

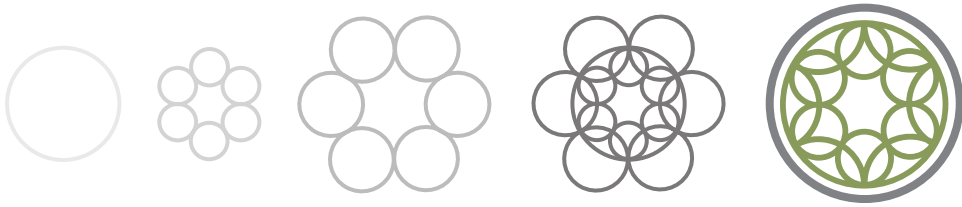


NEW CITY  
presbyterian church

**OCTOBER 8, 2023**



# WELCOME TO NEW CITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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 in that of those around us.

It is our privilege to welcome you and to invite you to be astonished, together with us, by the splendor and grace of God.

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## **NEW CITY VISION & VALUES**

*To be a church in awe of God,  
made new by the gospel, for the sake of all people.*

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

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

Psalm 98:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Oh sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm  
have worked salvation for him.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD has made known his salvation;  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

## GATHERING HYMN

### Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

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

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  
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  
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  
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

## READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Isaiah 40:1-5

<sup>1</sup> Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that her warfare is ended,  
that her iniquity is pardoned,  
that she has received from the LORD'S hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

**continued...**

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

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”



## HYMN OF INVOCATION

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your Holy Word  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience  
Holy reverence, true humility  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity  
Cause our faith to rise Cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority  
Words of power that can never fail  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory

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Speak, O Lord

*Keith Getty, Stuart Townend.*  
© 2005, Thankyou Music  
CCLI #4615235

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## 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.

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### VISITING US?

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 we can follow-up with you.



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## TITHES & OFFERINGS

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### FOR TEXT & ONLINE GIVING

Text dollar amount (e.g.: \$50) to 843-21

Give online through Church Center by scanning the QR code.

Alternatively, A dropbox is available in the Welcome Area for cash or check offerings.



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## OFFERTORY HYMN

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### My Life Is An Offering

*Joel Sczebel, Pat Sczebel.*  
© 2013 Sovereign Grace Worship.  
CCLI #6565620.

This life is an altar, where I want to offer  
My soul and my mind and strength  
Cleansed by Your mercy, to live a life worthy  
Of the One Who called my name

*Jesus, be glorified, Jesus, be magnified  
Let me be a pleasing sacrifice  
Jesus, be glorified, Jesus, be magnified  
Here on the altar; my life is an offering*

How could I not love You? You authored my rescue  
Raised me up, from death to life  
Your Spirit is in me, revealing Your glory  
Oh what joy as I give my life

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## CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

During the remainder of our worship service, preschool-aged children are welcome to stay with their parents in the Sanctuary, or will now be dismissed to attend Kids' Bible Time.

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## PASTORAL PRAYER

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

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Elder Jeff Ammons

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

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION



# THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

### John 1:19-28 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup> He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup> And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup> So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup> He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

<sup>24</sup> (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup> They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup> John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup> even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup> These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

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.

**SERMON SERIES**

**The Gospel of John**

Rev. Tommy Myrick

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**"The Testimony Of John"**



**THIS WEEK**

"The Testimony of John"  
John 1:19-28

**NEXT WEEK**

"Behold The Lamb"  
John 1:29-36





The word "doxology" comes from the Greek translation of the Old Testament word for worship. Throughout our service, we respond to the gospel of God's grace with songs of praise!

## DOXOLOGY

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Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*Thomas Ken.  
1551, Public Domain*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.



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, along with biblical confessions.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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Heidelberg Catechism, Q.31

**Q.** Why is he called Christ, that is, Anointed?

**A.** Because He has been ordained by God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of his body has redeemed us, and who continually intercedes for us before the Father; and our eternal King, who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.

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

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## CALL TO REPENTANCE

### 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 our merciful God.

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of grace and truth, we confess that we have often walked in our own ways, neglecting the paths You have prepared for us. We have not heeded the voices that cry out, pointing to Your salvation. In our pride, we have sought recognition and honor for ourselves, forgetting that all glory belongs to You. Help us to know You more; forgive our blindness and our self-centeredness; Prepare our hearts anew, O God, that we might recognize and receive Christ, our true Light, our Redeemer, and in whose name we pray. Amen.

### MINISTER

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

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

<sup>18</sup>Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance?

He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.

<sup>19</sup>He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot.

You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Micah 7:18-19

### MINISTER

All who can examine themselves regarding their faith and participation in Christ, are invited to commune with Him at the Lord's Table.

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## INVITATION & FENCING OF THE TABLE

### MINISTER

This prayer is offered to set apart the bread and the wine as holy, for the purpose of spiritually nourishing us through our communing with Christ.

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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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 four stations in our sanctuary where you will receive the bread and the wine (gluten-free cracker and grape juice available). Please take it back to your place so we can partake 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**

Here Is Love

*William Rees, Tr: William Edwards.  
1904, Public Domain.*

Here is love, vast as the ocean,  
 Lovingkindness as the flood,  
 When the Prince of Life, our Ransom,  
 Shed for us His precious blood.  
 Who His love will not remember?  
 Who can cease to sing His praise?  
 He can never be forgotten,  
 Throughout Heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion,  
 Fountains opened deep and wide;  
 Through the floodgates of God's mercy  
 Flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
 Grace and love, like mighty rivers,  
 Poured incessant from above,  
 And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice  
 Kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me all Thy love accepting,  
 Love Thee, ever all my days;  
 Let me seek Thy kingdom only  
 And my life be to Thy praise;  
 Thou alone shalt be my glory,  
 Nothing in the world I see.  
 Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me,  
 Thou Thyself hast set me free.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me  
 By Thy Spirit through Thy Word;  
 And Thy grace my need is meeting,  
 As I trust in Thee, my Lord.  
 Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring  
 Thy great love and pow'r on me,  
 Without measure, full and boundless,  
 Drawing out my heart to Thee.

**MINISTER****WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND  
PARTAKING OF THE BREAD & WINE**

The Words of Institution  
 echo Jesus' words at the Last  
 Supper, which now invite us  
 to partake of the bread and  
 wine in remembrance of Him.



## SENDING HYMN

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O Great God

*Bob Kaufflin.*

© 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise.  
CCLI #4804015

O great God of highest heaven, occupy my lowly heart  
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel power  
Let no vice or sin remain, that resists Your holy war  
You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice  
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys  
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me  
Through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace  
Keep my heart and guard my soul, from the evils that I face  
You are worthy to be praised, with my every thought and deed  
O great God of highest heaven, glorify Your name through me

## BENEDICTION

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





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## TEACHING ELDERS

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## CCLI LICENSE

#11108317

## WIFI PASSWORD

NewCity2022!

Visit our website at:

**NEWCITYPC.ORG**

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Find us on YouTube

under the **@newcitypc** handle.



## 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.



## CHURCH CENTER

Church Center is our hub for all things New City. From knowing what's happening next, to signing up for an event or small group, to requesting baptism or prayer, to online giving, all your next steps for getting involved at New City are there at **[newcitypc.churchcenter.com](http://newcitypc.churchcenter.com)**



## NEED PRAYER?

Our Prayer ministry team seeks to undergird and strengthen New City's congregation, mission, and ministries through prayer. Please let us know how we can pray for you!