



Sunday 10:00 AM • July 24, 2022
citychurchavl.org

CITY CHURCH



ASHEVILLE



FOR REFLECTION

“What happens when people open their hearts?
They get better.”

– Haruki Murakami

“There are no lemons ... just sinners.”

– Jack Miller

“We are saved by faith alone, but saving faith is
never alone.”

– Martin Luther

“But my sin was this, that I looked for pleasure,
beauty, and truth not in him but in myself and his
other creatures, and the search led me instead
to pain, confusion, and error.”

– Saint Augustine

“There is another to whom we belong, and living
before him frees us from the unbearable burden
of self-belonging.”

– Alan Noble

“Man approaches God most nearly when he is in
one sense least like God. For what can be more
unlike than fullness and need, sovereignty and
humility, righteousness and penitence, limitless
power and a cry for help?”

– C.S. Lewis

“If you want to build a ship, don’t drum up the
men to gather wood, divide the work, and give
orders. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast
and endless sea.”

– Antoine de Saint-Exupery

NOTE TO PARENTS:

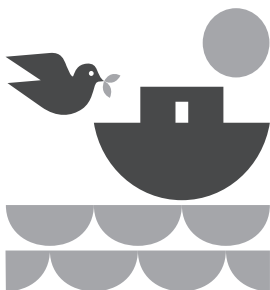
We value the participation of children in worship and invite them to remain with us during the entire service. However, if you’d like to take your children to childcare, we offer several options:

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: King of Love*

1. The King of Love my Shepherd is
Whose goodness faileth never
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever
2. Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth
3. Lost and foolish off I strayed
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me
4. In death's dark veil I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me
Thy rod and staff my comfort still
Thy cross before to guide me.
5. And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never
Good Shepherd, may I sing Your praise
Within Your house forever

Chorus:

Never failing, Ruler of my heart
Everlasting, Lover of my soul
On the mountain high or in the valley low
The King of Love my Shepherd is

Bridge:

Oh, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Oh, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 67:1

Leader: 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.**

HYMN OF ADORATION: O Come, Messiah, Come!**

Oh come! Oh come Messiah!
Oh come our Alleluia!

Oh sing! Oh sing Hosanna!
Oh come! Messiah, come!

Comfort and joy, Alpha, Omega, He
Sorrow and toil, no longer rulers be.

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

***Words:** H.W. Baker |
Music: Adam Palmer/
Jonathan Smith/
Matthew Hein/
Stephanie Kulla/
Stuart Garaged

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 & Music:**
Isaac Wardell



Prayer of adoration:

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:** Horatius Bonar (alt. Smith) |

Music: Justin Smith
© 2014 Justin Smith Music

PRAYER OF ADORATION**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from Psalm 62**

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

All: **He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.**

Leader: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.

All: **He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.**

Leader: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him;

All: **God is a refuge for us.**

HYMN OF RESPONSE: This Is Not My Place of Resting*

This is not my place of resting,
Mine's a city yet to come;
Onward to it I am hastening,
On to my eternal home.

Chorus:

In that land of light and glory,
O'er it shines a nightless day
Every tear from sin's sad story,
all the curse has passed away

There the Lamb and Shepherd leads us
By the streams of life along
On the freshest pastures feeds us
Turns our sighing into song.

Soon we pass this desert dreary,
Soon we bid farewell to pain;
Never more be sad nor weary,
Never, never sin again.



CALL TO CONFESSION: Psalm 124:8

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

CONFESSION OF SIN*

Minister: Merciful God, you made us in your image
with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you,
and a will to serve you.

All: **But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconsistent,
our obedience incomplete.
Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness.
In your tender love, forgive us, O God.**

(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: Isaiah 1:18

Minister: “When we were overwhelmed by our sins, you forgave our
transgressions. Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to
dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your
house, the holiness of your temple!”

All: **Amen**

Minister: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

All: **The maker of heaven and earth.**

Minister: O LORD, open our lips,

All: **And our mouths will declare your praise!**

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.

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.

**adapted from The
Worship Sourcebook*



HYMN OF PARDONING GRACE: Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

***Words & Music:**

Matt Boswell, Michael
Bleecker, Matt Papa

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, he the perfect Son of Man
In his living, in his suffering, never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain him, praise the Lord, He is alive
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as will we be when he comes.

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 6:18-20

18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. **19** Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, **20** for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

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: Thy Mercy, My God*

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness 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:** Ellen Goreh
Music Sandra
McCracken

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.

JUNE 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT:

Giving:	\$34,127	YTD Giving:	\$235,372
Expenses:	\$31,178	Cash on Hand:	\$219,000
Net Income:	\$2,943	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

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:***

