



City Church

PHILADELPHIA

Sunday June 10, 2018

Tell It Slant: Jesus' Stories of
Kingdom, Grace, & Judgment

“The Weeds”

PRELUDE

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.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord.

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

OPENING SONG

Wondrous King, All Glorious - Joachim Neander,
tr. William J. Schaefer

Wondrous king, all glorious, sovereign Lord victorious,
O, receive our praise with favor!
From thee welled God's kindness though we in our blindness
strayed from thee, our blessed savior.
Strengthen thou, help us now; let our tongues be singing,
thee our praises bringing.

Heavens, spread the story of our maker's glory,
all the pomp of earth obscuring.
Sun, thy rays be sending, thy bright beams expending,
light to all the earth assuring.
Moon and star, praise afar him who glorious made you;
the vast heavens aid you.

O, my soul, rejoicing, sing, thy praises voicing,
sing, with hymns of faith adore him!
All who here have being, shout, your voices freeing,
bow down in the dust before him.
He is God Sabaoth; praise alone the savior,
here and there for ever.

Hallelujahs render to the Lord most tender,
ye who know and love the savior.
Hallelujahs sing ye, ye redeemed, O, bring ye
hearts that yield him glad behavior.
Blest are ye endlessly; sinless there for ever,
ye shall laud him ever.

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THE OPENING OF WORSHIP

For God alone my soul in silence waits;
All truly my hope is in him.
He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
In God is my safety and my honor;
God is my strong rock and my refuge.
Put your trust in him always, O people,
pour out your hearts before him,
for God is our refuge.

from Psalm 62

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 Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing,
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us,
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you all your sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep you in eternal life.

All Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Give to God Your Simple Praise - Isaac Watts, The New Ancients

Give to God your simple praise, love and truth are all his ways.
Grace and joy to God belong; sing his mercies in your song.
(repeat)

O my pow'rs of heart and tongue, praise my maker in my song.
Angels, hear the notes I raise: prove the song and join the praise.

*Amid a thousand snares I'll stand,
helped and guarded by your perfect hand.
Your word my fainting soul revives,
keeps my dying faith alive,
keeps my dying faith alive.*

"God," I cried when troubles rose —
heard me and subdued my foes,
all my rising fears controlled,
strength diffused through all my soul.

(repeat)

As I live, I'll trust his pow'r, in my last departing hour,
angels trace the airy road, bear me homeward to my God.

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart - George Croly,
Karl Digerness

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart,
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet-ecstasies;
no sudden rending of the veil of clay;
no angel vision, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King?
All thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind;
I see thy cross there teach me to cling;
O let me seek thee, and O let me find.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
The presence of thy descended dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

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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: Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for

Continued on back...

what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’

²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“The Weeds” – Rev. Jonathan Davis

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.

God of grace,
help us to live in a manner worthy of the gospel,
striving together in unity as the one Body of Christ
as we bear witness in the world to your coming kingdom.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ,
may your peace rule in our hearts
in all circumstances,
so that even when we struggle,
we may live humbly and walk justly with our God.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Spirit of compassion and power,
grant us perseverance
as we share in the sufferings of Christ,
so that we may know the fellowship of our Savior
and extend his love to 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.

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

Take Us, O Lord - Isaac Wardell

O how he takes the cross;
O how he lifts it up
to take the weight from us.
O how he pays the cost;
O how he drinks the cup
to make a place for us.

Hear how he breaks the curse;
hear how he cries aloud.
Hear how his voice resounds.
O how he forms the words.
O how he cries them out:
“See, it is finished now!”

*Take us, O Lord, and all we have known.
Shape us, O Lord, and form us into your own!
Take ev’ry heart and know ev’ry sin.
Break us, O Lord, that we may be whole again!*

How deep the wounds he wears;
how dark the scars he shows.
How well the name he knows:
written upon his palms,
O what a name to find:
that name before him, mine!

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All Gracious God,
we thank you for feeding us
with spiritual food and drink,
by which you assure us of your love
and strengthen us in our faith.
Help us now, as we rise from this table,
to walk in your ways
and to do the good works which you have prepared for us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING AND SENDING

We Beseech Thee - Thomas Benson Pollock, The New Ancients

Jesus, with thy church abide,
be her savior, Lord, and guide,
while on earth her faith is tried:
we beseech thee.

All her fettered powers release
bid our strife and envy cease,
grant the heavenly gift of peace:
we beseech thee.

*May she guide the poor and blind,
seek the lost until she find,
and the broken-hearted bind:
we beseech thee.*

May she one in doctrine be,
one in truth and charity,
winning all to faith in thee:
we beseech thee.

May her lamp of truth be bright,
bid hear bear aloft its light
through the realms of darkest night:
we beseech thee.

May her guides thy people feed,
shepherds of the flock indeed,
ready, where thou call'st, to lead:
we beseech thee.

May she holy triumphs win,
overthrow the hosts of sin,
gather all the nations in,
we beseech thee.

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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

Stacy Bartholomew: liturgist

John Taylor Baranik: guitar,
voice

Ross Bellenoit: bass
Chad Brown: drums
Mike Jones: trumpet
Jaron Olevsky: piano

Fairmount

Liz Voboril: liturgist

John Taylor Baranik: guitar,
voice

Ross Bellenoit: bass
Chad Brown: drums
Mike Jones: trumpet
Jaron Olevsky: piano

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community life and church events.

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