

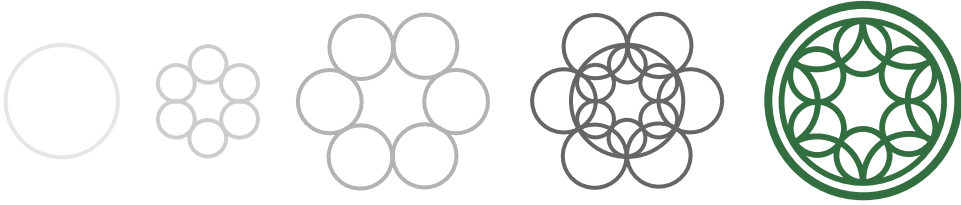


**NEW CITY**  
presbyterian church

**OCTOBER 4, 2020**

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# WELCOME TO NEW CITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Welcome to our new house! We're delighted you've joined us this morning for our gathered service of worship on our front lawn.

New City is a collection of people of all ages and professions, from a wide variety of spiritual and social backgrounds. We embrace Jesus' claims to be true and transformational. We also believe the central message of the Bible is the good news, or "gospel," of a God who created us for Himself and desires us to live fully as we enjoy relationship with Him and with each other.

The Bible's radical message of grace centers on Jesus and creates a new city comprised of renewed individuals living not for themselves but for the God who redeems. For this reason, New City exists to be a community rooted in truth, real in conversation, and hopeful for deep renewal in our lives and our city.

As the Senior Pastor of New City, it is my privilege to welcome you and to invite you to be astonished, together with us, by the splendor and grace of God.

Rev. Ryan McVicar

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## NEW CITY VISION & VALUES

*To be people in awe of God, made new by the gospel,  
for the sake of people throughout our city, the nations,  
and the generations to come.*

Our vision leads us to hold closely three values that shape our life and ministry as a church:

**ROOTED CONVICTION** in the truths of God's Word

**REAL CONVERSATION** as we engage the gospel, culture, and each other

**RENEWAL OF THE CITY** as we live and do life in relationship with God

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# ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

As we gather to worship this morning, take a moment to reflect on these quotes as a way to prepare your heart and mind for an encounter with the living God.

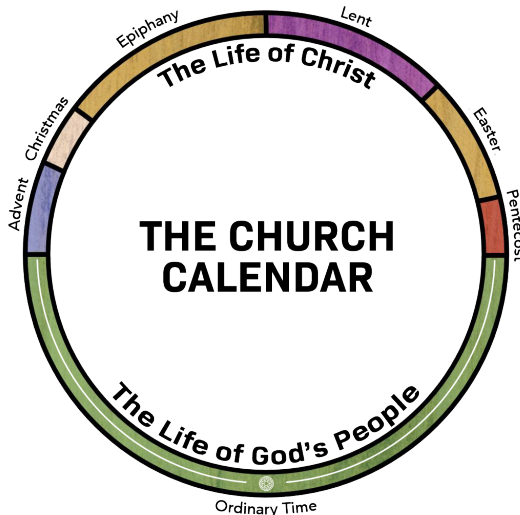
As a confessional church, we participate in the rich heritage of biblically faithful summaries which seek to build and strengthen our faith in Christ. Creeds, Confessions, and Catechisms serve us in this regard.

## SILENT REFLECTION

I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.  
Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.  
This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.  
The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.  
Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!  
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! | **Psalm 34:4-8**

## What is God?

**God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth. | Westminster Shorter Catechism Q4**



Ordinary Time is about the mission of Christ. All the seasons lead up to this point between Pentecost and Advent. During Ordinary Time, the Church is empowered by the Holy Spirit and sent on mission to make disciples. It is the time and space where we seek to be the people of God living out the mission of God in ordinary, everyday life—in our homes, neighborhoods, communities, workplaces and to the ends of the earth.

God always comes to us before we can come to Him. Biblical worship is a response to God's gracious revelation of Himself, calling us to worship.



## CALL TO WORSHIP

## GATHERING HYMN

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
In the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises  
Robed in frail humanity  
In our longing in our darkness  
Now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ who condescended  
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
He the perfect Son of Man  
In His living in His suffering  
Never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam  
Come to save the hellbound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment  
Of the law in Him we stand

## Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

*Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker.*  
© 2012, Bleecker Publishing  
CCLI #7026028

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
Hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption  
See the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory  
Grace unmeasured love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could ever restrain Him  
Praise the Lord He is alive  
What a foretaste of deliverance  
How unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected  
As we will be when He comes

## READER

True worship is biblical worship. Throughout our worship service, we read, pray, and sing the words of Scripture.

## READING FROM THE PSALMS

<sup>3</sup> Be to me a rock of refuge,  
to which I may continually come;  
you have given the command to save me,  
for you are my rock and my fortress.  
<sup>4</sup> Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.  
<sup>5</sup> For you, O Lord, are my hope,  
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.  
<sup>6</sup> Upon you I have leaned from before my birth;  
you are he who took me from my mother's womb.  
My praise is continually of you.

*The Word of the Lord.*

Psalm 71:3-6

The Prayer of Adoration is a praiseful pondering of the attributes and works of God, intended to draw our hearts closer to Him, in awe.



## PRAYER OF ADORATION

## HYMN OF PRAISE

And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! how can it be  
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

*Amazing love! how can it be  
That Thou, my God, should die for me!*

He left His Father's throne above,  
So free, so infinite His grace;  
Humbled Himself, so great His love,  
And bled for all His chosen race;  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
For, O my God, it found out me.

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And Can It Be That I Should Gain

*Charles Wesley.  
1738, Public Domain  
CCLI #25280*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

The Pastoral Prayer is a time to express our gratitude for—and dependence on—God's provision for the life and ministry of the Church.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

All we have is given to us by God. Our offerings express this joyful dependence, and our commitment to join God in His work of renewal.

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

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**FOR TEXT & ONLINE GIVING**  
Text dollar amount (e.g.: \$50) to 843-21  
Give online through Church Center, at  
[newcitypc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://newcitypc.churchcenter.com/giving)  
or by scanning the QR code.



In anticipation of the proclamation of God's Word, we lift a prayer to God asking Him to speak to us through His living Word.



When we hear the Word of God proclaimed and preached, we are listening to the voice of God. The Holy Spirit makes the inspired texts and spoken words the chief means of nourishing and comforting God's people, and awakening others to new faith.

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## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

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# THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

### 1 Peter 2:4-10 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup> you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup> So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,"

<sup>8</sup> and

"A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**Sermon Series: The Christian Life in a Confusing Land**  
**A New Reputation**

Rev. Ryan McVicar

The Call To Repentance is an invitation to privately examine and prepare our hearts to confess our sins.

## CALL TO REPENTANCE

In what ways have you not been living out your true identity as God's child, called into His marvelous light?

What lingering shadows of darkness can you confess to the Lord this morning?

ALL

Because of the gospel, our relationship with God is a relationship in which honesty about our sin is welcome and safe. Therefore, with one voice, we are able to openly and sincerely confess our sins to Him.

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to your glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may rejoice in the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

MINISTER

As God's Word assures us of our forgiveness in Christ, we cannot but respond in praise to the grace, mercy, and peace offered to us.

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Isaiah 61:10

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;  
my soul shall exult in my God,  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness



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# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion—also known as the Lord’s Supper—has always been a common, shared, joyous family meal. This meal is for those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ; for those Baptized Christians who trust in His once-for-all sacrificial death upon the cross for their salvation. When we celebrate this feast, we commune with the risen Lord Jesus who stands as our host to offer spiritual nourishment, renewal and life. We also commune with one another, participating together in the reconciling grace of God.

We warmly welcome to the table all who trust in Jesus and who have publicly professed their faith as members of a Christian congregation. At New City, we ask our children not to take communion until they have met with the elders to share of their faith in Christ, although all children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing and a word of encouragement. If you are not a Christian, we encourage you to spend this time reflecting on the prayers below in the hopes that a relationship with Jesus and membership in His Church may be considered.

You will be directed to make your way to one of the different stations around the lawn where you will receive the prepackaged cup containing grape juice and a wafer. Please take it back to your place so we can wait for each other and partake the elements together.

**Jesus is truly and spiritually present and stands ready to feed you.  
Come hungry. Come thirsty. Come ready to be filled.**

## *INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS FOR PRAYING DURING COMMUNION*

### **PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH**

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

### **PRAYER OF BELIEF**

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive You as my Savior. Amen.

### **PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

I do not presume to come to Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own goodness, but only in Your righteousness credited to me. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord whose manner is always to show mercy. Grant me, O Lord, the grace to commune now with Christ by faith, that I may evermore live in Him and He in me. Amen.



## HYMN AT THE TABLE

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### He Will Hold Me Fast

Ada Ruth Habershon.  
1906, Public Domain  
CCLI #4502805

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast; He will hold me fast  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight; Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast  
Raised with Him to endless life; He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last

### MINISTER

The Words of Institution  
echo Jesus' words at  
the Last Supper, now  
inviting us to partake of  
the Bread and Wine in  
remembrance of Him.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PARTAKING OF THE TABLE



## SENDING HYMN

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### Father Long Before Creation

*Jones Francis, William Henry Monk.  
1953, Public Domain  
CCLI #740352*

Father, long before creation, Thou hadst chosen us in love,  
And that love so deep, so moving, Draws us close to Christ above.  
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us, Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion, Yet our God is ever the same;  
His compassion and His covenant, Through all ages will remain.  
God's own children, God's own children, Must forever praise His name.

God's compassion is my story, Is my boasting all the day;  
Mercy free and never failing, Moves my will, directs my way.  
God so loved us, God so loved us, That His only Son He gave.

Loving Father now before Thee, We will ever praise Thy love,  
And our songs will sound unceasing, Till we reach our home above,  
Giving glory, giving glory, To our God and to the Lamb.

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## BENEDICTION

Our gathered worship service concludes with God's blessing; a joyful declaration of God's satisfaction in us through Jesus Christ, and a vow to be in fellowship with us as we scatter.

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Visit our website at:  
**NEWCITYPC.ORG**

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Thank you for being part of our service today! Our *Worship On The Lawn* season marks the initial move of our congregation into our new home. We will be meeting here every Sunday until we are able to meet inside our new sanctuary. In the event of inclement weather, our livestream will still be available at [newcitypc.org/worship](https://newcitypc.org/worship).

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## CONTACT INFO

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## VISITING US?

Thank you for spending some time with us and getting to know us first-hand! We are excited to finally be in our property and in this season of transition into our beautiful new building. We would love to know more about you and how to serve you. Please scan this QR code with your smartphone to let us know you came and so that we can follow-up with you.



## COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Gathering in the midst of an pandemic brings unique challenges that shape the way we gather. We have put together a list of measures and recommendations for reducing the risk of contagion as much as possible. The use of face masks is strongly encouraged as well as social distancing (at 6ft apart) at all times. Please review these guidelines to help everyone stay safe.



## SMALL GROUPS

Our new Small Group season has launched with several groups already meeting, and many new groups to explore. Small Groups are New City's main avenue for cultivating relationships in Christ, and experiencing the deepest blessings of what it means to be in community. For more information scan QR code or visit: [newcitypc.org/smallgroups](https://newcitypc.org/smallgroups)

## HOW TO SCAN QR CODES?

QR Codes allow smartphone users to quickly access a web link without having to type a URL.

For most iPhone users, this technology is integrated into your camera app. Simply hover over the QR code using your camera app and wait for a pop-up notification that will open your web browser for you.

For older iPhone models and most Android phones, download the *Quick Scan* app to scan the codes.