



City Church

PHILADELPHIA

Sunday June 18, 2017

Philippians: Life in Christ
“Sharing in God’s Grace”

PREPARATION

Ground us, we pray, and settle us in your truth
by sending your Holy Spirit into our hearts.

All Amen

A period of silence is kept.

Grace to you
and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

All And also with you.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord.

All Let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

OPENING SONGS

O Light that Knew No Dawn - Gregory of Nanzianzus, Bifrost Arts

O light that knew no dawn, that shines to endless day,
all things in earth and heaven are lustred by thy ray;
no eye can to thy throne ascend,
nor mind thy brightness comprehend.

Thy grace, O Father, give, that we might serve in fear;
above all else, we pray, grant us thy voice to hear.
From sin thy children in mercy free,
and let us dwell in light with thee.

That, cleansed from stain of sin, we may meet homage give;
and pure in heart, behold thy beauty while we live;
clean hands in holy worship raise,
and thee, O Christ our savior, praise.

Thy grace, O Father, give, we humbly thee implore,
and let thy mercy bless thy servants more and more.
All grace and glory be to thee,
from age to age eternally.

THE OPENING OF WORSHIP

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
All before the powers I sing your praise;
I bow down towards your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.
The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.

from Psalm 138

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

DOXOLOGY — Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley

All ye who are of tender heart,
forgiving others take your part.
Sing his praises, Alleluia!
Ye, who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care!
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit three in one,
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CONFESSION OF SIN

All God our Father,
you bring us to share together
in the grace of Jesus Christ.
Yet we confess that we have sinned
against you and our neighbor.
We have wounded your love in us
and strayed from knowing you.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy.

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May God our Father forgive you
and cleanse you from all your sins,
and may your love may overflow more and more
that in the day of Christ
you will be found pure and blameless.

All Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

How Sweet to Wait

Joseph Swain, Clint Wells, Karl Digerness



1. How sweet to wait up - on___ the Lord,
2. To see, while pros - trate at___ his feet,
3. "Fa - ther," he cries, "I will___ that these
4. With this de - light - ful pros - pect fired,



while he ful - fills his gra - cious word;
Je - ho - vah on the mer - cy - seat;
be - fore thee on their ben - ded knees,
we'll run, nor in thy ways be_ tired;_



to seek his face, and not___ in_ vain,
and Je - sus, at the Lord's___ right hand,
for whom my life I once___ laid down,
and all the tri - als here we_ see,___



to be so loved, and love a - gain!
with his di - vine a - tone - ment stand!
be with me soon on this my throne."
will make us long to reign with thee.___



A - men! our hearts with rap - ture cry,___



may we with rev' - rence look_ so high;



as - cen - ded Sa - vior, fix our eyes,



by faith up - on___ this glo - rious prize!

music ©2009 Clint Wells & Karl Digerness

Blest Be The Tie - John Fawcett, Hans Nageli, Lowell Mason

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before the Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear;
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

Our glorious hope revives our courage by the way,
while each in expectation lives, and longs to see the day.

From sorrow, toil and pain, and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

All And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Children attending kindergarten and younger are invited to go to their classes at this time. Children in 1st and 2nd grades are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Offering.

THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament reading: Philippians 1:1-11

¹Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: John 15:9-17

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"Sharing in God's Grace" – The Rev. Chris Currie

OFFERING AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

The offertory is an opportunity to participate in the ministry of City Church. Online giving is available at citychurchphilly.com/give. If you're visiting, we are so glad you are worshipping with us, but please do not feel obligated to give.

CREED

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYERS

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Father, bless your forgiven people who sojourn here
as we walk together in the grace of your gospel.
Keep us from every sin and cleanse us by Jesus' blood.
Lead us to long for one another with compassion
and to pray for one another with joy.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you hold the nations in your hand.
We pray for our country and elected leaders;
inspire the hearts and minds of every authority
that they would wisely determine what is best,
so that peace and justice would dwell among us.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Spirit of compassion, we remember various needs:
the poor and the afflicted; the sick and the dying;
prisoners and all who are lonely; victims of war,
injustice, or inhumanity; and all who suffer
in body, mind, or at the hands of others.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

And for what else should we pray?

Members of the congregation may add their own intercessions at this time, ending with,

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly
as our Savior has taught us:

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest!

*The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer and speaks the
Words of Institution.*

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

*We use wine in Communion. Non-alcoholic white grape
juice and gluten-free rice cakes are also available if preferred.
Please recycle your Communion cup as you leave worship.*

COMMUNION SONG

Amazing Grace - John Newton

Amazing grace! — how sweet the sound —
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
‘tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his Word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All God our Father,
we thank you for these gifts
and ask you to use them
to increase our knowledge of you,
that your good work begun among us
might be brought to completion
in the day of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

BLESSING AND SENDING

May the Grace of Christ Our Savior – John Newton

May the grace of Christ our Savior
and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favor,
rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion,
joys which earth cannot afford.

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

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

All Thanks be to God.

West Philly

Jonathan Davis: liturgist
Chris Currie: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Fairmount

Mae Trieu: liturgist
Chris Currie: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

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community life and church events.

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