

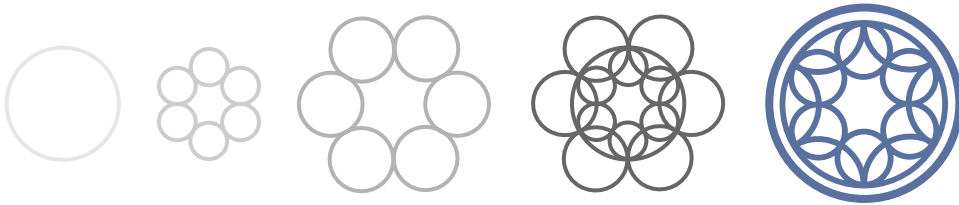


**NEW CITY**  
presbyterian church

**NOVEMBER 29, 2020 - FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT**

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# 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 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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# LITURGY FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

As we gather to worship this morning, take a moment to reflect on this important historical event as a way to prepare for an encounter with the living God.

## WORD ON WORSHIP

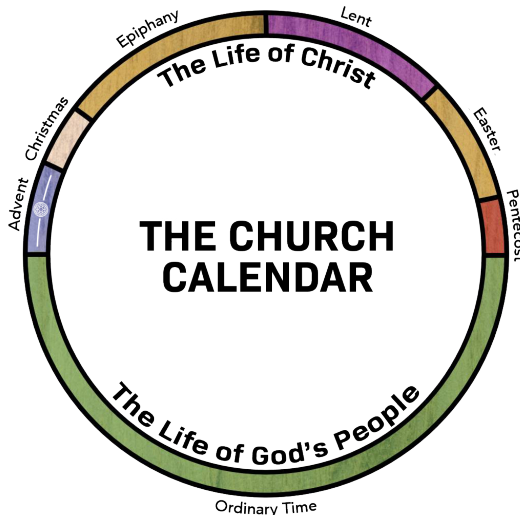
### Advent

Formed from a Latin word meaning “coming” or “arrival,” Advent is the traditional celebration of the first advent of Jesus in humility and the anxious awaiting of His second advent in glory!

This season is a time for remembering and rejoicing, watching and waiting. The whole point of Advent is to spend these four coming weeks in preparation for Christmas instead of celebrating Christmas. It’s about stepping into the shoes of the Israelites, longing and crying out for the Messiah to come. It’s about reflecting on our sin and shortcomings and our need for a Savior. It’s about looking around at our broken world and hoping for the second coming of Jesus. And, once we get to Christmas Day, the celebration of Jesus’ birth becomes that much more spectacular and meaningful.

As we remember and enter this story, the coming of Jesus Christ, we deconstruct and deny the false stories that we find ourselves caught up in, especially those connected to our culture’s concept of Christmas. Instead, we reconstruct and embrace the true story of the

gospel in our lives, specifically the focuses and themes of Advent. We recognize the weight of sin personally, corporately and cosmically and why we need Jesus Christ, Immanuel, to dwell among us, restoring and reconciling creation back to the Father by the Spirit. Celebrating the Son of God coming as a gift, not to be served but to serve, we respond out of praise and gratitude, using this season to serve and to give to others.



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.



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## CALL TO WORSHIP

## GATHERING HYMN

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O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Frederick Oakeley.*  
1841, Public Domain  
CCLI #31054

O come, all ye faithful, in joyful expectation  
Come ye, O come ye to give praise to God  
Word of the Father, soon in flesh appearing

*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord*

Join choirs of angels, sing in exultation  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above  
Glory to God; glory in the highest

*We'll praise your name forever*  
*We'll praise your name forever*  
*We'll praise your name forever, Christ the Lord*

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## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Advent Candles tradition point to the arrival of the "Light of the World," Jesus Christ. Each week of Advent a candle is lit until we celebrate the arrival of Jesus by lighting the center candle on Christmas Eve.

## ADVENT HYMN

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### Come Thou Long-expected Jesus

Rowland Hugh Prichard, Charles Wesley.  
1744, Public Domain  
CCLI #31999

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

*Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
Come Thou Long-Expected King*

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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

*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.

*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.

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## CALL TO REPENTANCE

In what areas of your life are you misplacing your hope? What passing things of this world are you counting on for deliverance? How does this season of Advent inform you, encourage you, challenge you, and move you to put your hope in Jesus Christ alone?

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O promised Christ, we are a world at war. Our peace depends on Your coming.

We are a sinful people. Our forgiveness depends on Your coming.

We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises; our only hope of doing

God's will is that You should come and help us do it.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for Your peace, for Your forgiveness, and for Your grace. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Titus 3:4-7

<sup>4</sup> But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us [...] according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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.



The word “doxology” comes from a Greek translation of the Old Testament word for worship. We respond to the gospel of God’s grace with a burst of praise!

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.

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.

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## PASTORAL PRAYER

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God who promised long ago  
A Savior, Fount of all our hope  
Emmanuel, our God and King  
All praise in Spirit to Him bring

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## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

*A dropbox is available in the Pinecrest Lobby for cash or check offerings.*

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## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

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## Praise God Who Promised Long Ago

*Thomas Ken / Javier Contesse.  
1551, Public Domain / 2020  
CCLI #56204*

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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.





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# THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S 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.

## Luke 1:26-35 (ESV)

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

MINISTER  
ALL

The grass withers, the flower fades,  
But the Word of our God stands forever.



**Sermon Series: Advent 2020**

Rev. Ryan McVicar

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**Hopefully Christmas Matters**

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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 prepackaged cup containing wine and a wafer (gluten-free 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.

**MINISTER**

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

## **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**MINISTER**

*All who can examine themselves regarding their faith and participation in Christ, are invited to participate in the Lord's Table.*

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**



## **HYMN AT THE TABLE**

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### **Behold The Lamb Of God**

*Andrew Peterson, Laura Story.  
© 2005, New Spring and Gleaning Publishing  
CCLI #4618782*

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away our sin  
Behold the Lamb of God, the life and light of men  
Behold the Lamb of God, who died and rose again  
Behold the Lamb of God who comes to take away our sin

*Broken hearts; behold our broken hearts  
Fallen far; we need you  
Behold the sin of man*

*Son of God, Emmanuel  
Son of man, we praise you  
Behold the Lamb; the hope of man  
Behold the Lamb*



## SENDING HYMN

In the dark of night before the dawn  
You came, our souls to save  
For the promised Savior is our God;  
Our Lord, the Christ, Emmanuel!

*We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more*

Every vow we've broken and betrayed  
You are the faithful One  
In our joys and sorrows, as we wait  
Bind us together bring shalom

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## We Will Feast In The House Of Zion

*Joshua Moore, Sandra McCracken.  
© 2015, Drink Your Tea Music  
CCLI #7041364*

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.

## BENEDICTION

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# WELCOME HOME!

## SOME HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

We are beyond thankful to gather with you to worship our Lord in our new house. To better facilitate our gathering, please observe the following housekeeping note:

### **GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING:**

The three building entrances open on Sundays will be the mains doors off of the Parking Lot, the southside entrance with elevator access, and the Sanctuary doors off of Pinecrest.

The doors leading into the Sanctuary from the Welcome Area will close after the opening song. To enter the Sanctuary after the opening song please make your way downstairs, through the Gathering Place, and up the stairs into the Sanctuary.

The nearest restrooms for use during the worship service are available on the First Level. During the worship service, please exit through the Pinecrest Lobby to use the restrooms.

Drinks are permitted in the Sanctuary during worship in your own personal drinkware with a lid (no disposable cups). Please clean-up any spills immediately following the worship service.

As part of our celebration, New City is giving away non-disposable drinkware for you to enjoy!

Following the worship service, everyone is invited to the Gathering Place to connect, converse, and enjoy hot drinks.

Hands-free water dispensers are available in the hallway outside of the Fireplace Room, and in the Kids' Ministry hallway.

### **PARENTS:**

Nursery is available for children 0-48 months during our 9 am service.

Nursery will also be available in our 11 am service, starting December 2020.

A Cry Room is available in the Pinecrest Lobby.

Please know where your children are at all times, due to the fact that this is a large building with many exits and places to get lost.

Please know that children are not permitted on the chancel due to delicate instruments and equipment.

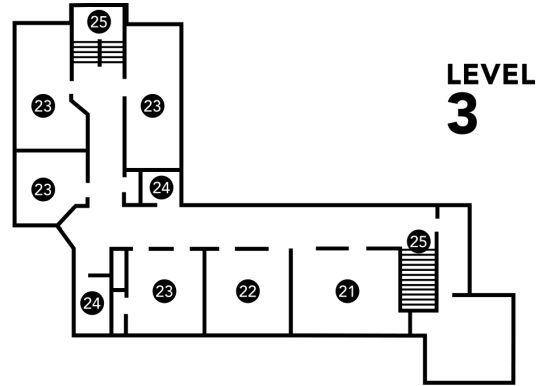


For perspective and practical tips regarding worshipping alongside children, please read our "Worshipping with Little Ones" article in our New City Journal by scanning this QR code.

# BUILDING MAP

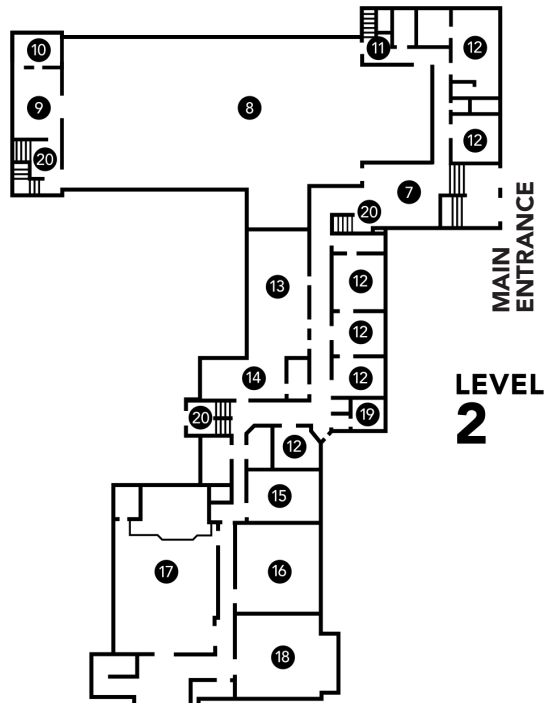
## 3

- 21 CONFERENCE ROOM
- 22 GRIFFIN WORKSPACE
- 23 STAFF OFFICES
- 24 RESTROOMS
- 25 STAIRS



## 2

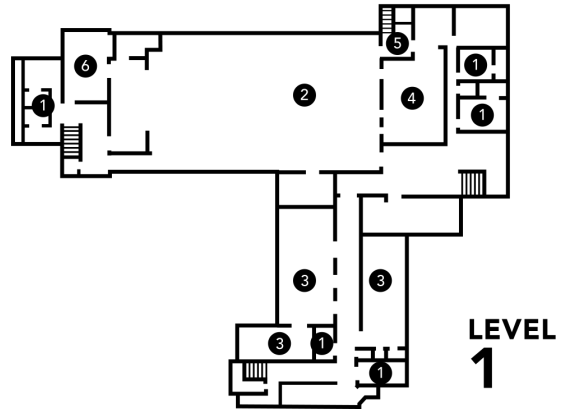
- 7 WELCOME AREA
- 8 SANCTUARY
- 9 PINECREST LOBBY
- 10 CRYROOM
- ♿ 11 ELEVATOR
- 12 NURSERY
- 13 FIREPLACE ROOM
- 14 GARDEN ROOM
- 15 NC STUDENTS CAFE
- 16 NC STUDENTS REC ROOM
- 17 CHAPEL
- 18 DRAYTON ROOM
- ♿ 19 RESTROOMS
- 20 STAIRS



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# 1

- ① RESTROOMS
- ② GATHERING PLACE
- ③ NC KIDS
- ④ KITCHEN
- ⑤ ELEVATOR
- ⑥ BACKSTAGE ROOM



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## NEW CITY CONTACTS

### PASTORAL NEEDS

Ryan McVicar | [ryan.mcvicar@newcitypc.org](mailto:ryan.mcvicar@newcitypc.org)

### FAMILY & STUDENT MINISTRY

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### NEW CITY KIDS

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### NURSERY & TODDLERS

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Angela Wood | [angela.wood@newcitypc.org](mailto:angela.wood@newcitypc.org)

### WORSHIP, MEDIA, & COMMUNICATIONS

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### SUNDAY OPERATIONS

Eric Bonner | [eric.bonner@newcitypc.org](mailto:eric.bonner@newcitypc.org)

### OFFICE, FINANCIAL & EVENT NEEDS

Tracy Reynolds | [tracy.reynolds@newcitypc.org](mailto:tracy.reynolds@newcitypc.org)

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

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Thank you for being part of our service today! We believe gathering for the worship of God is the highest calling for human beings, and we are honored to have had you come alongsidethis transformative hythm of life still be available at **[newcitypc.org/live](http://newcitypc.org/live)**.



### **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.

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### **CONTACT INFO**

(248) 808-2523  
[info@newcitypc.org](mailto:info@newcitypc.org)



### **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. Please review these guidelines to help everyone stay healthy and safe.

*New City News* is our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe to receive the latest news at **[newcitypc.org/subscribe](http://newcitypc.org/subscribe)**



### **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](http://newcitypc.org/smallgroups)**

Sign-up to receive our text notifications, by texting **[newcitytexts](http://newcitytexts)** to 97-000.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube under the **[newcitypc](http://newcitypc)** handle.

### **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.

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#11108317

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