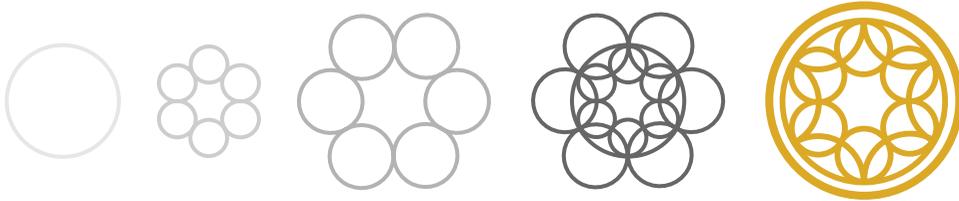




NEW CITY
presbyterian church

MAY 9, 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

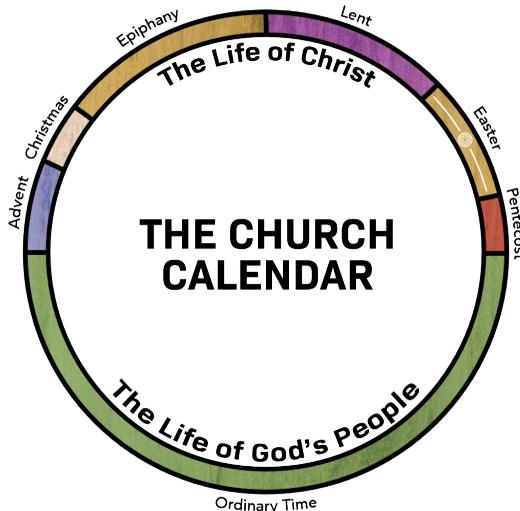
As we gather to worship this morning, take a moment to reflect on this important historical event as a way to prepare for an encounter with the living God.

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

Father Long Before Creation

*Jones Francis, William Henry Monk.
1953, Public Domain
CCLI #740352*

Father, long before creation, Thou hadst chosen us in love,
And that love so deep, so moving, Draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us, Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion, Yet our God is ever the same;
His compassion and His covenant, Through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children, Must forever praise His name.

God's compassion is my story, Is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing, Moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us, That His only Son He gave.

Loving Father now before Thee, We will ever praise Thy love,
And our songs will sound unceasing, Till we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory, To our God and to the Lamb.

LITANY FROM THE PSALMS

From Psalm 105

WORSHIP LEADER Praise the Lord, invoke his name,
let the peoples know his fame.

CONGREGATION *Sing to him with sacred air,
weigh his wonders and his care.*

WORSHIP LEADER Glorify his holy name,
Let our joyful hearts acclaim.

CONGREGATION *Trust the Lord, who will endure;
seek his face for evermore.*

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

The Prayer of Adoration
is a praiseful pondering
of the attributes and
works of God, intended
to draw our hearts closer
to Him, in awe.



PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF GRACE

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

His Mercy Is More

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa.
© 2016, Getty Music
CCLI #7065053

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

What sinful thoughts, actions, and/or patterns have you experienced this week that have left you feeling lost?

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our Holy God, all of the hosts of heaven are swift to serve and tireless to praise You. Yet we grieve our often lethargic service and half-hearted worship. Pardon our divided hearts. We ask Your forgiveness for our careless actions, our critical words, our scattered priorities, and misguided passions. May Your Truth quickly convict us, and Your Spirit ever lead us to the streams of Your abundant grace, as we confess our sins to You. In Jesus glorious name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

From Psalm 103

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

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



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.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Luke 15 (ESV)

¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'"



²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Sermon Series: Stained No More

Rev. Ryan McVicar

Lost & Found Pt. 1

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

O Fount of love divine that flows from my Savior's bleeding side
Where sinners trade their filthy rags for His righteousness applied
Mercy cleansing every stain now rushing over us like a flood
There the wretch and vilest ones stand adopted through His blood

O mount of grace, to Thee we cling, from the law hath set us free
Once and for all on Calvary's hill, love and justice shall agree
Praise the Lord! The price is paid, the curse defeated by the Lamb
We who once were slaves by birth, sons and daughters now we stand

O well of joy is mine to drink, for my Lord hath conquered death
Victorious forevermore, the ancient foe is laid to rest
Hallelujah, Christ is King! Alive and reigning on the throne!
Our tongues employed with hymns praise, "glory be to God alone!"

O Fount Of Love
Matt Boswell, Matt Papa.
© 2010, Dayspring Music
CCLI #5760323



SENDING HYMN

Rejoice

Dustin Kensrue, Stuart Townend.
© 2013, Dead Bird Theology
CCLI #7004663

Come and stand before your Maker full of wonder, full of fear
Come behold His power and glory, yet with confidence draw near
For the one who holds the heavens and commands the stars above
Is the God who bends to bless us with an unrelenting love

We are children of the promise, the beloved of the Lord
Won with everlasting kindness, bought with sacrificial blood
Bringing reconciliation to a world that longs to know
The affections of a Father who will never let them go

*Rejoice, come and lift your hands and
Raise your voice, He is worthy of our praise
Rejoice, sing the mercies of your King
And with trembling, rejoice*

All our sickness, all our sorrows Jesus carried up the hill
He has walked this path before us, He is walking with us still
Turning tragedy to triumph, turning agony to praise
There is blessing in the battle so take heart and stand amazed

*Rejoice, when you cry to Him He hears
Your voice, He will wipe away your tears
Rejoice, in the midst of suffering
He will help you sing*

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 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 are visiting us and do not have non-disposable drinkware, please use and keep one of our New City branded coffee mugs!

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 hallways outside of the Fireplace Room, and in the Kids' Ministry area.

Any items left behind from previous weeks may be found in our Lost & Found Basket, located in the Vestry. Please ask an usher if you do not know where the Vestry is.

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



NEED PRAYER?

Submit a prayer request to
our Prayer Ministry Team

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** to 97-000.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube under the **newcitypc** handle.

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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.