



# City Church

PHILADELPHIA

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Sunday June 24, 2018

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

“The Treasure & the Pearl”

## PRELUDE

## PREPARATION

Gracious God, grant us diligence to seek you  
and patience to wait for you.

*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 praise the Lord with me,

*All* let us exalt God's name together.

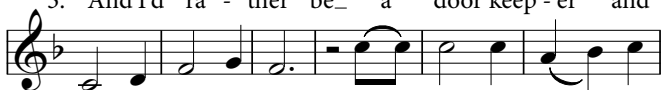
## OPENING SONG

### *How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place*

Psalm 84, Jonathan Asprey, trad. Irish



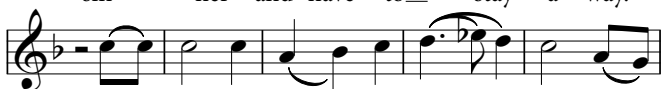
1. How love - ly is\_ your dwell-ing-place, O
2. E-ven the spar-row finds a home where
3. And I'd ra - ther be\_ a door keep - er and



Lord of hosts, to me. My soul is long-ing and  
he can set - tle down, and the swal-low, she\_ can  
on - ly stay a day, than live the life of a



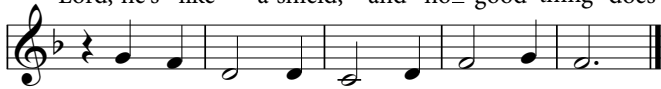
faint - ing the courts of the Lord to see.  
build\_ a nest where she may lay\_ her young,  
sin - ner and have to\_ stay a - way.



My heart and flesh, they are sing - ing for\_  
with - in the courts of the Lord of hosts, my\_  
For the Lord is shin - ing as\_ the sun, and the



joy to the li - ving God. How love - ly is\_ your  
King, my Lord, and my God; and happy are those who are  
Lord, he's like a shield; and no\_ good thing does



dwell-ing-place, O Lord of hosts, to me.  
dwell-ing where the song of praise is sung.  
he with-hold from those who walk his way.

## THE OPENING OF WORSHIP

Happy are they

who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,

*All* nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the Lord,**  
and they meditate on his law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.

*from Psalm 1*

## 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,  
we have held onto our possessions and  
achievements fiercely,  
trusting in them for our preservation,  
safety, and joy instead of looking to you.  
Forgive us, and in your mercy,  
let our faithless hearts be broken  
so that we might turn to you  
and find more than we knew how to desire.

## WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

By grace you are saved and forgiven,  
because God, who is rich in mercy,  
has made you alive in Christ,  
even though you were dead in the midst of your sin,  
and has raised you up, like Christ,  
to do the work he has prepared for you.

*All* Amen.

## SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*Have Mercy* - Sandra McCracken, Thad Cockrell

Have mercy on me, have mercy on me.  
O Lord, have mercy, O Lord, have mercy.  
O, help my unbelief, O help my unbelief.  
O Lord, have mercy, O Lord, have mercy.  
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us.  
O Lord, have mercy, O Lord, have mercy.

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*Kingdom Come* - Nicole C. Mullen

Our Father, in heaven, please hear me now I pray.  
We need you, more than ever, in a million different ways.  
There are wars on every land, poverty inside of man,  
the earth is groaning from within; deliver us again  
from the evil that devours, consume it with your power,  
we implore you now this hour, we pray.

*Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
right here on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Come, set up your throne,  
and let thy kingdom come.*

Our Father, in heaven, so holy is your name.  
The angels, they adore you; soon all earth will do the same,  
where every tear that we have cried  
will be comforted and dried.  
We'll eat from the Tree of Life, and life will never end,  
and we'll worship at your throne,  
where you'll make your glory known,  
that you are God and God alone, and we pray.

*Thy kingdom come...*

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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**

*Old Testament reading: Ruth 1:1-18*

<sup>1</sup>In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons.

<sup>2</sup>The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

<sup>3</sup>But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>These took Moabite wives; the name of one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there for about ten years, <sup>5</sup>both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons or her husband.

<sup>6</sup>Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had had consideration for his people and given them food. <sup>7</sup>So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. <sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup>The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.' Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. <sup>10</sup>They said to her, 'No, we will return with you to

your people.’ <sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, ‘Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, <sup>13</sup>would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me.’ <sup>14</sup>Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

<sup>15</sup>So she said, ‘See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.’ <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, ‘Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!’ <sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel reading: Matthew 13:44-46*

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

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. <sup>45</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*“The Treasure & the Pearl”* – 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](http://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 our Father,  
your kingdom is a home for longing hearts,  
but in our day to day lives  
longing can be a heavy load.  
Refresh the weary as you walk alongside them,  
that they may see you at work in the world.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Jesus, our good King,  
you gave everything you had  
in your pursuit of us.  
Help us let go of the things  
that hold us back from loving others  
as you have taught us to love.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit,  
without you we cannot see rightly  
what we should treasure most.  
Let your wisdom rest upon  
our neighbors and our leaders:  
awaken hearts to seek your kingdom.  
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

*Jesus, Priceless Treasure* - Franck, Crüger, Winkworth, Bach

Jesus, priceless treasure, source of purest pleasure,  
truest friend to me.

Ah, how long in anguish shall my spirit languish,  
yearning, Lord, for thee?

Thine I am, O spotless lamb! I will suffer naught to hide thee,  
naught I ask beside Thee.

In thine arms I rest me; foes who would molest me  
cannot reach me here.

though the earth be shaking, every heart be quaking,  
Jesus calms my fear.

Lightnings flash and thunders crash;  
yet, though sin and hell assail me,  
Jesus will not fail me.

Satan, I defy thee; death, I now decry thee;  
fear, I bid thee cease.

World, thou shalt not harm me nor thy threats alarm me  
while I sing of peace.

God's great power guards every hour; earth and all its  
depths adore him,  
silent bow before him.

Hence with earthly treasure! Thou art all my pleasure,  
Jesus, all my choice.

Hence, thou empty glory! Naught to me thy story,  
told with tempting voice.

Pain or loss or shame or cross  
shall not from my savior move me,  
since he deigns to love me.

Hence, all fear and sadness! For the Lord of gladness,  
Jesus, enters in.

Those who love the Father, though the storms may gather,  
still have peace within.

Yea, whate'er I here must bear, thou art still my purest pleasure,  
Jesus, priceless treasure.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*All* Lord Jesus,  
thank you for this meal: your own body and blood.  
We are hungry, and many others promise  
to satisfy us with what they offer.  
Fill us up, so these enticements  
have no hold on us as we take delight in you. Amen.

## BLESSING AND SENDING

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed* - James Montgomery, Vito Aiuto

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression and rule in equity.

He comes in succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.  
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,  
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end:  
the tide of time shall never his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand forever, his name to us is love.

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## BENEDICTION

May the grace of God keep you  
as you seek him, give you joy and gladness in him,  
and guard you as you long for his saving help,  
that you may praise him for his great love;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you, and remain with you always.

*All* Amen.

## 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  
Matt Engle: bass  
Christopher McDonald:  
keyboards, voice  
Joshua Shaffer: drums

### Fairmount

Katie Wildes: liturgist  
Tuck Bartholomew: celebrant  
Christopher McDonald:  
piano, voice  
Matt Engle: bass  
Joshua Shaffer: drums

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