

## WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

### GATHERING TOGETHER

Awaken your hearts to welcome the Lord.

**Come, oh Holy Spirit, come.**

Enlighten our minds to understand your mystery.

**The Lord is gracious to call who call upon his name.**

### *PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER*

### HEARING TOGETHER

#### **Matthew 5:1-12 (The Message)**

When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

"You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

"You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

"You're blessed when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.

"You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.

"You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourselves cared for.

"You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

"You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

"You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.

"Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

### RECEIVING TOGETHER:

**"You Are Blessed. Now Go Act Like It!"**

**- Rev. Ian Macdonald**

*"You are blessed."*

~ Jesus

### **Benediction**

Now that you have heard the blessed Word of Jesus Christ, go now and live out in the world in all that you do.

Thank you for being a part of today's service.

It is always our intention to make you feel welcomed and at home. We hope we were able to achieve this and that you will continue to participate in our ministry.

Your financial support is imperative to the success of this ministry. Please visit our website and make a generous donation today. [www.newchurchshermanoaks.org](http://www.newchurchshermanoaks.org)

**Sunday Worship: 11:00 – 11:30 am**

**Streaming Live on Facebook**

**Our Vision:**

- Love God.
- Love Others.
- Serve Both

New Church Sherman Oaks is a home church plant of New Church Whittier. We are a gathering of ordinary people trying to build up our faith in God and live it out in a way that is relevant and purposeful for the building up of God's Kingdom. We invite you embrace this Spirit and make our home your New Church home.

**WELCOME TO**

**NEW  
CHURCH  
SHERMAN OAKS**

**August 12, 2018**