

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO  
**MARK**



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

Sunday, 17 January 2021, 10:00 AM

[citychurchavl.org](http://citychurchavl.org)

# CITY CHURCH

ASHEVILLE

“My story is a mess  
filled with shame and regret  
and laughter and love  
and fortune and debt

I have no idea  
what is to come  
for us next  
but He has more  
for us left  
oh, what love for us yet!”

– *Christopher Ray*

“The hardness of God is kinder than the softness of men.”

– *C.S. Lewis*

“Faith, is at the same time *cognito* and *fiducia*, a trustful knowledge and a knowing trust.”

– *Herman Bavinck*

“Your faith will not fail while God sustains it; you are not strong enough to fall away while God is resolved to hold you.”

– *J.I. Packer*

# WELCOME

## GATHERING HYMN

### Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Words: James Montgomery | Music: Sandra McCracken; ©2012 Drink Your Tea Music (ASCAP)

1. He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.
2. He comes in succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong.
3. To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in His sight.
4. He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.
5. Kings shall fall down before Him, and gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing;
6. The tide of time shall never His covenant remove.  
His Name shall stand forever, That Name to us is Love.

#### Chorus:

Hail to the Lord's anointed,  
great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
His reign on earth begun!

## CALL TO WORSHIP

from *Psalm 117*

**Minister:** Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!

**All:**       **For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.  
Praise the LORD!**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

## HYMN OF ADORATION

### Holy, Holy, Holy!

Words: Reginald Heber | Music: John Dykes. Public Domain.

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert and art and ever more shall be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Psalm 46*

**Minister:** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

**All:** **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

**Minister:** Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

**All:** **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

### All Your Works Are Good (Psalm 104)

*Words & Music: Jill Gullahorn, Julie Ann Lee, & Sandra McCracken*

1. The moon it marks the seasons  
The sun knows when to go down  
The ocean holds its creatures  
The river knows its bounds
2. The birds, the trees, the cattle  
And all things great and small  
We find our place in creation  
Your hand sustains it all
3. He makes the clouds his chariot  
He wraps himself in light  
He stretches out the heavens,  
Like a tent across the sky
4. He knows our every burden  
When darkness veils our eyes  
He comes with spring returning,  
Bringing death to life
5. As we labor until evening  
There's a message on the wind  
Be still and know your maker  
Be satisfied in Him

#### **Chorus:**

All your works are good.  
All your works are good.  
From everlasting, to everlasting.  
All your works are good.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

*Psalms 36:7-9*

“How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may 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 we see light.”

## CONFESSION OF SIN

**Minister:** Lord, please hear our prayer and forgive us.

We confess that we have often, either consciously or unconsciously,  
failed to be an instrument of your peace,  
sown hatred instead of love,  
caused injury to others while failing to pardon injury done to us,  
doubted your call to show others the same grace, love, justice, and comfort  
we demand for ourselves,  
perpetuated language and acts that cause despair in others,  
crushed the hope of our neighbors,  
spread darkness rather than light,  
brought sadness to others instead of joy.

**All:**       **Lord, forgive us.**

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

**Minister:** “Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;

**All:**           **where there is hatred, let me sow love;**  
                  **where there is injury, pardon;**  
                  **where there is doubt, faith;**  
                  **where there is despair, hope;**  
                  **where there is darkness, light;**  
                  **and where there is sadness, joy.**

**Minister:** Grant that I may not so much seek

**All:**           **to be consoled as to console;**  
                  **to be understood, as to understand;**  
                  **to be loved, as to love;**  
                  **for it is in giving that we receive,**  
                  **it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,**  
                  **and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.”**

*(a prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi)*

**Lord, may it be so. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Philippians 1:6*

“And I am sure of this: that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

# HYMN OF PARDONING GRACE

## **Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted**

*Words: Joseph Swain (alt. Kevin Twit) | Music: Kevin Twit © 2013 Kevin Twit music (ascap)*

Come ye souls by, sin afflicted,  
Bowed with fruitless sorrow down;  
By the broken law convicted,  
Through the cross, behold the crown;  
Look to Jesus; look to Jesus; look to Jesus;  
Mercy flows through Him alone.

Take His easy yoke and wear it;  
Love will make your obedience sweet;  
Christ will give you strength to bear it,  
While His grace shall guide your feet  
Safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory,  
Where His ransomed captives meet.

Blessed are the eyes that see Him,  
Blest the ears that hear His voice;  
Blessed are the souls that trust Him,  
And in Him, alone rejoice;  
His commandments, His commandments, His commandments  
Then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary,  
Light to newly opened eyes,  
Like full springs in deserts dreary,  
Is the rest, the cross supplies;  
All who taste it, all who taste it, all who taste it  
Shall to rest immortal rise.

## Mark 14:26-31

**26** And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. **27** And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ **28** But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” **29** Peter said to him, “Even though they all fall away, I will not.” **30** And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” **31** But he said emphatically, “If I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And they all said the same.

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

### He's on Our Side (Psalm 124)

Words & Music Wendell Kimbrough & Jason Pears | ©2017 (BMI)

Our help has come in the Name of the Lord,  
the One who formed all the earth and the sky.  
Behold! He comes to destroy the chains of death  
and raise us up to life.

O bless his name, for he has given us  
everything we need to fly.  
Our broken wings, they have not hindered us.  
We have the Lord;  
He's on our side!

## THE 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.”

## SENDING HYMN

### 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!”

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!”

**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 SENDING

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

**Thanks be to God!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

For assistance with any of the announcements below, or if you have further questions, please reach out to John Hopple ([john@citychurchavl.org](mailto:john@citychurchavl.org)). If you'd like to receive emails and information for events at City Church, please fill out the contact information form via our website: [citychurchavl.org/connect](http://citychurchavl.org/connect)

### **WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING :: THURSDAYS, 7:00 AM**

Join us Thursday mornings for an informal prayer meeting via Zoom. Feel free to jump on the call as you are able, and come and go as you need.

### **BREAKFAST WITH THE GUYS :: FRIDAYS, 7:00 AM**

Breakfast with the guys is back!. Our plan for the foreseeable future is to meet out at the Gibson Farm in East Asheville (277 Moffitt Branch Rd. Asheville, NC 28805). Breakfast will not be provided at this point so please bring your own breakfast and beverage of choice. Join us as we gather fireside and enjoy some socially distanced fellowship. Email John Hopple for further details, including detailed driving and COVID related directions.

## 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!

## Need prayer?

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](http://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.