



Sunday 10:00 AM • June 26, 2022
citychurchavl.org

CITY CHURCH



ASHEVILLE



FOR REFLECTION

“If the truth is what sets us free, then why not walk in it at all times? With wisdom and love, of course, but also with the reality that truth is where freedom begins.... Unbelief doesn’t see God as the ultimate good. So it can’t see sin as the ultimate evil. It instead sees sin as a good thing and thus God’s commands as a stumbling block to joy.... If He is the Creator, then we are created. If He is Master, then we are servants. If He is love, then we are loved. If He is omnipotent, then we are not as powerful as we think. If He is omniscient, then there is nowhere to hide. If He cannot lie, then His promises are all true. It is faith in the truths of God’s character that has the power to completely revolutionize how our lives are lived out. Not only that, there is so much joy to be had on Earth because there is more glory in God than we can imagine.... We must place our ultimate identity not in who we are, but in who we know God to be.”

– Jackie Hill Perry

“What I need first of all is not exhortation, but a gospel, not directions for saving myself but knowledge of how God has saved me. Have you any good news? That is the question that I ask of you. I know your exhortations will not help me. But if anything has been done to save me, will you not tell me the facts?”

– J. Gresham Machen

“We have the idea that we can dedicate our gifts to God. However, you cannot dedicate what is not yours. There is actually only one thing you can dedicate to God, and that is your right to yourself. If you will give God your right to yourself, he will make a holy experiment out of you—and his experiments always succeed.”

– Oswald Chambers

“Why is it that some Christians cross land and sea, continents and cultures, as missionaries? What on earth compels them? It is not in order to commend a civilization, an institution or an ideology, but rather a person, Jesus Christ, whom they believe to be unique.”

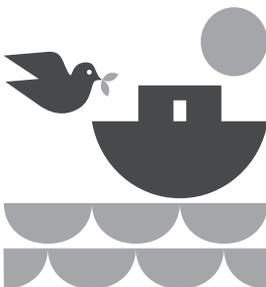
– John Stott

NOTE TO PARENTS:

We value the participation of children in worship and invite them to remain with us during the entire service. However, if you’d like to take your children to childcare, we offer several options:

- Nursery - 6 months to 2 yrs old
- City Kids Jr. - 2 - 4 yrs old
- City Kids - *Taking the summer off. See you in September!*

During the hymn before the sermon, please walk your child to their classroom downstairs. You’ll need to pick up your child from the nursery after the service, but the City Kids Jr. and City Kids classes will be brought back into worship during the final hymn.



PREPARATION

Personal prayer of preparation: Father in heaven, deliver me from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind when drawn near to you in these moments. Grant that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections I may worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: In The Name of God the Father*

1. In the name of God the Father,
In the name of God the Son,
In the name of God the Spirit,
One in three, and three in One;
In the Name which highest Angels
Speak not ere they veil their face,
Crying, "Holy, Holy, Holy,"
Come we to this sacred place.

2. Lo, in wondrous condescension,
Jesus seeks His altar-throne;
Though in lowly symbols hidden,
Faith and love His presence known.
When the Lord His temple visits,
Let the listening earth be still;
May the Spirit's sweet indwelling
Each believing heart fulfill.

3. Here, in figure represented,
See the passion once again;
Here behold the Lamb most Holy,
As for our redemption slain;
Here the Savior's body broken,
Here the blood which Jesus shed,
Now the offer of communion,
Into lasting joy be led.

4. Here shall highest praise be offered,
Here shall meekest prayer be poured,
Here, with body, soul, and spirit,
God incarnate be adored.
Holy Jesus, for Thy coming
May Thy love our hearts prepare;
Thine we pray would have them wholly,
Enter, Lord, and tarry there.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 100:1-4

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God!

All: **It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

HYMN OF ADORATION: The Lord Is King**

1. 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!"

2. 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?

3. 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.

4. 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.

Preparation: We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

***Words:** Henry Allon, 1863 | **Music:** The Ironsides, 2011, *Songs for Supper*.

Worship through singing: God's people sing not only as an expression of our love for God but also to remind ourselves of our place in God's redemptive story. The church is marked by its singing, from Israel's deliverance through the Psalms to our worship today.

Call to Worship: We need to be called to come and worship God because we default to thinking the world revolves around our needs and agendas, and also because we struggle to believe that God truly wants us to draw near to him. The call to worship focuses our attention on God and prepares us to meet with him.

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



Prayer of

invocation: We ask God to meet us in our worship as he's promised to do through his Word, sacraments, and prayer.

Affirmation of faith:

Creeds, confessions, and catechisms are voices from the church's past. They are the distillation of the church's discoveries of the meaning and the implications of the truth as God has revealed it in the Scriptures and confirmed it in the experience and the conscience of his people. It's in this sense that creeds, confessions, and catechisms are, in their most compressed and authoritative form, the church's "tradition," what is "handed down" from one generation to the next.

*Words & Music: Jill Gullahorn, Julie Ann Lee

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Heidelberg Catechism #21

Leader: What is true faith?

All: **True faith is not only a knowledge and conviction that everything God reveals in his Word is true; it is also a deep-rooted assurance, created in me by the Holy Spirit through the gospel, that, out of sheer grace earned for us by Christ, not only others, but I too, have had my sins forgiven, have been made forever right with God, and have been granted salvation.**

HYMN OF RESPONSE: All Your Works Are Good*

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: Psalm 124:8

“Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”

CONFESSION OF SIN*

Minister: Let us confess our sins together.

All: **Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Have mercy upon us. For you spare those who confess their faults and restore those who are penitent. Grant that we may live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

(We invite you to personalize your confession as you pray silently.)

Minister: In the wrong we have done,
and in the good we have not done,
we have sinned in ignorance;
we have sinned in weakness;
we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.

All: **We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you.
Forgive us and renew our lives through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S PARDONING GRACE: Colossians 1:13-14

Through the crucified body and blood of Christ the King, we have been given a pardon from God:

“For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

Minister: Hear and receive the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Confession of sin:

It happens within the context of relationship, both with God and each other.

We confess together, in community, before a gracious God who has given us himself. Confession both acknowledges our need for mercy and celebrates its abundance in Christ.

**from The Book of Common Worship*

Assurance of

pardon: God declares through his Church that everyone who repents and believes in Jesus Christ is completely forgiven from all their sins and their guilty consciences cleansed.



HYMN OF PARDONING GRACE: Heal Us, Emmanuel*

***Words:** William
Cowper (alt Twit) I
Music: Kevin Twit and
Lucas Morton

Chorus:

Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are
We long to feel Thy touch
Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly
O Savior hear our cry

Our faith is feeble, we confess
We faintly trust Thy word
But will You pity us the less?
Be that far from You Lord!

Remember him who once applied
With trembling for relief
“Lord, I believe,” with tears he cried
“O help my unbelief!”

She, too, who touched you in the press
And healing virtue stole
Was answered, “Daughter, go in peace
Thy faith has made thee whole.”

Like her, with hopes and fears we come
To touch You if we may
O send us not despairing home
Send none unhealed away

Parents: If you'd like
your children to take
part in our children's
programming, please
walk them to their
classroom downstairs
during the song.

Please make nursery
pickups immediately
following the service.
City Kids Jr. will be
brought back into the
service during the
final hymn.



1 Corinthians 6:9-11

9 Don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or males who have sex with males, **10** no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom. **11** And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God.

The sermon: Some view the sermon as a way to get principles for 'right' living.

Others see it as an interesting piece of intellectual challenge or an opportunity to gain inspiration for our lives.

In reality, as we open the Scriptures we encounter Jesus Christ. Therefore, as you listen, pray to be open to his leading, exhortation, encouragement, and healing.



Guidelines for the reception of communion:

The Lord's Supper, also called Communion, is the family meal for Christians. City Church welcomes and invites all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us in this sacrament.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 "For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Distribution of the Elements

Prayers of Reflection for Those Not Partaking in Communion

If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and his people, the church. Please join us in the circle during communion and for our final hymn.

If you are not able to partake in the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers:

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Awakening: Lord Jesus, I've heard teaching from the Bible for years and have been in church for years, but very little of this even seems real to me. Please show me the reality of what you are saying. Unnerve me with the depth of my sinfulness, yet enthrall me with the goodness of the good news. Make what is familiar seem new. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever imagined, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to dream. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment: Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.



COMMUNION HYMN: Be Still My Soul*

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain
Leave to your God to order and provide
In every change, He will remain

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future, as in ages past
Your hope, your mind, your will let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone
Sorrow forgot, love's joys restored

Bridge:

Be still my soul, be still my soul
Be still my soul, be still my soul

*Words: Katharina
von Schelge | Music:
Page CXVI



HYMN OF RESPONSE: Jesus! What A Friend for Sinners*

1. Jesus! What a friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Chorus:

- Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.
2. Jesus! What a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in Him.
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my strength, my victory wins.
 3. Jesus! What a help in sorrow!
While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking,
He, my comfort, helps my soul.
 4. Jesus! I do now receive Him,
More than all in Him I find.
He hath granted me forgiveness,
I am His, and He is mine.

BENEDICTION: Romans 15:13

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL & SENDING

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

Thanks be to God!

**Please take time after the service to meet
someone you've never met.**

***Words:** John Wilbur
Chapman. | **Music:**
Rowland Pritchard.

The Benediction:

God always gets the last word in our encounter of worship. For Christians, it is always a word of blessing and sending to live our lives in the light of the reality of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is not a prayer. It is God's word of blessing on your life.



CONTACT INFORMATION CARD

If you'd like to know more about upcoming events in the life of the church, please give us your contact information so we can keep you informed. Please tear off this card and place it in the offering box.

You may also 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?

Please 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.

MAY 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT:

Giving:	\$49,355	YTD Giving:	\$201,251
Expenses:	\$24,493	Cash on Hand:	\$209,378
Net Income:	\$24,862	Annual Budget:	\$322,359

WANT TO SUPPORT CITY CHURCH FINANCIALLY?

We have several ways that you can give to God's work through your gifts. There's a box on the table in the back where you can place your gifts, tithes, and offerings. You may give online by going to citychurchavl.org/give. You may mail a check to the church: City Church, PO Box 1378, 28802. You may also use our Text to Give feature, which is a quick and secure way to worship God with our gifts, tithes, and offerings. It's as simple as texting a dollar amount to this number: **84321**.



Session

Nat Belz :: Elder, Vice Moderator
David Fleming :: Elder
John Hopple :: Elder, Clerk
León Olguín :: Elder
Rev. Duff James (duff@citychurchavl.org) :: Pastor, Moderator
To email the Session: session@citychurchavl.org

Staff

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

Volunteers

Amy Noll (acnoll89@gmail.com) :: Room Setup Coordinator
Nate O'Steen (treasurer@citychurchavl.org) :: Treasurer

Musicians

Will Long (will@citychurchavl.org) :: Guitar/Vocals/Director
Scott Schindler :: Vocals
Sarah Troutman :: Vocals
Liz Duncan :: Vocals
Dean Peteet :: Bass
Amanda Johnson :: Fiddle/Vocals
Sheryl Olguín :: Guitar/Vocals
León Olguín :: Keyboard/Vocals
Brandon Smith, Mark Iverson, Will Troutman, & Steve Sandman :: Sound Technicians

Out of bulletins today? You may access an electronic copy at www.citychurchavl.org/worshipfolders, or use the QR code below:

