

Sunday September 29, 2019

The Gospel of Mark "Lord of the Sabbath"

Welcome.

Thanks for joining us today in worship. We hope you find City Church to be a warm, welcoming community—regardless of your background, beliefs, or life situation. To that end, we recognize that certain parts of the service may feel unfamiliar, so we've provided brief explanations throughout this guide.

Our worship is "liturgical." The Greek word "leitourgia" means a public work, the work of the people. Liturgical worship begins with God's call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity and then moving us outward into our world.

On pages 19-22, you'll find information about our community. We hope this helps you get to know us better and that, in turn, we can get to know you better. Help us welcome you by filling out the contact sheet on the back page and placing it in the offering basket or in our hands after the worship service.

All to say, we are glad you are here and look forward to meeting you.

— The Pastoral Staff *Tuck Bartholomew, Chris Currie, Jonathan Davis*

Sunday Info

Nursery, Room 111 Children 4 – 24 months for the duration of the service

Children's, Church Room 112–113 Children ages 2 through 5th grade dismiss just before the sermon. 1st – 5th graders will return prior to communion.

Adult Ed Class No classes are currently meeting.

Accessibility A wheelchair ramp and elevator are on site. A greeter can assist you.

Coffee is available in the SE hallway at 10:15am and before Adult Ed classes when offered.

Reflection

It is only as we are able to become receptive of God's grace, often mediated through discernment of its presence in others, that we can discover the way of Jesus and the fundamental shape of biblical spirituality.

- Frances Young, Brokenness and Blessing

Church Calendar

ADVENT CHRISTMAS EPIPHANY LENT EASTER PENTECOST ORDINARY TIME We observe a season of Ordinary Time from Pentecost until Advent, which we count as weeks following Pentecost. During this time we especially remember the lives and actions of Jesus' followers. We think about how the first Christians lived their lives, and how we should live ours today. This season of Ordinary Time takes up half the year and it doesn't offer big exciting festivals such as Christmas or Easter. As a result, as one Sunday follows another, this season can begin to feel, well, ordinary.

GOD SUMMONS US AS HIS PEOPLE

As we meet together each week, we recognize in the preparation that God, through his word and Spirit, gathers us into his presence and calls us into his life and mission.

Prelude

Preparation

May our souls take refuge from the crowding turmoil of worldly thought and, beneath the shadow of your wings, find peace in you, O God.

All Amen.

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.

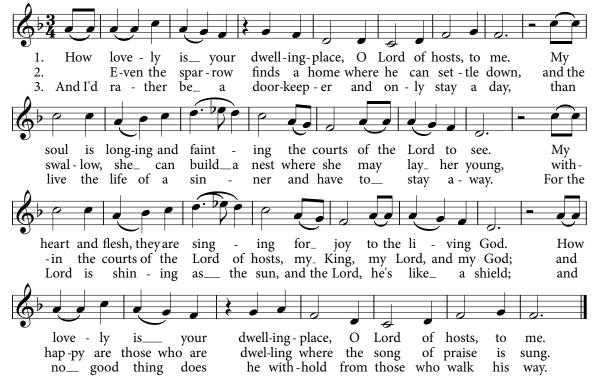
O come, let us sing unto the Lord.

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

Opening Song

How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place

Psalm 84, Jonathan Asprey, trad. Irish

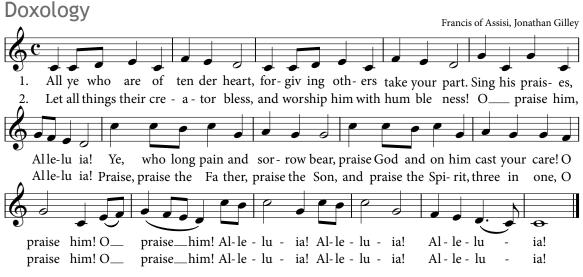


Opening of Worship

Sing aloud to God our strength;

All shout for joy to the God of Jacob. Raise a song, sound the tambourine, sound the sweet lyre with the harp. Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day. For it is a statute for Israel. an ordinance of the God of lacob. "I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket. In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder. Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me! There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god. I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouths wide, and I, the Lord, will fill you." from Psalm 81

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation



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Confession of Sin

All Heavenly Father,

you free us, fill us, and give us rest, yet we are often indifferent to your Spirit. We give too much attention to little things, keeping up appearances more than showing mercy. We strive to build our own kingdoms: including those we want, excluding those who do not fit our design. Yet Jesus heals the withered hand, showing mercy to the sick but judging the hard of heart. Father, forgive our callous hearts.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

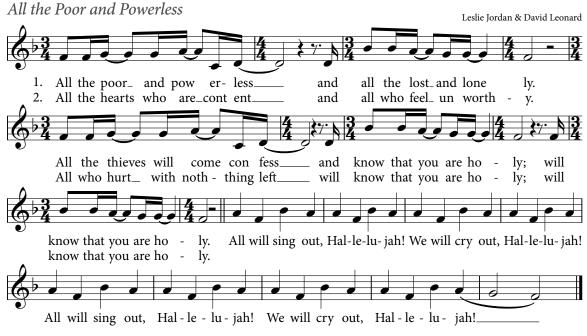
Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ gave us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed: forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to show mercy, and grant you the peaceful rest of his kingdom come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

GOD SANCTIFIES US TO HIMSELF

Throughout Scripture, when people find themselves in God's presence, they sense how far short they fall and become aware of their own shame and brokenness In the same way, we make a confession of sin, *both as a community* and also silently as individuals. In this, we remember that God is always ready, by his mercy and grace, to forgive us.

Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving



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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. 1st - 5th graders are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Offering.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

In the public reading of the word of God and its exposition in the sermon, God shares the story of his saving mission in Jesus, encouraging us to join in that mission and orienting us again to his priorities.

The Word of God

Old Testament reading: Deuteronomy 5:12-15

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Mark 2:23 - 3:6

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. *All* Glory to you, O Lord.

²³One sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain.
²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?"

²⁵And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." ²⁷Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." ⁴Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.AllPraise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"Lord of the Sabbath" - Rev. Chris Currie

Offering and Presentation of Gifts

"I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich" - 2 Corinthians 8:8-9

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. The offering is an opportunity to participate in the ministry of City Church. Online giving is available at citychurchphilly. com/give. If you are visiting, please don't feel obligated to give we're grateful simply for your presence here today. Having offered ourselves up in faith through the creed, affirming the power of God's redemption, we lift up the church, our world, and other needs to God in prayer for his provision and healing. 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

All

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Father, you created for six days but rested on the seventh. We know that a disciple is not above her master, yet we endlessly labor without receiving rest. We pray that you would slow us down and forgive us for our worldly liturgies of pursuit. O Father, slow us down as a people and a nation; grant that a wise pace would overtake our often greedy gallop. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Jesus, Lord of the Sabbath, the law was only a shadow, but you are the Reality, the rest whom the Father provides. We pray for your throne to prevail on earth as it does in heaven. In this hope, we pray for peace: may city leaders seek justice, not only through laws but through right relations among people, so that our city would truly live up to its name. Give strength to bandage this withered hand, even as you heal it. For this, O Lord, we pray: Lord, hear our prayer. Holy Spirit, we ask you comfort all those who are sick, whether with a common cold or an all too common cancer. Advocate for those who lack a voice and raise up voices for them. For the unemployed, breathe new life into them; provide energy for their search and hopeful light in their darkness. May the sick rest from worry, the voiceless rest in others' advocacy, and the unemployed rest in restored vigor and hope. 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.

GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

Communion, also called the Lord's *Supper, is the family* meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus *Christ to participate.* If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer ("Prayers for Reflection" are included below). We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your *relationship* with *Iesus Christ and with his people, the church.*

Communion

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

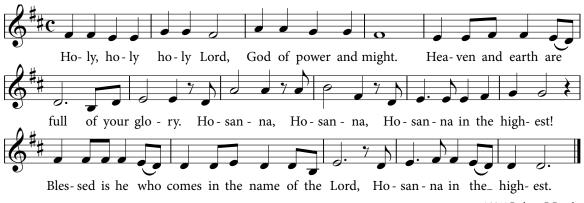
All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

The Eucharistic Prayer

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade. This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people, unfolds for us your word, and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread. And though the night will overtake this day you summon us to live in endless light, the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and singing:



Sanctus

The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The minister speaks the Words of Institution.

If you would like prayer for healing and anointing with oil, please come to the back of the room after you have been served, and an elder will pray for you. This will be a time of liturgical prayer; you will not be asked to share your particular situation. We use wine in Communion. Nonalcoholic white grape juice and a glutenfree option are also available if preferred. Please discard your Communion cup as you leave worship.

Prayers for Reflection

Prayer for those searching

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and lead me to the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weak and sinful, but through you, I am loved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death in order to offer me forgiveness and renewal. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and faithfully follow you in life.

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.

Communion Song

The Feast



^{©2004} Karl Digerness Music

Prayer after Communion

All We thank and praise you, our God and Father, for you have fed us with the bread of heaven and quenched our thirst from the true vine: as those who share together in Christ, may we grow together in his rest and show his mercy to others, until we feast with him in his kingdom. Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Jesus Shall Reign Psalm 72, Isaac Watts O 1. Je _ sus shall reign wher eer the sun does its suc less_ 2. To him shall end _ prayer be___ made, and prai -ses dwell 3. Peo – ple and realms of___ ev 'ry___ tongue on his eer 4. Bles – sings a – bound wher he___ reigns; the pris_ner 5. Let crea – ture_ rise and_ their ev –'ry bring grate_ful Θ king -dom stretch ces _ sive jour – nevs run; his from throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per in - fant love with sweet est and voi _ song, ces___ leaps to lose his chains, the wea – ry find_ е ho nors to our king; an – gels des _ cend_ with_ _ 0 shore, shore to__ till moons shall wax and wane no more. shall -fume, rise with ev – ry mor – ning sac ri fice. _ ear – lv shall pro – claim their bles – sings on his name. nal all the sons of want blest. _ter _ rest. and are the loud songs gain, and earth re – peat а men! а ©Public Domain

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

We have responded to God's call, heard his word, offered ourselves to his service, and received strength at his table. Now, at the close of worship, God sends us out to carry forward the gospel story.

Benediction

May God the Son, the Lord of the Sabbath and the Sabbath of God in person, grant you his rest as he works to bring the kingdom that he has prepared for you; 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.

Rachel Allison: voice Ross Bellenoit: guitar Chad Brown: drums Natalie Harvey: voice Jaron Olevsky: bass

CONNECT

COMMUNITY GROUPS range in size from 10-15 people and meet weekly in the home of a group member for spiritual formation and friendship. We encourage you to visit multiple groups to see which one might be a good fit. Contact a leader if you plan to visit. Contact Jonathan Davis, jona-than@citychurchphilly.com if you have questions.

West Philly

- 50th & Springfield, Tuesdays 7_{РМ} Jessie Taylor, jessie.f.taylor@gmail.com
- 52nd & Larchwood, Tuesdays 7рм Jade Avelis, jade.avelis@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Linda's, Wed 6:30^{PM} Janet Nygren, janetnygren@gmail.com
- 49th & Baltimore, Thursdays 6_{РМ} Vieen Leung, vieenleung@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Dick's, Thursdays 6:30_{PM} Joel Bassett, jbassett4@gmail.com

Fairmount

- Ringgold & Poplar, Wednesdays 7рм Su Jin Kim, splujin@gmail.com
- 22nd & Poplar, Sundays 4_{РМ} Bonnie Currie, bonnie.currie@gmail.com

South Philly

 12th & Wharton, Wednesdays 7:30_{PM} Kirstin Peth, kirstin.peth@gmail.com

Roxborough

• Tuesdays 6:30PM Cale Weatherly, cale.weatherly@gmail.com

FAMILY MINISTRIES come alongside families as they disciple their children, seeking to help them cultivate friendships, connect with the wider church community, and grow into maturity as people of faith.

- Children's Ministry. Our children's classes use a gospel-centered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to allow them opportunities to form spiritual friendships with their peers and teachers. See page 2 for details. Contact Chris Currie, chris@citychurchphilly. com.
- City Church Youth, Sundays 12:30-2:30pm. Students and Volunteer Leaders gather at a Woodland Presbyterian Church (42 & Pine) for fellowship, bible study, and prayer. Lunch is provided each week. Contact Eric Burrows-Stone, eric@citychurchphilly.com

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS The

Gathering is an intentional Community Group for college students that meets once a week for a (FREE) meal and topical discussion. Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm in Houston Hall 225. Contact Natalie Harvey, natalie@citychurchphilly. com.

55+ is a group of older people attending City Church who gather monthly after Sunday services for a shared meal and shared prayer. Contact Miriam Wattenbarger, mwattenb@hotmail.com.

WOMEN'S DAYTIME BOOK

STUDY Tuesdays 9:30AM, Childcare available. Contact Eeva, eevaduddleston@gmail.com.

GROW

City Church is a community committed to

growing in our life of joy and peace through communion with God in Christ. God uses many means to form his children into his likeness. As a church family, City Church focuses on eight practices that Christians historically have embraced for their growth. At right are a few links to help you get started.

- Read about our approach to Spiritual Formation|citychurchphilly.com/spiritualformation
- Sign up to receive Daily Prayer in your inbox citychurchphilly.com/daily-prayer
- Check out current and upcoming Adult Ed classes | citychurchphilly.com/adult-ed

GIVE

The intentional financial participation of those who consider City Church their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own needs but to be able to serve others in our city and neighborhoods. Here are a few ways that you can contribute financially to City Church:

- Place cash or check in the offering basket on Sundays
- Give online | citychurchphilly.com/give
- Text any amount to 84321, follow the link, and select City Church Philadelphia
- Checks may be mailed or arranged through Electronic Bill Pay to be sent to: City Church, PO Box 30902, Philadelphia, PA 19104

SERVE

We seek to be a church that demonstrates the love of Christ to our city. Over the years, our deacons have cultivated partnerships with several local organizations. To view current opportunities to serve, please visit citychurchphilly.org/serve-city.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Around Here? Come to City Church 101 City Church 101 is a casual 2-hour Saturday morning seminar that gives you a chance to learn a bit more about the church, and us a chance to get to know you! We're offering the seminar twice this fall: October 5 or November 9. Please register at citychurchphilly.com/membership so we know that you plan to attend.

City Mission Community Partner Fair TODAY Plan to stay after church today to learn about the local ministry partners that City Church supports financially, through prayer and/or with volunteers, and consider how you might engage with their work. Light snacks and beverages will be available to fuel your conversations. Come join us as we seek to be a church that demonstrates the love of Christ to our city.

Fairmount Mission Incubator This fall is a transitional season for our work in Fairmount as we seek to learn a "missional community" posture and strengthen community groups to better serve our neighbors. Curious? Contact Chris at Chris@citychurchphilly.com or visit any of these gatherings:

- * 3rd Sunday Monthly Gatherings w/ Potluck Dinner @ the City School, 4:30-6:30 pm.
- * A Saturday Intensive on November 2 from 9 am 1 pm (includes lunch).
- * Community Groups: We have two groups, one that meets Sundays at 4 pm at 22nd and Poplar, and one on Wednesdays at 7 pm at Ringgold & Poplar.

ALSO IN PHILLY

Travel to Israel in 2020 with Dr. Cyndi Parker – Deadline

Approaching! City Church is going to Israel! Dr. Cyndi Parker is leading two trips for City Church. The February trip focuses on the historical context of the Bible (limited to 28–32 people, sign up by October 15). The May trip includes key biblical sites but focuses primarily on the modern, cultural context (limited to 14 people). Itineraries and registration links for both trips can be found at narrativeofplace.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October

5 City Church 10116 Seekers' Group27 4th Sunday Prayer

November

9 City Church 101

October 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 City Church 101, 9 am
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				City Classis		
13	14	15	16 Seekers' Group	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 4th Sunday Prayer	28 Elder Meeting	29	30	31		

Staff

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Liz Voboril Communications Coordinator liz@citychurchphilly.com

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Help us welcome you.

Name(s):
Children & their ages:
f undergrad or grad student, school & year:
Address:
Phone number(s):
Email(s):
Nould you like to receive our weekly e-newsletter? 🛛 Yes 🗍 No
Please contact me about:
Community Groups
Neighborhood Service Opportunities
Volunteering on Sundays
□ Children's & Youth Ministries
Meeting with a Pastor
Other:

Prayer Requests

Our staff prays weekly on Tuesdays, and our deacons pray monthly on 4th Sundays. Fill out your name above if you'd like to be prayed for by name.

Please tear off this back page and place in the offering basket.

