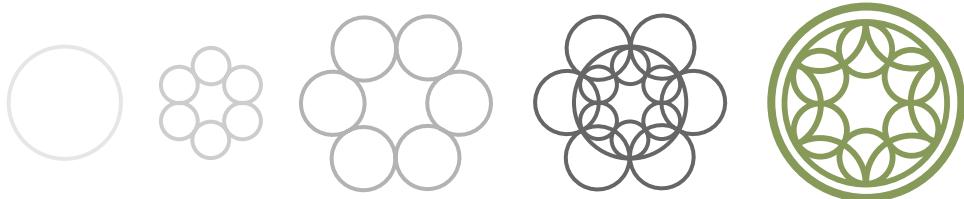




AUGUST 22, 2021

Sermon cover art and sermon series graphics
by New City member, Jay Holladay

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

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

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.
1905, Public Domain
CCLI #30639*

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 PRAISE

Behold Our God

Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, Stephen Altrogge.
© 2011 Sovereign Grace Praise
CCLI #5937510

Who has held the oceans in His hands
Who has numbered every grain of sand
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

*Behold our God seated on His throne, come let us adore Him
Behold our King nothing can compare, come let us adore Him*

Who has given counsel to the Lord
Who can question any of His words
Who can teach the One who knows all things
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

Who has felt the nails upon His hand
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus Savior risen now to reign

You will reign forever
(Let Your glory fill the earth)

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

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

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

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.



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.



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.

Ecclesiastes 10 (ESV)

- ¹ Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.
- ² A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left.
- ³ Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool.
- ⁴ If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest.
- ⁵ There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler: ⁶ folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place. ⁷ I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves.
- ⁸ He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall.
- ⁹ He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them.
- ¹⁰ If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed.
- ¹¹ If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer.
- ¹² The words of a wise man's mouth win him favor, but the lips of a fool consume him.
- ¹³ The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end of his talk is evil madness.
- ¹⁴ A fool multiplies words, though no man knows what is to be, and who can tell him what will be after him?
- ¹⁵ The toil of a fool wearies him, for he does not know the way to the city.
- ¹⁶ Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning!
- ¹⁷ Happy are you, O land, when your king is the son of the nobility, and your princes feast at the proper time, for strength, and not for drunkenness!
- ¹⁸ Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence the house leaks.
- ¹⁹ Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life, and money answers everything.
- ²⁰ Even in your thoughts, do not curse the king, nor in your bedroom curse the rich, for a bird of the air will carry your voice, or some winged creature tell the matter.

PREACHER
ALL

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



Sermon Series: Life Under The Sun

Dead Flies & The Disaster of Foolish Leadership

Rev. Ryan McVicar

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.

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 Him.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal and merciful God, You have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and You have set us on paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. Yet we have foolishly strayed from Your way; we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and through what we have left undone. O God we give you thanks for You forgive us yet again. Grant us, Lord, the grace to die daily to sin, and rise daily to life in Christ, in whose redeeming name we pray. 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.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Colossians 1:13-14

¹³ [the Father] has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

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



HYMN AT THE TABLE

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Stuart Townend.

© 1995 ThankYou Music

CCLI #1558110

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He would give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My guilt upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no powers, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

MINISTER

The Words of Institution echo Jesus' words at the Last Supper, now inviting us to partake of the Bread and Wine in remembrance of Him.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PARTAKING OF THE BREAD & WINE



SENDING HYMN

To God Be The Glory

Fanny Crosby.
1875, Public Domain
CCLI #23426

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son.
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the lifegate that all may go in.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

BENEDICTION

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.

WORSHIP ON THE LAWN

Last year, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, our inability to meet at our previous place of worship, and the renovations taking place in our recently acquired building, we hosted our worship services on our property's front lawn. We loved gathering in the shade of our trees, in a fresh and worshipful environment, where God was magnified and we were nurtured. This Summer, **Worship On The Lawn** is back.

Our **Worship On The Lawn** season will run June 6th through September 5th, with one worship service starting at 10am. Bring your own lawn chair, picnic blankets, and everything you need to stay comfortable. In case of inclement weather forecast, we will worship in our Sanctuary. Our main avenues for communicating changes are **New City Texts**, and **New City News**. You can sign-up for both of these at newcitypc.org/subscribe.

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.

Visit our website at:
NEWCITYPC.ORG



VISITING US?

Thank you for being part of our service today! We would love to get to know you and invite you into deeper community with us. Please scan this QR code and fill out a simple form so that we can follow-up with you.



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



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!

HOW TO SCAN QR CODES?

QR Codes allow smartphone users to quickly access a web link without having to type in 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 Android phones, download the *Quick Scan* app.

CCLI LICENSE

#11108317