

*Seek the Lost · Build up the Found · Transform the City
Through Jesus Christ*
MARCH 12, 2017

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF PURITY

Leader: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

This Is Amazing Grace

1 Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

2 Who shakes the whole earth
with holy thunder
Who leaves us breathless
in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

This is amazing grace this is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You would lay down Your life
That I would be set free
Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

3 Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory, the King of Glory

4 Who rules the nations
with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
And worthy is the King
who conquered the grave (repeat)
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy

Jeremy Riddle | Josh Farro | Phil Wickham ©2012 Bethel Music | Phil Wickham
Music | Seems Like Music | Sing My Songs | Warner Chappell Music

Forever Reign

1 You are good, You are good
When there's nothing good in me
You are love, You are love
On display for all to see
You are light, You are light
When the darkness closes in
You are hope, You are hope
You have covered all my sin

2 You are peace, You are peace
When my fear is crippling
You are true, You are true
Even in my wandering
You are joy, You are joy
You're the reason that I sing
You are life, You are life
In You death has lost its sting

*(Oh) I'm running to Your arms
I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love will always be enough
Nothing compares to Your embrace
Light of the world forever reign*

3 You are more, You are more
Than my words will ever say
You are Lord, You are Lord
All creation will proclaim
You are here, You are here
In Your presence I'm made whole
You are God, You are God
Of all else I'm letting go

My heart will sing no other Name
Jesus, Jesus

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Music Jason Ingram | Reuben Morgan

Come Thou Fount

1 Come Thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the Mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of God's unchanging love

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer
Hither by Thy help I come
And I hope, by thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wand'ring from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood

3 O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart O take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

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CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

People: **May the Lord be with you.**

Children: *And also with you.*

People: **May the Word of the Lord grow in your hearts.**

Children: *Thanks be to God!*

People: **Go in the peace of the Lord.**

At this time, children 4k-2nd grade are invited to go to Kids Time. Kids Time is a dynamic worship service that caters to younger children and prepares them to participate in the main worship service. The children will return prior to Communion.

Scripture Reading

1 John 2:7-17 (p. 986)

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Leader: *The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

People: **Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

John 15:9-17 (p. 876)

Leader: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

People: **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

MESSAGE

Sermon Series: This Is Love

New Command

Rev. Curt Solomon

THE NICENE CREED (said together)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*The phrase "holy catholic Church" means the Church worldwide.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Leader: *With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father. For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, let us pray to the Father. Lord of compassion,*

People: **In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: *For the mission of the Church, that we would faithfully preach the gospel to the ends of the earth; let us pray to the Father. Lord of compassion,*

People: **In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: *For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to the Father. Lord of compassion,*

People: **In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: *For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger, that they may be relieved and protected, let us pray to the Father. Lord of compassion,*

People: **In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: *For those whom we have injured or offended, let us pray to the Father. Lord of compassion,*

People: **In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: *For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, let us pray to the Father. Lord of compassion,*

People: **In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Leader: *God our Father, in your love and goodness you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting and generosity; accept our prayers, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Hear the promise of God for us: "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:8-9

Let us now come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions with godly sorrow and faith.

HOLY CONFESsION (said together)

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Leader: This is love, not that we loved God,

People: But that he loved us and sent his Son.

Leader: He is the sacrifice for our sins,

People: That we might live through him.

Leader: If God loves us so much,

People: We ought to love one another.

Leader: If we love one another,

People: God lives in us. Amen.

Leader: Church, hear the Good News: In Christ, all your sins are forgiven! The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

WELCOME and OFFERING

O Come To The Altar

1 Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

*O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ*

2 Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling

Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

3 Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

Chris Brown | Mack Brock | Steven Furtick | Wade Joye
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HOLY COMMUNION

(All baptized and believing followers of our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to partake in Holy Communion regardless of denomination. It is our custom to use wine during communion. If you prefer, you may receive grape juice from the smaller chalices on the end of the serving lines. If it would not be authentic for you to receive Communion, you may remain in your seat and contemplate the prayers on the following page.)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give them thanks and praise.

Leader continues in Eucharistic Prayer...

Leader: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (said together)

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 trespasses

As we forgive those

Who trespass against us

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

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (said together)

We do not presume to come to this your Table, O Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink of the body and blood of your dear Son Jesus Christ, that our sinful bodies may be cleansed by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Unable to come forward? Please inform an usher to request that Communion be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers available upon request.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT TAKING HOLY COMMUNION

The Church of The Apostles welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, to receive Holy Communion with us by coming forward to one of the communion stations at the front. If you are not able to receive Communion, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth.

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

Prayer of Belief.

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Please come into my life through the power of your Holy Spirit. Thank you.

COMMUNION SONGS (Please join in singing during communion.)

A prayer team is available to pray with you at the back of the worship area.

For All The Saints

1 For all the saints
Who from their labours rest
Who Thee by faith
Before the world confessed
Thy name O Jesu
Be for ever blest
Alleluia allelu

2 Thou wast their Rock
Their Fortress and their Might
Thou Lord their Captain
In the well fought fight
Thou in the darkness drear
Their one true Light
Alleluia allelu

3 O blest communion
Fellowship divine
We feebly struggle
They in glory shine
Yet all are one in Thee
For all are Thine
Alleluia allelu

4 From earth's wide bounds
From ocean's farthest coast
Through gates of pearl
Streams in the countless host
Singing to Father
Son and Holy Ghost
Alleluia allelu

Christopher Miner | William Walsham How
Words: Public Domain
Music: ©1998 Miner, Christopher

All Who Are Thirsty

*Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come*

All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life

Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep
(We sing)

As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep

*Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come*

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Brenton Brown | Glenn Robertson

Great Are You Lord

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore ev'ry
heart that is broken
And great are You Lord

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only*

And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord

David Leonard | Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan
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Open Hands Music | Sony/ATV Timber Publishing

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (said together)

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, and live in peace; and may the God of love and peace, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever. Amen.

More Than Conquerors

1 When my hope and strength is gone
You're the One who calls me on
You are the life
You are the fight that's in my soul

2 Oh Your resurrection pow'r
Burns like fire in my heart
When waters rise
I lift my eyes up to Your throne

We are more than conquerors through Christ
You have overcome this world this life
We will not bow to sin or to shame
We are defiant in Your name
You are the fire that cannot be tamed
You are the power in our veins
Our Lord our God our conqueror

3 I will sing into the night
Christ is risen and on high
Greater is He
Living in me than in the world

4 No surrender no retreat
We are free and we're redeemed
We will declare
Over despair You are the hope

Nothing is impossible
Ev'ry chain is breakable
With You we are victorious
You are stronger than our hearts
You are greater than the dark
With You we are victorious

Rend Collective
©2014 Thankyou Music

DISMISSAL

Leader: *Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.*
People: **Thanks be to God!**

Welcome Visitors and Newcomers

We are glad you are worshiping with us this morning. Below are a few ways that you can become more involved at Apostles. If you have questions this morning, you can fill out a yellow Connection Card (found under the seat in front of you) and place it in the offering basket. *Welcome!*

Sign Up For



The Pulse e-mail newsletter—
To receive our weekly e-newsletter with updates and announcements about what is going on at Apostles.

Simply fill out the Connection Card under the seat in front of you and drop it in the offering basket.



ApostlesLink.org—Our online communication tool connects you to ministries and members of the Apostles community.

For a login, e-mail Marsha Whyte:
marsha@apostles-raleigh.org

Find a Group

Interested in connecting deeper into the community here at Apostles? Consider joining a Community Group! Various men's and women's ministry groups meet throughout the week. Contact Curt for more information.

Curt Solomon
curt@apostles-raleigh.org



Student Ministry Small Groups happen Sundays at 5:30pm during the school year.
(6th - 12th grades)
Contact Chris for more information.

Chris Hendricks
chris@apostles-raleigh.org

Seek Prayer

The Apostles Prayer Ministry is a safe place to seek prayer for a variety of concerns.

You will find trained prayer teams and a prayer room in the back of the sanctuary, toward the right as you enter.

Lent Compline

The English word Compline is derived from the Latin completorium, as Compline is the completion of the working day.

Please join on Wednesday nights beginning March 8 for Compline services during the season of Lent.

These evening services begin at 8:45pm and will last about 20 minutes.

In his book, *Don't Waste Your Life*, John Piper said "If you are God, your work is to create out of nothing. If you are not God, but like God—that is, if you are human—your work is to take what God has made and shape it and use it to make Him look great." What better way to bring glory to the Lord than to offer Him the creative gifts he has bestowed upon us! To find out more please join us!

Apostles Visual Worship Arts Lunch Gathering
Sunday, March 19 | Fellowship Hall
Immediately after 11:00 service

If you would like to attend, please contact Jonathan Noël {jonathan@apostles-raleigh.org | 919-782-0550}.

What's Happening at Apostles

COTA Women's Mentoring Ministry ~ Applications (mentors and mentees) for the 2017-2018 Women's Mentoring Ministry are available now! A new online version can be found on our website or hard copies available in the lobby. There is a drop-off box upstairs for completed paper forms. This program seeks to create a welcoming environment, meeting women wherever they find themselves on their spiritual journey and equipping them to invest in one another's spiritual growth as disciples of Jesus Christ. APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, April 7th. For questions regarding the mentoring program, please contact Ruth Brooks ruthbrooks@mac.com.

This Week @ Apostles

Sunday, March 12

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

- Worship Service: 8:30am & 11:00am
- Sunday School: 10:00am
- *NO* Deal Tonight

Monday, March 13

- Muffins 'n More: 10-11:30am
- Community Hope: 4:30-6:30pm
- Women in the Word (W): 7-9pm

Tuesday, March 14

- Tuesday at Noon (W): 12-1pm
- Tuesday Praise & Prayer: 1:30-3:30pm
- Community Hope: 4:30-6:30pm

Wednesday, March 15

- Band of Brothers (M): 7-8am (offsite)
- Sleepyheads (M): 7:15-8:15am
- Growing in Grace (W): 9:30-11am
- Community Hope: 4:30-6:30pm
- Abiding Prayer: 7-8:30pm
- Lent Compline: 8:45pm

Thursday, March 16

- Men's Fraternity (M): 6:30-8am
- Blackwater Group (M): 7-8am (offsite)
- Community Hope: 4:30-6:30pm

Friday, March 17

- Bedheads (W): 6-7am

Coming Soon @ Apostles

MARCH

- 19 ~ Guatemala Team Meeting
- 29 ~ Leadership Council Vision Meeting

APRIL

- 9 ~ Palm Sunday
- 13 ~ Maundy Thursday Service
- 14 ~ Good Friday Service @ COTA
- 15 ~ The Great Egg Hunt | Eastgate Park

Apostles Children's Ministry

Lessons for March 12

- > **Nursery:** The Poor Woman's Gift {Mark 12:41-44}
- > **Kid's Time:** Jesus Heals Two Blind Men {Matt 20:29-34}

The "cross banners" in the sanctuary during Lent were created by kids in our Children and Student Ministries. We are so thankful for them and for participating in worship in such a creative way!

Apostles Student Ministry

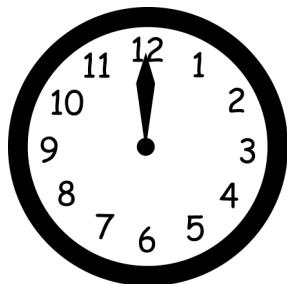
- > **TONIGHT!** ~ *NO DEAL* (High School Retreat)
- > **March 26** ~ NINE1NINE: SK80's Night!
- > **March 31-April 1** ~ Middle School Lock In @ Defy Gravity

Please be in prayer for our high school students and leaders that are traveling back from Boone today following their mountain retreat.

Welcome to Church of the Apostles

We pray that you know God's presence as you worship with us today.

Holy Communion is open to all who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Children are welcome to receive communion at their parent's discretion. It is our custom to use wine during communion. If you choose not to partake of the wine, you can receive grape juice from the smaller chalices on the end of the serving lines.



The Lord's Prayer at Noon

During Lent, you are invited to join us in saying The Lord's Prayer each day at 12:00pm. Wherever we are, whatever we are doing, let's commit to take a moment and intentionally pray together.



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Church of the Apostles

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Pastoral Care Emergencies: 919-283-2682
Church Office Hours: M-Th 9am-5pm | Fri 9am-12pm

www.apostles-raleigh.org