEVILLE

“The church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints.”

– *Attributed to St. Augustine*

“Worship is an act that develops feelings for God, not a feeling for God that’s expressed in an act of worship.”

– *Eugene Peterson*

“Today is a good day to remember that though the world is fallen it remains the theater of God’s glory, and though people are sinful they remain the image and likeness of the Most High.”

– *Matthew Carr*

“God, the unmanageable spirit of this universe demonstrates such profound and trustworthy kindness toward us, that we can live in the contingencies of our lives on that rich foundation.”

– *Hans Bayer*

## GATHERING HYMN

### Praise the Savior Now and Ever

*Words by Venantius Fortunatus | Music by William Moore (Arr. Benedict/Bradham) ©2006 Cardiphonia Music*

Praise the Savior now and ever; praise him, all beneath the skies;  
Prostrate lying suff'ring, dying on the cross, a sacrifice.  
Vict'ry gaining life obtaining now in glory he doth rise.

Man's work faileth, Christ's avaieth; he is all our righteousness;  
He, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.  
Through his merit we inherit light and peace and happiness.

Sin's bond severed, we're delivered; Christ has bruised the serpent's head;  
Death no longer is the stronger hell itself is captive led.  
Christ has risen from death's prison; o'er the tomb he light has shed.

For his favor, praise forever unto God the Father sing;  
Praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.  
Praise the Spirit; through Christ's merit he doth us salvation bring.

## WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalms 67:1*

**Minister:** May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face shine upon us.

**All:** **Let us bless our God;**  
**let the sound of his praise be heard from our lips.**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

## HYMN OF ADORATION

### Come, O Come, Thou Holy Spirit

*Words: Anonymous, Joachim Neander, Julie Melucci | Music: Julie Melucci ©2015 Julie Melucci Music (SESAC)*

1. Come, O come Thou Holy Spirit  
Light and life Thy grace imparts  
Blessed Source of consolation  
Guide our minds and fill our hearts  
Grant my mind and my affections  
Wisdom, counsel, purity  
That I may be ever seeking  
Only that which pleases Thee
2. Savior lead us to adore Thee  
By the true and living way  
Then with angel hosts before Thee  
May we worship, love and praise  
Dwell within us, precious Spirit  
Where Thou art no ill can come  
Bless us now through Jesus' merit  
Reign in every heart and home
3. Holy Spirit, strong and mighty  
Thou who makest all things new  
Make Thy work within me perfect  
Help me by Thy word so true  
In Thy faith, O make me steadfast  
Let not Satan, death or shame  
Of my confidence deprive me  
Lord, my refuge is Thy name
4. When my final hour approaches  
Let my hopes grow yet more bright  
Let Thy love which never fails me  
Dissipate the gloom of night  
From that height which knows no measure  
Fairer far than voice can tell  
In Thy glorious courts of heaven  
There, redeemed by Christ, to dwell

**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 RESPONSE

### Establish the Work of Our Hands

*Words & Music: Aaron Keyes, Sandra McCracken, Orlando Palmer, Madison Cunningham, Liz Vice, Paul Zach, and Isaac Wardell; © 2017 Hymns From the Porter's Gate (ASCAP) and Porter's Gate Publications (SESAC).*

If You don't build it, we labor in vain,  
Without Your Spirit, we stand with no strength.  
I know my life is passing away,  
but the works of Your hands  
are what will remain.  
Let the favor of the Lord rest upon us.

**Refrain:**

- Lord, establish the work of our hands!
- Lord, establish the work of our hands!

Teach us to number the length of our days,  
Pour out Your power, we'll pour out Your praise.  
Teach us to run, to finish the race,  
for only what's done in love will remain.  
Let the favor of the Lord  
rest upon us.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

## 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:** Father in heaven, we confess and acknowledge now our sins against you and our neighbor.

**All:** **Almighty God, we want life. We want full life. We want life that satisfies our deepest longings:**

**our longing to belong,  
our longing to be safe,  
our longing to be comfortable,  
our longing to be important,  
our longing to have purpose,  
our longing to have significant relationships  
our longing to have an abundant life.**

**Minister:** Giver of all life, you are the only source of life that satisfies these longings.

**All:** **But we are prone to wander, to leave you and forsake you,  
to spurn your love and grace.  
We are often ashamed of you. We forget you.  
We are more comfortable fighting for ourselves than trusting you.**

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

**Minister:** Father, we repent and now turn to you,  
away from our lifeless, uncaring, and unsatisfying gods.

**All:** **Forgive us and renew us in Jesus Christ. We ask all these things in his name, amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Acts 4:12*

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

# HYMN OF PARDONING GRACE

## Not in Me

*Words and music: Eric Schumacher and David L. Ward | © 2012 Thousand Tongues*

No list of sins I have not done,  
No list of virtues I pursue,  
No list of those I am not like  
Can earn myself a place with You.  
O God, be merciful to me—  
I am a sinner through and through!  
My only hope of righteousness  
Is not in me, but only You.

No humble dress, no fervent prayer,  
No lifted hands, no tearful song,  
No recitation of the truth  
Can justify a single wrong.  
My righteousness is Jesus' life,  
My debt was paid by Jesus' death,  
My weary load was borne by Him  
And He alone can give me rest.

No separation from the world,  
No work I do, no gift I give  
Can cleanse my conscience, cleanse my hands;  
I cannot cause my soul to live.  
But Jesus died and rose again—  
The power of death is overthrown!  
My God is merciful to me  
And merciful in Christ alone.

**Tag:** My righteousness is Jesus' life,  
My debt was paid by Jesus' death,  
My weary load was borne by Him  
And He alone can give me rest.

## **Mark 10:46-52**

**46** And they came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. **47** And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" **48** And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" **49** And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." **50** And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. **51** And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." **52** And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

**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.

## BENEDICTION

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

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

## DISMISSAL & SENDING

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

**Thanks be to God!**