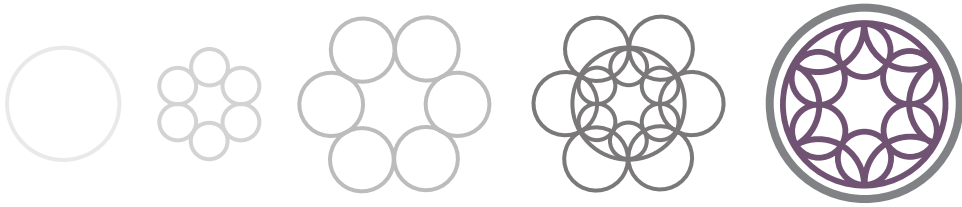




NEW CITY
presbyterian church

MARCH 3, 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

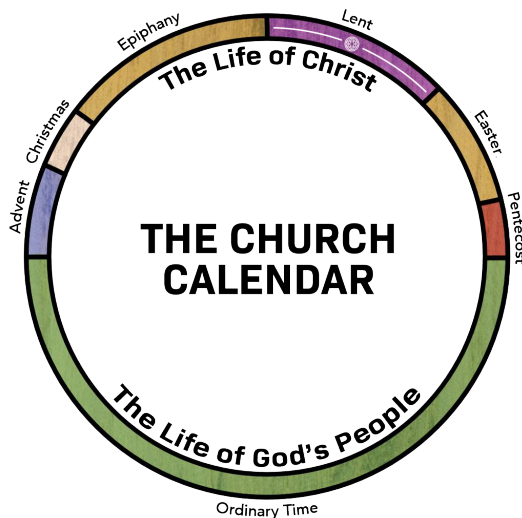
Lent

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 63:1-3

¹ O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
³ Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.



GATHERING HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

*August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben, Joseph August Seiss.
17th Century, Public Domain*

Fairest Lord Jesus! ruler of all nature!
O Thou of God and man the Son!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Oh my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows; fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine.

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:1-5

¹ "Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.



HYMN OF PRAISE

○ The Love Of My Redeemer

Josh Caterer.
© 2007, HarvestSongs.
CCLI #5874422.

Highest heights or darkest deep, be there pain or poverty
There is nothing that can keep my Redeemer's love from me

All alone though I may feel; all the world my enemy
Still there's no one that can steal my Redeemer's love from me

*O the love of my Redeemer; never failing, come what may
He has purchased my forgiveness, and has washed my sins away*

Although burdened by the weight of great trial or tragedy
None of these can separate my Redeemer's love from me

Though the earth's foundations shake, driving wind, or raging sea
Neither death nor life can take my Redeemer's love from me

Through this world's few passing days, and through all eternity,
I will never cease to praise my Redeemer's love for me

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Elder Scott Cairo

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

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

Go on up to the mountain of mercy
To the crimson perpetual tide
Kneel down on the shore
Be thirsty no more
Go under and be purified

Follow Christ to the holy mountain
Sinner sorry and wrecked by the fall
Cleanse your heart and your soul
In the fountain that flows
For you and for me and for all

*At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree
On that beautiful scandalous night you and me
Were atoned by His blood and forever washed white
On that beautiful scandalous night*

On the hillside you will be delivered
At the foot of the cross justified
And your spirit restored
By the river that pours
From our blessed Savior's side

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.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

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.

Beautiful, Scandalous Night

Derald Daugherty, Steve Hindalong.
© 1995 Never Say Never Songs
CCLI #1131836

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.

John 7:25-52 (ESV)

²⁵ Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill?" ²⁶ And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? ²⁷ But we know where this man comes from, and when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from." ²⁸ So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. ²⁹ I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me." ³⁰ So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. ³¹ Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?"

³² The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him. ³³ Jesus then said, "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. ³⁴ You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come." ³⁵ The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? ³⁶ What does he mean by saying, 'You will seek me and you will not find me,' and, 'Where I am you cannot come'?"

³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." ³⁹ Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

⁴⁰ When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This really is the Prophet."

⁴¹ Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee?"

⁴² Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" ⁴³ So there was a division among the people over him. ⁴⁴ Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

⁴⁵ The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" ⁴⁶ The officers answered, "No one ever spoke like this man!"

⁴⁷ The Pharisees answered them, "Have you also been deceived? ⁴⁸ Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in him? ⁴⁹ But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed." ⁵⁰ Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, ⁵¹ "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" ⁵² They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee."

SERMON SERIES

The Gospel of John

Javier Contesse



"Thirsty At The Feast"

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

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Thomas Ken. 1551, Public Domain

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!

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.



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Q.53

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.

Q. What do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit?

A. First, that the Spirit, with the Father and the Son, is eternal God. Second, that the Spirit is given also to me, so that, through true faith, He makes me share in Christ and all His benefits through true faith, comforts me, and will remain with me forever.

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

Gracious God, we come before You, acknowledging our wanderings and the unquenched thirst that disturbs our souls. We confess that we cling to our own understandings and the various codes we live by, failing to see Christ as the fulfillment of all righteousness. Forgive us for we have shackled ourselves in these constructs and fail to embrace the freedom You offer us in Christ. Lord, like the Pharisees, we too murmur among ourselves, questioning Your person, Your teachings, and Your relevance to our modern and informed lives. Forgive us for believing the lies of autonomy and self-sufficiency. Rather, may we embrace the boldness of Your truth, and life in the Spirit, and may we respond to Your gracious call to quench our thirst with You, our Savior and 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

Ezekiel 36:25-27

²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, [...] And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

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

ALL

HYMN AT THE TABLE

Come, Ye Sinners

Joseph Hart, Brooks Ritter 1759, Public Domain
© 2012, Sojourn Community Church
CCLI #7090498

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love and power.

*Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,
Every grace that brings you nigh.*

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all.
You will never come at all.

On the bloody Cross behold Him,
Sinner, will this not suffice,
Lo! the incarnate God ascended,
Pleads His perfect sacrifice.

Let not conscience make you linger,
Not of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him.

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

Are you thirsty, are you empty?
Come and drink these living waters.
Tired and broken, peace unspoken,
Rest beside these living waters.

Christ is calling, find refreshing,
At the cross of living waters.
Lay your life down, all the old gone,
Rise up in these living waters.

*There's a river that flows with mercy and love,
Bringing joy to the city of our God.
There our hope is secure do not fear anymore,
Praise the Lord of living waters.*

Spirit moving, mercy washing,
Healing in these living waters.
Lead your children, to the shore line,
Life is in these living waters.

Are you thirsty, are you empty?
Come and drink these living waters.
Love, forgiveness, vast and boundless,
Christ, He is our living waters.

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.

Living Waters

Kristyn Getty, Ed Cash.
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CCLI #2408334

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!



SEDER SUPPER SIGN-UP

This year's Seder Supper will take place March 28, at 6pm. To participate in this rich time of fellowship we are requiring attendants to sign-up due to limited space. Please register promptly to ensure your participation! Scan QR code for more information and registration.



NEW CITY TOUR

The New City Tour begins TODAY, March 3rd, following the worship service with a kick-off lunch at noon, 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.



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.



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 2/28/24	\$ 88,856
General Fund 2024 Annual Budget	\$ 822,186
Mortgage Balance as of 2/28/24	\$ 261,476

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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!