



NEW CITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**A GATHERED SERVICE
OF WORSHIP**

MAY 26, 2013

Welcome to New City Presbyterian Church. We're delighted that you've joined us this morning for our gathered service of worship. Our community 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 and the central message of the Bible to be 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 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 Presbyterian Church exists to be a community rooted in truth, real in conversation and committed to renewing our lives and our city.

As the Pastor at New City, it is my privilege to extend to you an invitation to come be part of the New City Church community and to be astonished, together with us, by the splendor and grace of God.

- Ryan McVicar

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
to whoever will come - this church opens wide her doors
and offers you welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD



REFLECTION & SILENT PREPARATION

The gospel is the message of God's redeeming love in sending his own Son into the world. Those who understand that love will be driven to share it. They will not only rejoice to sit down with other redeemed sinners in heaven's feast; they will seek other sinners in Christ's name to call them home. As Christ was sent, so he sends them, and the dynamic of mission is the heart of the love of God.

Edmund P. Clowney

Mission begins with a kind of explosion of joy. The news that the rejected and crucified Jesus is alive is something that cannot possibly be suppressed. It must be told. Who could be silent about such a fact?

Lesslie Newbigin

If we watch with excited fascination as the early church does wonderful healings, stands up to the bullying authorities, makes converts to the right and left, and lives a life of astonishing property-sharing, we may have to face the fact that if you want to be a community which seems to be taking the place of the Temple of the living God you mustn't be surprised if the living God takes you seriously, seriously enough to make it clear that there is no such thing as cheap grace.

N. T. Wright

PASTOR'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN OF PRAISE

“BETTER IS ONE DAY”

*How lovely is your dwelling place
Oh Lord Almighty
My soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied
Within your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of your wings*

CHORUS *Better is one day in your courts
Better is one day in your house
Better is one day in your courts
Than thousands elsewhere
Than thousands elsewhere*

*One thing I ask and I would seek
To see your beauty
To find you in the place your glory dwells*

*My heart and flesh cry out
For you the living God
Your spirit's water for my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to you
I will draw near to you To You*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

DECLARATION OF THE LAW

 Please stand

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL Lord Jesus, forgive us for not pursuing you as our Lord and our God. We claim to be strong only to find our lives broken and burdened. We seek our significance in things, supposing those things could provide us lasting happiness. Yet, we are left exhausted and restless. Have mercy on us, Lord, according to your unfailing love. Renew within us the assurance of your love and a burning desire to love You with our whole heart, for the glory of Your matchless Name. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF REDEMPTION

“BEAUTIFUL, SCANDALOUS NIGHT” 

*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*

 Please stand

BRINGING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

MINISTER Generous Father, giver of all gifts, who purchased us at the immeasurable cost of the blood of your son, sharing his inheritance of the riches of your kingdom and lavishing your love on us:

ALL We joyfully and freely give back to you what is yours with thanksgiving and we profane the power, seduction and human splendor that money has been endowed with. We now return it to its status as any other object, to be used to glorify your Name.

“PSALM 118”

*The Lord is with me, I will not be afraid
I stand in the shelter of His shade
The Lord is with me, He is my victory
I stand secure with Him for all my days
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good
Let us proclaim what the King has done*

*Cause His love endures, forever and ever more
And His love, it endures, forever and ever more*

*The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song
He has become my salvation
The Lord is my rock, the Lord is my shield
He has become my foundation
This is the day that the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it*

RESPONDING WITH GRATITUDE

“DOXOLOGY” 

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow

Praise Him, all creatures here below

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Amen.



SCRIPTURE READING

ACTS 2:42-47

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things

in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

MINISTER “All people are like grass, and all their beauty is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades,”

ALL “But the word of our God stands forever.”

 *Please stand*



*K4-3rd grade are welcome to
join the children in the Kids City
room for Children's Worship*

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SERIES: The Acts of Jesus in and through His Church

SERMON: "THE PHENOMENAL CHURCH"

Acts 2:42-47

Notes and Thoughts for New City Group Discussions About the Sunday Sermon

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us
our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the
Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

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 word of encouragement. If you are not a Christian, we encourage you to spend this time reflecting on the prayers printed below in the hopes that a relationship with Jesus and membership in His Church may be considered.

We will be coming forward to participate in Communion. Jesus is truly and spiritually present and stands ready to feed you. Come hungry. Come thirsty. Come ready to be filled.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Heidelberg Catechism, Question 120*

MINISTER Why has Christ commanded us to address God as Our Father?

ALL That immediately, in the very beginning of our prayer, he might excite in us a childlike reverence for, and confidence in God, which are the foundation of our prayer: namely, that God has become our Father in Christ, and will much less deny us what we ask of him in true faith, than our parents will refuse us earthly things.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION COMMUNION PRAYERS

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 this 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, therefore, O Lord, the grace to commune now with Christ by faith, that I may evermore live in him and he in me. Amen.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

The ministry of prayer is one of the ways we live together as a community of believers and seekers. During Communion, members of our prayer team are available at the front and back of the sanctuary. It would be our privilege to pray with you as we walk together through the joys and struggles of life.

COMMUNION SONG

“JESUS PAID IT ALL”

*I hear the Savior say
“Thy strength indeed is small
Child of weakness watch and pray
Find in Me thine all in all”*

CHORUS *Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow*

*Lord now indeed I find
Thy power, and Thine alone
Can change the leper’s spots
And melt the heart of stone*

*And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete
“Jesus died my soul to save”
My lips shall still repeat*

*Oh Praise the One who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead*

COMMUNION SONG

“I NEED THEE, O I NEED THEE”

*O I need Thee every hour
I need you Lord, O bless me now
My Savior, I come to Thee*

*I need Thee every hour, in joy or pain
Come quickly and abide, or life is vain
I need Thee every hour, teach me Thy will
And Thy rich promises in me fulfill*

*I need Thee every hour, most Holy One
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son*

HYMN OF DEPARTURE

“O CHURCH ARISE” 

*O church, arise and put your armor on
Hear the call of Christ our captain
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies
An army bold whose battle cry is “Love!”
Reaching out to those in darkness*

*Our call to war, to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor
When faced with trials on ev'ry side
We know the outcome is secure
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—
An inheritance of nations*

*Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet
As the Son of God is stricken
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet
For the Conqueror has risen
And as the stone is rolled away
And Christ emerges from the grave
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him*

BENEDICTION & THE CHILDREN'S GATHERING

*So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful
As saints of old still line the way
Retelling triumphs of His grace
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory*

 *Please stand*

NEW CITY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New City Kids Music Camp: Save the date! July 10 - 14 (Wed - Fri 9am to 12noon, Saturday evening bbq and Sunday morning worship with the kids participating) is our first ever Summer Kids Camp. We hope your kids (ages 4 - 12) will join us for this music-rich, gospel-saturated and fun-filled camp. The camp will be even better if you invite friends and neighbors. We are in need of women volunteers (teen and up) to serve and lead different aspects of the camp. The camp is free! To register or volunteer, please check the box on pg. 14 and note the number of children you are registering, along with their age. Nursery will be provided for our volunteers. For more information, email Mandi at kids@newcitypc.org.

New City Groups New City is committed to deep and transformational community life and the backbone of our community life is found in New City Groups. These regional small groups (8-12 people) serve as our primary vehicle for spiritual formation, study, prayer, discipleship and mission. They are essential for keeping the church small enough for people to connect relationally between Sundays and local enough for people to exercise their gifts and passions for needs in our neighborhoods and networks. Find more information at the Welcome Table or email Ryan at ryan@newcitypc.org.

Sunday Picnics As you know, New City deeply values community and relationships. One avenue for this on a weekly basis throughout the Spring and Summer months (weather permitting) is to enjoy our Sunday Picnics. All are invited to bring a “brown bag” lunch or pick up something to eat after our worship services to gather on the lawn behind the Middle School. Feel free to bring a football, soccerball, frisbee or anything else as all ages enjoy some laid-back time together after worship.

Sermons can be found here: newcitypc.org/sundays/sermons

Servant Team We are organizing a “Servant Team” comprised of people who will invest their time, energy and skills on Sunday mornings to assist in the set-up and take-down needs before and after our gathered service of worship. New City will be blessed to have you prayerfully consider being on one of these rotations serving to beautify our sanctuary, disinfect nursery toys, set up the welcome area, prepare coffee and much more. We’re confident you will enjoy fellowshiping with others as you serve together. Whether you serve weekly, monthly or every other month, you will help to make New City stronger. Thank you for your willingness to serve! To join this team, check the box on pg. 14 and we will contact you with details.

Facebook Like us on Facebook to receive news, updates and pictures. www.facebook.com/newcitypc

NEW CITY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tigers Game Following the Worship Service on June 9th, we will head downtown to enjoy each other's fellowship at a Tigers game! Tix are limited and can be purchased from Steve Sharp near the welcome table following the service (beginning today). Tickets are \$20. Please make checks to New City Church. Tickets will be given to you upon payment and cannot be reserved or held for you in advance. We hope you will join us! Steve can be reached at sharpie77@yahoo.com

Nursery and Children's Ministry To learn more about the vision, philosophy, safety standards and curriculum of the New City Kids ministry, visit www.newcitypc.org/kids/vision. Here are a few of the ways we hope to serve your family:

- *New City Nursery:* We are delighted to work hard to provide the highest level of safety, care and Christian nurture for children ages **0 - 3** in our Sunday nursery. For more information, contact Mandi Krieg (Children's Ministry Director) at kids@newcitypc.org
- *New City Kids Bible Time:* Children **K4 - 3rd Grade** are invited to enjoy rich Christian teaching and training in the Kids area during the sermon.
- *Family Balcony:* Families with young children are invited to stay throughout the entire worship service as well. Feel free to sit in the balcony if it will serve you to nurse your infant or sit with younger children needing to move around. Coloring pages and Kids Sermon Notes available in back.

VISITOR AND EVENT INFORMATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

- Membership at New City? I would like to learn more.
- We plan to attend the New City Kids Music Camp (list ages below)
- Pastor's Dessert? I would like to come and learn more about New City
- I have questions about the Bible or questions about becoming a Christian and would like to discuss these questions with someone.
- I am interested in serving on the "Servant Team" (details on pg. 13)

CONTACT

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