

ORDINARY TIME



September 24, 2023
11:00am

WE GATHER

CHIMING THE HOUR


WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson

INVOCATION

As We Gather

Words and Music by Tom Coomes and Mike Fay



As we gath-er, may _ Your Spir-it work with-in us.

As we gath-er, may _ we glo-ri-fy Your name.

Know-ing well that as _ our hearts be-gin to wor-ship,

we'll be blessed be-cause _ we came, _____

we'll be blessed be-cause _ we came.

© 1981 CCCM Music

PREPARE

- One: We call the blessings we say before our meals “grace.”
- All: **We know that grace is an essential need of our lives**
- One: We “say grace,” but do we always share grace with others?
- All: **We need reminders that we are all human.**
- One: We thank God for another opportunity to make room at the Table of God’s Grace for others.
- All: **We give God thanks for such a generous and wide table where all are welcome!**

✦ Please Rise in Body or Spirit

CCLI #11158100
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PRAISE

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, John Newton, & Louie Giglio

A-maz - - ing grace, - how - sweet - the sound, - that saved
- a soul - like - me. I once - was - lost - but now
1.
- I'm found, - was blind, - but now - I - see. - 'Twas
2.
I - first - be-lieved. My chains are - gone, - I've been set
- free. My God, my Sav - - ior has set me - free. And like a
flood Your mer - cy - rains, un-end ing love, - a-maz - - ing grace.
- Our God - has - prom-ised good - to me, - Your word

my hope _ se-cures. _ Your will _ my _ shield _ and por-

_ tion be, _ as long _ as _ life _ en-dures. _ My chains are

_ gone. _ I've been set _ free, My God, my Sav _ ior has set me _

_ free. And like a flood Your mer _ cy _ rains, un-end ing love,

1. 2.

_ a - maz _ ing grace. My chains are

The earth shall soon dis-solve _ like snow, _ the sun

_ re _ fuse to shine. _ But _ You who called _ me here

_ be-low, _ will be _ for _ ev _ er mine, _ will be

_ for _ ev _ er mine. _ You are

_ for _ ev _ er

EPISTLE READING
Philippians 1.27-30

Becka Gonzalez

WE PROCLAIM

PREPARE

Word of God, Speak

Words and Music by Bart Millard | Pete Kipley

Find-ing my self in the midst _ of You, be-yond the
mu - sic, be-yond _ the noise. All that I need _ is to be
with You, and in the still - ness, to hear Your voice.
Word of God, speak; Would You pour down like rain,
wash-ing my eyes _ to see, _ Your maj - es-ty, _ to be still and know .
_ that you're in this place? Please let me stay _ and rest _ in Your Ho -
_ li-ness. Word of God, speak. _ Word of God, speak. .
_ Word of God, speak. _

◆GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Mike Wright-Chapman

Matthew 20. 1-16

Jesus continued teaching saying: For the realm of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for a day's wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When the landowner went out about nine o'clock in the morning, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So, they went.

Then when he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock went out and found others standing around, and said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." The landowner said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." 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." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a full day's wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a day's wage.

And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 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." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a day's wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So, the last will be first, and the first will be last.

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson

The Table of Grace

We are the newchurch – the *Chiesa Nuova* – who gather and are gathered as an intentional, Christian community seeking to follow in the Way of Jesus.

WE RESPOND

Kyrie Eleison

Words and Music by Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman, Matt Maher and Jason Ingram

Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy. Hear our cry and
heal ___ our _land. Let kind-ness lead us to re - pent-ance,
bring us back a - gain. For Your name
___ is great and Your heart is grace; _ Ky-ri - e E - lei _ son! O-ver-all
_ You reign, You a-lone _ can save; _ Ky-ri - e E - lei _ son!
Lord, _ have mer - cy; Christ, _ have mer - cy on _ us now.

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PRAYER

Invitation

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using "kin-dom" and "sins")

Our God in heaven, holy be your name. Your kin-dom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kin-dom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving

One: God be with you!

Many: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts!

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God most high.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Story

Invitation

Sharing

Song of Communion

Come to the Table

Words and Music by Ben Glover | Ben McDonald | Dave Frey

The musical score is written for a single voice on a treble clef staff in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'We all start on the out - side, the out-side look-ing in. This is where grace _ be-gins. _ We were hun - gry, we were thirs _ ty, with noth-ing left _ to give.'

We all start on the out - side, the out-side look-ing in.

This is where grace _ be-gins. _

We were hun - gry, we were thirs _ ty, with noth-ing left _ to give.

Oh, the shape that we _ were in. Just when all hope

seemed lost, _ Love o-pened the _door _ for us. _ You said,

Come to the ta _ ble. _ Come join the peo-ple who have

been re-deemed. _ Take your place by the Re-deem _- er. _

Sit down and be set free. _ Come to the ta _ ble. _

Come meet this mot-ley crew of mis _ fits, these li-ars and these lost.

— There's no - one un - wel-come here. —

So that sin and shame that you've brought with

you, you can leave it at the door _ and let mer-cy draw _ you

near. _ Come to the ta _- ble. _

Come join the peo-ple who have been re-deemed. _ Take your
place by the Re - deem - er. _
Sit down and be set free. _ Come to the ta - ble. _

© 91 One Songs

WE GO FORTH

REMINDERS

✦ BLESSING

✦ DEPARTING

✦ SONG OF PARTING

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Words and Music by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse

Cre - a - tor, in - fi - nite Ab - ba, faith - ful - ly lov - ing Your _
own; _ Here in our weak - ness You find us claim - ing us
as Your own. Oh, _ claim - ing us as Your own. _
_ You are the One that we praise. _ You are the

one we a - dore. — You give the heal-ing and grace our

hearts al - ways hun - ger for, oh, — our

hearts al - ways hun - ger for.

© 1989 Curb Dayspring Music

✦ PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And, also with you.

One: La paz de Cristo esté con vosotros.

Many: Y tambien contigo.

One: Mientras cantamos, nos deja intercambiamos palabras y gestos de paz.
Let us exchange words and signs of peace.

✦ SENDING

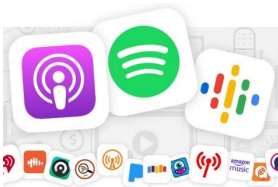
DIGITAL CHURCH

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) to newchurch

In an effort to be more environmentally, as well as fiscally responsible, we would like to encourage everyone who uses a smartphone, iPad or other tablet, to bring it to worship with you to view the worship guide. When you arrive on Sundays, we will provide a QR code for you to scan with your device that will allow you to view that morning's worship guide.

We will still have printed worship guides available for anyone who prefers a hard copy. However, we have determined that it costs almost \$1 to print a single worship guide, and when worship has ended, about 120 pieces of paper are placed in our recycling bin. So, everyone is asked to please consider utilizing our digital worship guide each week.

SERMONS VIA PODCAST



Did you know you can listen to previous sermons via podcast? If you've missed church one week, or just want to listen again later in the week, search for "New Church Dallas" on your favorite podcast platform. You can also find audio recordings on our New Church website – <https://thenewchurch.com/worship-services/>.

SERVICES ON YOU TUBE

Be sure to subscribe to our You Tube channel and watch worship services anytime. Services for the last five years are available. And if you "like" the services you watch, it helps more people be able to find **newchurch** online.



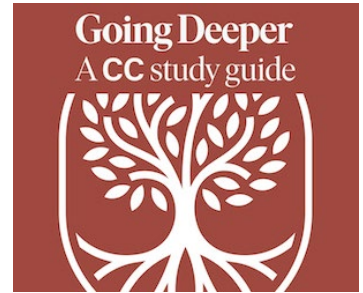
Scan or Click

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

BOOK CLUB - Wednesdays at 6:33pm via Zoom

On Wednesday, September 20, at 6:33pm we will continue our New Church Book Club gatherings on Zoom.

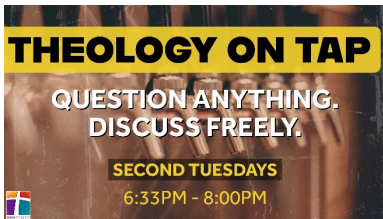
For the month of September, we will be using a study guide, "Going Deeper", from The Christian Century, a magazine based in Chicago, Illinois, and considered the flagship magazine of US mainline Protestantism.



Each week we will post an article from The Christian Century for participants to read and will then follow a series of provided discussion questions for our conversation.

Please join us and as always remember, you don't have to have read the article to participate. The article will be summarized each week as we gather. Just come and join the conversation.

THEOLOGY ON TAP – October 10 at 6:33pm – Glass Half Full Taproom



Why Pray? If God is omniscient, doesn't God know everything we need? And if God is both omnipotent and good, won't our needs be provided, whether we pray or not? Everyone is invited to join us for a time to ask questions and have a discussion.

We will gather at the Glass Half Full Taproom (Inside Alamo Drafthouse), 100 S Central Expy #14, Richardson, TX 75080.

COMMUNITY FORMATION

LET'S DO LUNCH – October 1



You are invited to join us for a Dutch Treat lunch following worship on October 1.

We will gather at Velvert Taco, 4622 Greenville Ave. No RSVP needed!

We hope to see you there so we can break bread together!

CHILI COOK OFF - Saturday, November 4 at 5:00pm

Dust off your favorite chili recipe and join newchurch for a great cause! Or, if you prefer not to cook, come join us for



a fun, family friendly evening. We'll gather in the Martins' backyard for chili and s'mores. You are invited to BYOB, or beer will be available for a donation.

Scan or Click
to Sign Up

ELEVENTH ANNUAL FAMILY FRIENDLY RETREAT & ~~Float~~ BEACH TRIP – 6/9 – 6/12/24



Mark your calendars now and plan your summer around our next Family Friendly Retreat & ~~Float~~ Beach Trip. Join us at Surfside Beach June 9 – June 12, 2024. Surfside is just west of Galveston Island.

We've booked a beautiful house with 8 bedrooms. And we've now booked a second house very nearby. We'll share meals, hang out on the beach, play games, relax, and enjoy time together.



Scan or Click
to Sign Up

STAY CONNECTED

ONLINE CHURCH DIRECTORY – NOW AVAILABLE

Be sure to:

1. **Create an account** to see the database, and
2. **Opt in** to allow others to see your contact information.

Once you've registered, you'll be able to:



Scan or Click
to Sign Up

- Update your profile;
- Register your presence on your phone with just a quick click;
- View the Worship Guide;
- Submit a prayer request;
- Make a financial gift;
- See upcoming New Church events;
- Access your giving record;
- View our church directory.



NEW CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING - Sunday, October 22 at 12:00pm

Everyone who is part of our faith community is invited to join us following worship on Sunday, October 22 for our Annual Community Meeting.

At this meeting we will:

- Thank our current Council and Deacons for their service and ministry with New Church;
- Receive a financial report and plan for 2024;
- Explain how you can receive a giving statement for tax purposes, for your offerings to New Church in 2023;
- Vote on New Church By-laws changes;
- Announce the calling of any new Deacons, whom the Council appoints;
- Elect any new Council members;
- And talk about the future of New Church and who and what God is calling us to be, become and do.

Your presence is important for the life and future of our faith community, so mark your calendars and plan on attending. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

NEW CHURCH 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



newchurch 10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Worship – 11am

Lunch – 12:30pm

October 8 will be a very special day in the life of **newchurch**. Join us for a celebratory worship service at 11:00am in the

Glory Be Hall as we look back at the last ten years.

Immediately following worship, everyone is invited to the Hudsons' for food and fellowship. **newchurch** grew out of a small group of disciples who had been gathering for fellowship and study in the Hudson's home. The group gradually decided they wanted the study group to become a church. Our very first worship services were held in the Hudsons' living room. So, it only seems appropriate to celebrate the last ten years in the very place we began.

WHO ARE YOU INVITING TO CHURCH FOR ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY?

Think back for a moment about all of the people you've ever encountered at New Church. Someone who greeted you warmly the first time you were there? Someone who offered a warm smile on a day that you couldn't smile back? Someone whose voice behind you made the songs sounds even sweeter on a particular day? Now think about all of those people you haven't seen for a while.

Inviting someone to church, especially if they've been absent for a while, can be intimidating. Guess what? AI has some advice for you! We used ChatGPT to ask the question: Advice on inviting someone back to church who has been absent for a long time? Here's what we got for a response:

1. **Reach Out Personally:** Begin by reaching out to the person personally rather than through a generic invitation. This can be done through a phone call, a handwritten letter, or a face-to-face conversation, depending on your relationship and their comfort level.
2. **Express Genuine Concern:** Start the conversation by expressing your genuine concern for their well-being and letting them know that you miss their presence at church. Avoid any judgmental or confrontational tones. Instead, focus on your care for them as an individual.

NEW CHURCH 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

3. **Listen Actively:** Give them the opportunity to share their reasons for staying away from church. Listen actively and empathetically without interrupting or passing judgment. This can help you better understand their perspective.
4. **Acknowledge Their Feelings:** Validate their feelings and experiences. Let them know that it's okay to have doubts, concerns, or reservations about attending church. Empathize with their struggles and show understanding.
5. **Highlight Positive Changes:** If there have been positive changes or events at the church since their absence, mention them. Share how the church has grown, evolved, or improved in ways that might align with their interests or needs.
6. **Offer Support:** Let them know that you and the church community are there to support them, both spiritually and emotionally. Offer to accompany them to church if they feel more comfortable attending with someone they trust.
7. **Respect Their Decision:** Ultimately, respect their decision, whether they choose to return to church or not. Pushing too hard may have the opposite effect. The goal is to make them feel welcome and not pressured.
8. **Follow Up:** After your initial conversation, follow up with them periodically to check in on how they're doing and whether they've considered returning to church. Keep the lines of communication open.
9. **Invite Them to Special Events:** If your church has special events or programs that may be of interest to them, extend invitations for these specific occasions. It can be less intimidating than a general return to regular services.

Did you catch that first step and last step? Our 10th Anniversary Celebration is the perfect opportunity to reach out to someone you're missing and personally invite them to come to church for the celebration.



ANNUAL MEETING

NEW CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING - Sunday, October 22 at 12:00pm

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- Elect any new Council members;
- And talk about the future of New Church and who and what God is calling us to be, become and do.

Your presence is important for the life and future of our faith community, so mark your calendars and plan on attending. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.



NEW CHURCH INFORMATION

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Rev. Mike Wright-Chapman

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newchurch OPEN AND AFFIRMING (ONA) STATEMENT

We are the **newchurch** – the Chiesa Nuova, United Church of Christ – who gather and are gathered as an intentional, Christian community seeking to follow in the Way of Jesus. We are a community of faith witnessing to God's love and grace for persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, political stance and theological perspective. As agents of reconciliation and wholeness, we pledge to stand against all forms of discrimination and to embrace all who are disenfranchised from church and community. Together in our diversity and empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8)

Did You Know...

Chiesa (/ˈkjɛzə/) Nuova (/ˈnwo.vo/) is "New Church" in Italian. We include the Italian translation in our name to honor Saint Francis of Assisi, whom we claim as the Patron Saint of **newchurch**.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING . . .

9/24 11:00am	Ordinary Time ON SITE & ONLINE WORSHIP
9/27 6:33pm	Book Club Zoom
10/1 11:00am	Ordinary Time ON SITE & ONLINE WORSHIP
10/4 6:33pm	Book Club Zoom
10/8 11:00am 12:30pm	newchurch 10th Anniversary ON SITE & ONLINE WORSHIP Anniversary Celebration The Hudsons'
10/10 6:33pm	Theology on Tap Glass Half Full Taproom
10/11 6:33pm	Book Club Zoom
10/15 11:00am	Ordinary Time ON SITE & ONLINE WORSHIP
10/18 6:33pm	Book Club Zoom
10/22 11:00am 12:00pm	Ordinary Time ON SITE & ONLINE WORSHIP Annual Meeting
10/25 6:33pm	Book Club Zoom



newchurch Guiding Scripture:

Seek first the realm of God and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:33