



City Church

PHILADELPHIA

Sunday October 8, 2017

Galatians: The Gift of Christ
“In Step with the Gospel”

CITYCHURCHPHILLY.COM

PREPARATION

Let us take a moment in silence
to remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

All Amen.

A period of silence is kept.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

All And also with you.

Joy and gladness will be found in Zion,

All **thanksgiving and the voice of song!**

OPENING SONG

Give Us Clean Hands - Charlie Hall

We bow our hearts, we bend our knees;
O Spirit, come and make us humble.
We turn our eyes from evil things,
O Lord, we cast down our idols.

*Give us clean hands, give us pure hearts
let us not lift our souls to another.* (repeat)

O God, let us be a generation that seeks,
that seeks your face, O God of Jacob.

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OPENING RESPONSORIAL

Look to Abraham your father
All **and to Sarah who bore you;**
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
The Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places.
For a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
for my salvation has gone out;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

from Isaiah 51

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

DOXOLOGY

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 Father of mercy,
help us, for our faith is weak.
Instead of believing your gospel,
we rely upon other things –
spiritual privilege, status,
past experience, our own works.
Renew us by your Spirit to trust
only your word of promise over us.

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May Christ Jesus,
who redeemed us from the curse of the law
by becoming a curse for us,
bless and forgive you
and fill you with his Spirit.

All Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Lord, I Believe - Howard, Croly, Wardell

Lord, I believe: help thou mine unbelief;
I see the cross, oh teach my heart to cling;
hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
Spirit, help my unbelief.

Lord, I believe; the hold of sin is strong,
and stout its heart to pluck me from thy love;
but stronger is thy grace; oh, raise me up.
Spirit, help my unbelief.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies;
I have no constant heart, no kindled faith,
but take the dimness of my soul away.
Spirit, help my unbelief.

Lord, I believe, in mercy grant me grace
to know thee, blessed Savior, more and more;
I can do naught without thee; show thy face.
Spirit, help my unbelief.

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My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less - Edward Mote

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord 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: Galatians 3:1-14

¹You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! ²The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? ³Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? ⁴Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. ⁵Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

⁶Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” ⁷so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. ⁸And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you.” ⁹For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

¹⁰For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things written in the book of the law.” ¹¹Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law; for “The one who is righteous will live by faith.” ¹²But the law does not rest on faith; on the contrary, “Whoever does the works of the law will live by them.” ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”—¹⁴in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Mark 15:25-39

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified Jesus. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “Aha! You who

would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!” ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “Listen, he is calling for Elijah.” ³⁶And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.” ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“In Step with the Gospel” – 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.

Merciful Father, help us always to trust
that your word of pardon and acceptance
is never a matter of what we have done,
but of what you have done for us in Christ.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Jesus Christ, supply us with your Spirit
and work miracles among all peoples,
that all would turn to you in faith,
and justice and peace would overflow.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Spirit of promise, you groan with us,
even when words fail: hear our lament.
We mourn lives and livelihoods ruined,
by storms and quakes, hatred and violence.
Come and heal your world.
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.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All Therefore, let us keep the feast.

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

O Spirit of the Living God – Henry Tweedy, Audrey Assad

O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and power,
with righteousness and peace
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts,
and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God, with wisdom blow
until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt,
which blind our eyes to thee.
Burn, winged fire, inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal
to preach to all thy great good news,
God's glorious commonweal.

So shall we know the power of Christ,
who came this world to save.
So shall we rise with him to life
which soars beyond the grave.
And earth shall win true holiness
which makes thy children whole
till, perfected by thee, we reach creation's glorious goal.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All Lord God,
you renew us with the bread of life;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him
who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from your mouth.
Amen.

BLESSING AND SENDING

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder - John Newton,
Darmstadt Gesangbuch

Let us love and sing and wonder,
let us praise the savior's name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:
he has washed us with his blood,
he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us,
pitied us when enemies,
called us by his grace, and taught us,
gave us ears and gave us eyes:
he has washed us with his blood,
he presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation
threaten hard to bear us down!
For the Lord, our strong salvation,
holds in view the conqueror's crown:
he who washed us with his blood
soon will bring us home to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus
of the saints enthroned on high;
here they trusted him before us,
now their praises fill the sky:
"You have washed us with your blood;
you are worthy, Lamb of God!"

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

Alex Arnold: liturgist
Tuck Bartholomew: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice
Ross Bellenoit: guitar
Mark Allen: woodwinds

Fairmount

Arlene Navarro: liturgist
Tuck Bartholomew: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice
Ross Bellenoit: guitar
Mark Allen: woodwinds

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to our newsletter for more information about
community life and church events.

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