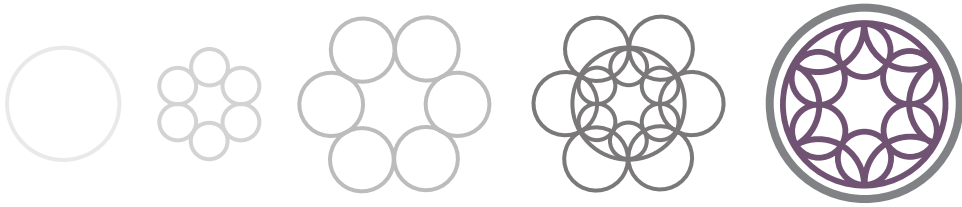




NEW CITY
presbyterian church

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

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.

New City Session

TE Tommy Myrick

RE Jeff Ammons

RE Scott Cairo

RE Oliver Jeromin

RE Mark Krieg

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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

LITURGY FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

As we gather to worship this morning, take a moment to reflect on the significance of our current liturgical season, as a way to prepare for our encounter with the living God.

WORD ON WORSHIP

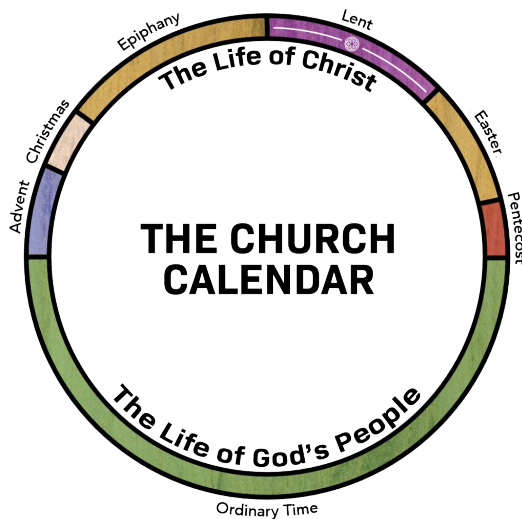
Lent

Lent is a season in the Christian year when followers of Jesus walk with him to his death and burial in order to participate fully with him in his resurrection. Lent is the forty days (not including Sundays) leading up to Easter. It began on Ash Wednesday and will end on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Sunday). When we engage in this season the way faithful Christians have throughout the centuries, we renounce and re-order our rhythms into Christ.

Lent is about rhythm. We are rhythmic or liturgical creatures. We do things in sequences and steps, marching to the beats of drummers. The problem is, there are many drummers out there pounding away to capture our attention, calling us to follow them and submit to their stories. Lent is the Jesus-drum directing us back to the left-right-left of God's Story. If it is not Jesus' drum guiding our steps, it is someone else's drum. If it is not the the Story of God to which we submit our lives, it is someone else's story.

Lent is a time for the church to renounce all the other stories we have let define us, and to submit singularly to God's Story. We march to the beats of drummers because we

actually love the music they play. We desire the life they present to us, and so we follow them. With every beat and step we are being formed into the image of the drummer we follow. In order to become like Jesus we re-order our life once again into the Story that defines us as his followers. During Lent we identify with the Story of Israel, which finds fulfillment in the Story of Jesus. We, like Israel, have fallen and wander around in the wilderness. And we, like Jesus, must wrestle in the desert of temptation. We enter into his sufferings. We fast. We pray. We simplify our lives. And we do so together as the body of Christ, full of the Holy Spirit, and for the glory of God, our Father.



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.



WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 34:1-3

- ¹ I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
² My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.
³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

GATHERING HYMN

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.

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 119:97-105

⁹⁷ Oh how I love your law!
It is my meditation all the day.
⁹⁸ Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is ever with me.
⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.
¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.
¹⁰¹ I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.
¹⁰² I do not turn aside from your rules,
for you have taught me.
¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!
¹⁰⁴ Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.
¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.



HYMN OF PRAISE

I Want To Know You

Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, James Proctor.
2016 © CityAlight Music.
CCLI #7073331

I've tried in vain a thousand ways
My fears to quell, my hopes to raise
But what I need, Your word has said
Is ever, only, Jesus

Though some should curse me for your name
I have no fear, I have no shame
You stand with me for all my days
My ever, only, Jesus

You died, you live, you reign, you plead
There's love in all your words and deeds
This weary heart finds all it needs
In ever, only, Jesus

Like wave after wave on the ocean
Like all of the sand on the shore
Your beauty and glory are endless
O Jesus I must know you more

*I want to know you, Jesus my Lord
King of the Heavens, King of my soul
I trade my treasure and all my rewards
Jesus to know you, then know you more*

MEMBERSHIP VOWS

We are privileged to receive the newest members of New City Presbyterian Church this morning: Anthony Retka and Oliver Smith.

MEMBERSHIP VOWS:

Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the follower of Christ?

Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

PASTORAL PRAYER

Elder Ken Reynolds

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.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

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.

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.



The Offertory accompanies the giving of Tithes & Offerings with the purpose of guiding our minds and hearts as we continue in worship.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Prepare our hearts, O God, Help us to receive
Break the hard and stony ground, Help our unbelief
Plant Your Word down deep in us, Cause it to bear fruit
Open up our ears to hear, Lead us in Your truth

*Show us Christ, show us Christ
O God, reveal Your glory
Through the preaching of Your Word
Until every heart confesses Christ is Lord*

Your Word is living light, Upon our darkened eyes
Guards us through temptations, Makes the simple wise
Your Word is food for famished ones, Freedom for the slave
Riches for the needy soul, Come speak to us today

Where else can we go, Lord, Where else can we go?
You have the words of eternal life.

Show Us Christ
Bob Kauflin, Doug Plank.
©2011 Sovereign Grace Worship.
CCLI #6169253.

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.

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

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 6:60-71 (ESV)

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God." ⁷⁰Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve? And yet one of you is a devil." ⁷¹He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray him.

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



"Hard Sayings?"

FEB 18 – John 6:60-71
"Hard Sayings?"

FEB 25 – John 7:1-24
"Jesus, Who Are You?"

MAR 3 – John 7:25-52
"Thirsty at the Feast"

MAR 10 – John 7:53-8:15
"A Woman Set Free"

MAR 17 – John 8:12-30
"I Am the Light of the World"





DOXOLOGY

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!

Glory be to the Father,
Glory be to the Son,
Glory be to the Spirit; Three in One.
As it was in the beginning
It will be forever.
Amen, amen, amen.

Gloria Patri
Anonymous.
2nd c., Public Domain



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter XIV

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.

I. The grace of faith, whereby the elect are enabled to believe to the saving of their souls, is the work of the Spirit of Christ in their hearts; and is ordinarily wrought by the ministry of the Word: by which also, and by the administration of the sacraments, and prayer, it is increased and strengthened.

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

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

Merciful Father, we confess that we have often found Your teachings difficult and have turned away, seeking comfort in worldly wisdom rather than Your words of life. We admit to neglecting Your Word, which is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path, and have wandered in darkness of our own making. Forgive us for our wavering faith when Your truth challenges us, for our reluctance to fully commit our lives to the wisdom of humble obedience. In Your boundless grace, cleanse our hearts and renew our spirits, that we may embrace Your commandments with joy and find our true sustenance in the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 PARDON

Psalm 103:10-12

- ¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

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.**

MINISTER

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

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

HYMN AT THE TABLE

The Head That Once Was Crowned With Thorns

*Thomas Kelly, Javier Contesse.
1820, Public Domain*

The head that once was crowned with thorns
 Is crowned with glory now;
 A royal diadem adorns
 The mighty Victor's brow.

The highest place that heav'n affords
 Is His, is His by right,
 The King of kings and Lord of lords,
 And heav'n's eternal Light:

*The joy of all who dwell above,
 And joy for all of us below;
 To whom He manifests His love,
 And grants His blessed name to know.*

To us the cross, with all its shame,
 With all its grace, is giv'n;
 Our name an everlasting name,
 Our joy, the joy of heav'n.

The cross He bore is life and health,
 Though shame and death to Him;
 His people's hope, His people's wealth,
 Their everlasting theme.

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

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my Wisdom, And Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, Nor man's empty praise
Thou my inheritance now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, My Treasure Thou art

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Be Thou My Vision
Mary E. Byrne, Eleanor H. Hull.
6th Century, Public Domain

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.

ALL

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

New City Members are encouraged to welcome and extend the right hand of fellowship to the newest members of our Covenant Family.

NEW CITY NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



HOLY WEEK – SAVE THE DATES

MAR 24: PALM SUNDAY. Join us with loud Hosannas as we gather on this Lord's Day to worship Jesus Christ as the humble King who lays His life down on route to His coronation on the cross.

MAR 28: MAUNDY THURSDAY. We will gather to enjoy a Seder Supper meal at 6pm in the Gathering Place. Join us as we find fulfillment to the Old Testament prophecies of Messiah as the passover lamb in the person and life of Jesus Christ.

MAR 29: GOOD FRIDAY. We will once again host our Metro Detroit sister PCA churches in a joint service focussing on the stations of the cross, in remembrance of the dreadful yet glorious day of Jesus' death. Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments at 5pm, and the service at 6pm.

MAR 31: EASTER SUNDAY. Join us as we rise from Holy Saturday's silence, to celebrate Jesus' resurrection and, through faith, our rebirth into hope and life eternal. We will come together to sing, share our joy, and praise the risen Son of God!



NEW CITY TOUR

If you have been visiting our regularly attending our worship services at New City, we encourage you to take the New City Tour, a six-week exploration of who we are as a Church Body followed by the opportunity to become a member at New City. When Jesus Christ calls men and women to himself, he also unites us to His Church in order to bring glory to God with other Christians (1Cor. 12; Eph. 4). Because of this, we believe that Church membership is vitally important!

Our first session on March 3rd, will take place following the worship service (11:45 am in the Gathering Place), with a kick-off lunch, followed by a guided tour of the building with our pastor, elders, and church staff walking you through our physical space while explaining why we do what we do as a church from a biblical perspective.

The following sessions will consist of seminars during regular Sunday School hours (9-9:50 am in the Fireplace Room) that explore New City's vision, mission, and values, as well as our identity as believers, Presbyterians, and members of a local church.

Scan QR Code to register now!



KIDS' CITY TOUR

Starting March 10, students up to 8th Grade, who are interested in becoming communing members at New City are invited to attend the Kids' City Tour class. In these sessions, students will explore what it means to be a Christian, a member of the Body of Christ, and a member of their local church. Students will then have the opportunity to pursue membership.



STUDENT MINISTRY – DISCOVERY MEETINGS

As we look forward to a new season of Student Ministry at New City, Session has arranged for discovery meetings to take place to engage student parents in conversations that will help us chart the season ahead of us. Please contact Ken Reynolds for more information.

Middle School Parents: **TODAY**, February 18 @ 6pm, Gathering Place
High School Parents: Sunday, February 25 @ 6pm, Gathering Place



NC KIDS – KIDS’ SUMMER NIGHTS VOLUNTEER MEETING

For those of you committing to serve our children during the NC Kids’ Summer Nights, please plan to join us on **March 10**, following our worship service, in the Fireplace Room to assign and go over roles and responsibilities for our Summer Night dates!



FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund Contributions as of 2/14/24	\$ 69,716
General Fund 2024 Annual Budget	\$ 814,923
Mortgage Balance as of 2/14/24	\$ 266,801

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CCLI LICENSE

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WIFI PASSWORD

NewCity2024!

Visit our website at:

NEWCITYPC.ORG

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tex **newcitytexts** to 97-000.

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**



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!