



City Church

PHILADELPHIA

Sunday July 15, 2018

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

“A Friend at Midnight”

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.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
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

O Worship the King - Robert Grant, Johann Michael Haydn

O worship the king, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

O measureless might! Ineffable love!
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall lisp to thy praise.

THE OPENING OF WORSHIP

Great are the works of the Lord;

All the Lord is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.

He sent redemption to his people;
holy and awesome is his name.

from Psalm 111

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 Father of all compassion,
too often we do not trust your care for us.
We wait impatiently and grow faint
but do not look to your provision.
We observe the scarcity of our resources
with little faith and meager hope.
Have mercy upon us and forgive us.
Fill us and send us out.

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May God our Father forgive you your sins,
and bring you to the fellowship of his table,
together with all his people.

All Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Lord, I Need You - Carson, Stanfill, Nockels, Maher, Reeves

Lord, I come, I confess,
bowing here, I find my rest;
without you I fall apart;
you're the one that guides my heart.

*Lord, I need you, O, I need you,
every hour I need you,
my one defense, my righteousness,
O God, how I need you.*

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more,
where grace is found is where you are,
and where you are, Lord I am free;
holiness is Christ in me.

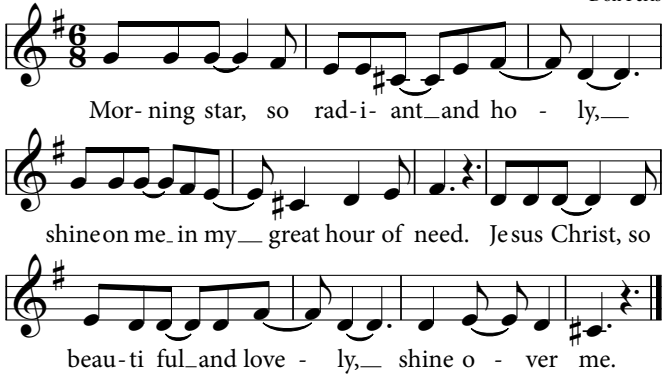
(repeat chorus)

So teach my song to rise to you
when temptation comes my way,
and when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you;
Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

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Morning Star

Don Peris



Mor-ning star, so rad-i-ant and ho-ly, shine on me in my great hour of need. Jesus Christ, so beau-ti-ful and love-ly, shine o-ver me.

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: Genesis 18:20-32

²⁰Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. ²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake."

²⁷Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it."

³²Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Luke 11:5-13

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. ⁹"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"A Friend at Midnight" – Rev. Tuck Bartholomew

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.

Loving Father, send your church into the world
as a people who look to the interests of others
and who long for one another with the love of Christ.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders to strive for justice and peace;
may all who suffer oppression or violence be delivered,
that your church might freely minister reconciliation.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

We ask your mercy upon all who are sick or in distress;
heal and comfort them in both body and spirit,
and deliver them from anxiety and grant them joy.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

We beg your mercy upon the homeless,
poor, and needy:
grant them homes, opportunities,
and resources to find relief.
May we be messengers of your generous provision.
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

The Feast - William Gadsby, Karl Digerness

With wondering eyes, Lord we admire
the feast prepared by grace;
come, Lord, and set our souls on fire,
and fill each heart with peace.
These emblems of your precious love,
by faith may we receive!
And with a solemn pleasure prove
we in your name believe.

*We eat this bread, we drink this wine,
come give yourself to us.
We know you're here, that's why we've come,
to feast on you with love.*

No goodness of our own we bring;
we're sinners vile and base.
Christ is our all; of Christ we sing,
and long to see his face.
O may we each, with heart and tongue
sing, "Worthy is the Lamb!"
To him alone the praise belongs,
and we'll adore his name.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**All Lord God,
you hear our prayers and answer our cries,
renewing us by the living bread from heaven;
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;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING AND SENDING

Come, Holy Ghost - Bruce Benedict, Ray Mills, Rhabanus Maurus

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
and in our hearts take up thy rest;
come with thy grace and heav'nly aid
to fill our hearts which thou hast made,
to fill our hearts which thou has made.

O Comforter, to thee we cry,
thou heav'nly gift of God most high;
thou fount of life, and fire of love,
and sweet anointing from above,
and sweet anointing from above.

*"Be not afraid; where you go,
there I am with you."* (repeat)

O Holy Ghost, through thee alone
know we the Father and the Son;
be this our firm unchanging creed,
that thou dost from them both proceed,
that thou dost from them both proceed.

Praise we the Lord, Father and Son,
and Holy Spirit with them one;
and may the Son on us bestow
all gifts that from the Spirit flow,
all gifts that from the Spirit flow.

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BENEDICTION

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him,
calling upon him and relying upon his hourly mercies;
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

Julia Snyder: liturgist
Chris Currie: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice
Jordan McCree: drums
Jaron Olevsky: bass

Fairmount

Mae Trieu: liturgist
Chris Currie: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice
Jordan McCree: drums
Jaron Olevsky: bass

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community life and church events.

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