

**Oh, To See The Dawn
(The Power of the Cross)**
By Keith Getty & Stuart Townend (2005)

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**“This cup is
the new covenant
in my blood,
which is poured out for you.”**

— [Luke 22:20](#)

We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**

Credits

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The Scourging of Christ

Woodcut engraving by Alexander Mair; Augsburg, Germany (1499 A.D.).

Old Orchard Church

September 23, 2012—10:15 to 11:50 a.m.

Celebrating Jesus Christ, Mediator of a New Covenant

In time and in history,
To fulfill his promise to be gracious,
God bound himself to his people,
And them to him,
In the bond of a covenant.

One covenant succeeded another,
Because one man after another, through hardness of heart,
Failed to keep perfectly its terms.
Noah, Abraham, Moses, David—
Each loved God,
And every covenant lighted a facet of divine grace and glory.
Yet not one was pure enough to represent our fallen race
Before the terrifying bar of Divine Justice.

But thanks be to God, that our Lord Jesus Christ
—perfect God and pure Man—
Came to inaugurate in the blood of his suffering,
A New Covenant,
Wherein all that we ever owed to God but failed to pay,
Is forgiven and covered forever.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And sing the praise of Christ!
Alleluia!



Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 31:27-37

New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:4-18

Christianity in Ephesus, Christianity in St. Louis Series Sermon

“Giving Ourselves Whole-heartedly to the Counter-Cultural Kingdom:
The Social Outworking of the ‘New Humanity’ in Christ” (Part 2)

Ephesians 2:11-3:6

Ron Lutjens, pastor, preaching

The Fruit of the New Covenant

Now I saw in my dream, that the highway up which Christian was to go, was fenced on either side with a wall, and that wall was called Salvation (Isaiah 26:1). Up this way, therefore, did burdened Christian run, but not without great difficulty, because of the load on his back.

He ran thus till he came at a place somewhat ascending; and upon that place stood a cross, and a little below, in the bottom, a tomb. So I saw in my dream, that just as Christian came up with the cross, his burden loosed from off his shoulders, and fell from off his back, and began to tumble, and so continued to do till it came to the mouth of the tomb, where it fell in, and I saw it no more.

Then was Christian glad and lightsome, and said with a merry heart, “He has given me rest by his sorrow, and life by his death.” Then he stood still a while, to look and wonder; for it was very surprising to him that the sight of the cross should thus ease him of his burden. He looked, therefore, and looked again, even till the springs that were in his head sent the waters down his cheeks (Zechariah 12:10). Now as he stood looking and weeping, behold, three Shining Ones came to him, and saluted him with, “Peace be to thee.” So the first said to him, “Thy sins be forgiven thee” (Mark 2:5); the second stripped him of his rags, and clothed him with change of clothing (Zechariah 3:4); the third also set a mark on his forehead (Ephesians 1:13), and gave him a scroll with a seal upon it, which he bid him look on as he ran, and that he should give it in at the celestial gate: so they went their way. Then Christian gave three leaps for joy, and went on singing,

“Thus far did I come laden with my sin, ”
Nor could aught ease the grief that I was in,
Till I came hither. What a place is this!
Must here be the beginning of my bliss?
Must here the burden fall from off my back?
Must here the strings that bound it to me crack?
Blest cross! blest tomb! blest rather be
The Man that there was put to shame for me!”

*From The Pilgrim's Progress From This World
To That Which Is to Come by John Bunyan (1678)*

