



# City Church

PHILADELPHIA

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Sunday February 11, 2018

Jonah:  
“The Reluctant Priest”

## 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

*Immortal, Invisible* - John Roberts, Walter Chalmers Smith

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish -- but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

### OPENING RESPONSORIAL

I will extol you, my God and King,  
*All* I will bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you  
and praise your name forever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another,  
another generation shall declare your mighty acts.

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,  
and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,  
they shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*from Psalm 145*

## 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* Our Father,  
we confess we have failed you  
like many disciples before us.  
When you give us the give of your word,  
we turn our heads, harden our hearts,  
and even flee from those you call us to love.  
In our sinfulness, we cry to you to take our guilt away  
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen.

## SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*Open the Eyes of My Heart* - Paul Baloche

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,  
open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you,  
I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up,  
shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power and love  
as we sing holy, holy, holy:

Holy, holy, holy,  
holy, holy, holy  
holy, holy, holy,  
I want to see you.

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*Have Mercy on Me* - David Gungor, Latifah Alattas,  
Madison Cunningham

The goodness of the Lord is the kindness of the Lord  
with every breath we take, the gift of life and grace;  
the power of the Lord is the meekness of the Lord  
who bore humanity with brave humility:

*Let your mercy flow through us,  
your mercy, your mercy. (repeat)*

The beauty of the Lord is the suffering of the Lord,  
is Christ upon a tree, stripped of dignity,  
the glory of the Lord is the mercy of the Lord,  
gives life for us to see a new humanity:

*Let your mercy flow through us...*

When they see us, may they see  
your mercy, your mercy.  
When they know us, may they know  
your mercy, your mercy.

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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: Jonah 4:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.

<sup>2</sup>He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I  
said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to  
Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious  
God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast  
love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O Lord,  
please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than  
to live." <sup>4</sup>And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

<sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the  
city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in  
the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over  
Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his  
discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But  
when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm  
that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun  
rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down  
on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he  
might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

<sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about  
the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup>Then  
the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which  
you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into  
being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not  
be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there  
are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who  
do not know their right hand from their left, and also many  
animals?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Continued on back...

*Gospel reading: Matthew 20:1-16*

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

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

<sup>1</sup>“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

<sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **SERMON**

*“The Reluctant Priest”* – The 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](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.*

Holy Father,  
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:  
set straight our crooked hearts,  
and bend our wills to love your goodness  
and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord of the nations,  
we pray for all in positions of power:  
may they govern with wisdom and integrity,  
serving the needs of their people,  
especially those who are vulnerable.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Spirit of all compassion,  
we pray for those who suffer from illness or distress,  
whether in mind, body, or situation,  
and for those who suffer at the hands of others.  
May they know your power to restore and heal.  
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

*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...

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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*All* Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power  
to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## BLESSING AND SENDING

*Jesus, Master, Whose I Am* – Frances Havergal

Jesus, master, whose I am,  
purchased thine alone to be,  
by thy blood, O spotless lamb,  
shed so willingly for me,  
let my heart be all thine own,  
let me live for thee alone.

Other lords have long held sway;  
now thy name alone to bear,  
thy dear voice alone obey,  
is my daily, hourly prayer;  
whom have I in heaven but thee?  
Nothing else my joy can be.

Jesus, master, whom I serve,  
though so feebly and so ill,  
strengthen hand and heart and nerve  
all thy bidding to fulfill;  
open thou mine eyes to see  
all the work thou hast for me.

Lord, thou needest not, I know,  
service such as I can bring,  
yet I long to prove and show  
full allegiance to my king.  
Jesus, let me always be  
in thy service glad and free.

Jesus, master, I am thine;  
keep me faithful, keep me near;  
let thy presence in me shine  
all my homeward way to cheer.  
Jesus, at thy feet I fall;  
O be thou my all in all.

## 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

Kory Stamper: liturgist

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Ross Bellenoit: guitar

Josh Stamper: bass

#### Fairmount

Arlene Navarro: liturgist

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Ross Bellenoit: guitar

Josh Stamper: bass

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

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