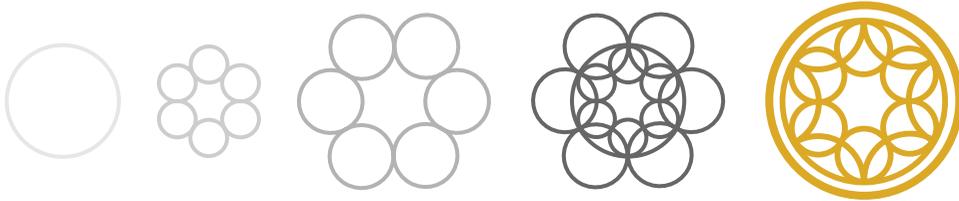




NEW CITY
presbyterian church

APRIL 25, 2021

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

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

LITURGY FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

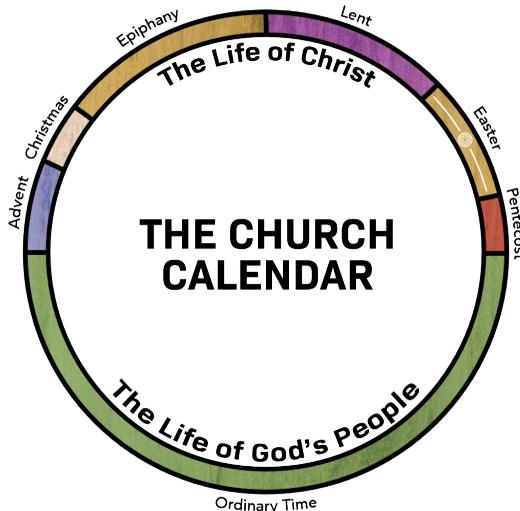
As we gather to worship this morning, take a moment to reflect on this important historical event as a way to prepare for an encounter with the living God.

WORD ON WORSHIP

Easter tide

Beginning with Easter Sunday, this season lasts seven weeks. It is marked by two main events: first and foremost the resurrection of Christ and then the ascension of Christ. A season of joy and hope, it is a time to celebrate these events and their implications for the Christian life, from being dead in our sin and raised with Jesus to our future hope of resurrected bodies and a new heaven and a new earth. As we remember and rejoice in the Resurrection, our eternal hope in Jesus is made anew.

Easter, a story of hope and victory, runs contrary to the false stories of our world that would make us believe that there is no hope, that there is nothing more than this life. The stories of secularism and cynicism that run rampant in our culture shape us and jade us, robbing us of joy and belief in the miraculous. Easter, though, weaves back into our lives the one true story of the Bible—that Jesus was crucified, dead and buried but, on the third day, rose again. As we enter this story, remembering our future hope in Christ and our miracle-filled, supernatural faith, we are reshaped and reformed to be the hopeful, joyful, spiritual people that God has called us to be as His sons and daughters.



SILENT REFLECTION

"The Bible is not a script for a funeral service, but it is the record of God always bringing life where we expected to find death. Everywhere it is the story of resurrection."

Eugene Peterson

"Now when the New Testament tells us that Jesus Christ is risen, one of the things it means is that the victim of Calvary is now, so to speak, loose and at large!"

J.I. Packer

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

○ For A Thousand Tongues

*Charles Wesley.
1739, Public Domain
CCLI #1369*

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Your Name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin, He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me.

He speaks and listening to His voice, new life the dead receive
The mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe

Glory to God, and praise and love be ever, ever given
By saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 6:6-8

⁶ "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?"

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸ He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

The Prayer of Invocation
is a humble yet earnest
calling upon God to
reveal Himself and
bless us as we gather
to worship.



PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF MERCY

Grace unmeasured, vast and free
That knew me from eternity
That called me out before my birth
To bring You glory on this earth
Grace amazing, pure and deep
That saw me in my misery
That took my curse and owned my blame
So I could bear your righteous name

*Grace, paid for my sins and brought me to life
Grace, clothes me with power to do what is right
Grace, will lead me to heaven, where I'll see Your face
And never cease to thank you for Your grace*

Grace abounding, strong and true
That makes me long to be like You
That turns me from my selfish pride
To love the cross on which You died
Grace unending, all my days
You'll give me strength to run this race
And when my years on earth are through
The praise will all belong to You

Grace Unmeasured

Bob Kauflin.

© 2005, Sovereign Grace Praise
CCLI #4662862

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.

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.

CALL TO REPENTANCE

Was there true and genuine repentance in your life this past week, or did you simply pay lip service? Were you broken before God, desperate for his grace in the light of his holy commands, or did you go about your week blinded to your sin because you measured yourself by the people around you?

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Great God, we are privileged to come before You and offer You worship. You have required righteousness from us, yet we have fallen short of Your standard; We have indulged our sinful appetites, we have tested Your care and protection as we recklessly entertain temptations, and we have lived lives focused on the things of this world, rather than on You.

Forgive us, Lord, and feed us the truth that You alone satisfy and that we are eternally loved. We praise You, Jesus, for fulfilled all righteousness in our place and freeing us to live lives of worship and service to Your great name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Psalm 130:3-4

³ If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

PASTORAL PRAYER



DOXOLOGY

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!

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

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*Thomas Ken.
1551, Public Domain
CCLI #56204*

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 that we can follow-up with you.



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, at newcitypc.churchcenter.com/giving or by scanning the QR code.



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

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.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION



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 18:9-14 (ESV)

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."



MINISTER
ALL

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

Sermon Series: Stained No More

Rev. Ryan McVicar

Thank God I'm Not Like Those People

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

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

*Isaac Watts.
1707, Public Domain
CCLI #27893*

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did ever such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small,
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.



SENDING HYMN

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

*Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Thomas O. Chisholm, William M. Runyan.
© 1923, Hope Publishing Company
CCLI #18723

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

WELCOME HOME!

SOME HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

We are beyond thankful to gather with you to worship our Lord! 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.

If you do not have non-disposable drinkware, please feel free to grab a New City branded coffee tumbler!

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 0-36 months in both of our services.

A Cry Room is available in the Pinecrest Lobby.

Pre-school aged children are invited to participate in Kids' Bible Time during our worship services. KBT is a time of teaching from the Bible in an age-appropriate setting.

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.

CONTACT NEW CITY

PASTORAL NEEDS

Ryan McVicar
ryan.mcvicar@newcitypc.org

FAMILY & STUDENT MINISTRY

Matt Luchenbill
matt.luchenbill@newcitypc.org

NEW CITY KIDS

Brigitte Bailey
brigitte.bailey@newcitypc.org

NURSERY & TODDLERS

Maris Bakker
maris.bakker@newcitypc.org
Angela Wood
angela.wood@newcitypc.org

WORSHIP, MEDIA, & COMMUNICATIONS

Javier Contesse
javier.contesse@newcitypc.org

SUNDAY OPERATIONS

Eric Bonner
eric.bonner@newcitypc.org

OFFICE & FINANCIAL NEEDS

Tracy Reynolds
tracy.reynolds@newcitypc.org

EVENTS NEEDS

Amanda Heverly
amanda.heverly@newcitypc.org

Visit our website at:
NEWCITYPC.ORG

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 alongside us in this transformative rhythm of life.

CONTACT INFO

(248) 808-2523
2441 Pinecrest Dr.
Ferndale, MI 48220
info@newcitypc.org

New City News is our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe to receive the latest news at **newcitypc.org/subscribe**

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

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

CCLI LICENSE
#11108317



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 a 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.



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**

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.