

# Order for the Public Worship of God

October 27, 2013

## REFLECTION AND SILENT PREPARATION

“The gospel of justifying faith means that while Christians are, in themselves still sinful and sinning, yet in Christ, in God’s sight, they are accepted and righteous. So we can say that we are more wicked than we ever dared believe, but more loved and accepted in Christ than we ever dared hope — at the very same time.” | **Timothy Keller**

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” | **Jesus**

“If God really does intend to redeem rather than reject his created world...we are faced with the question: what might it look like to celebrate that redemption, that healing and transformation, in the present, and thereby appropriately to anticipate God’s final intention?” | **Tom Wright**

*You are invited to pray, perhaps including the following prayer, as you prepare for worship.*

Almighty and God,

You are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than we either desire or deserve:

Pour upon us the abundance of Your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid  
and giving us those good things

for which we are not worthy to ask,  
except through the merits and mediation

of Jesus Christ our Savior,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## **PASTOR'S WELCOME**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

**IN CHRIST ALONE**

**ALL**

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace when fears are stilled when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This Gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid: here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ

## **READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

**JOHN 14:1-6**

**READER**

Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

## **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**ALL**

No guilt in life no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**ALL**

Merciful God, We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Hide your face from our sins and blot out all our iniquities. Create in us a clean heart as we rest in the finished work of Christ, the savior of the world.

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

**MEN**

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**WOMEN**

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have the forgiveness of sins. Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## SONG OF REDEMPTION

PSALM 130 (FROM DEPTHS OF WOE)

**ALL**

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee the voice of lamentation;  
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me and hear my supplication;  
If Thou iniquities dost mark, our secret sins and misdeeds dark,  
O who shall stand before Thee?

To wash away the crimson stain, grace, grace alone availeth;  
Our works, alas! Are all in vain; in much the best life faileth;  
No man can glory in Thy sight, all must alike confess Thy might,  
And live alone by mercy

Therefore my trust is in the Lord, and not in mine own merit;  
On Him my soul shall rest, His word upholds my fainting spirit;  
His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort and my sweet support;  
I wait for it with patience

Though great our sins and sore our woes, His grace much more aboundeth;  
His helping love no limit knows, our upmost need it soundeth.  
Our Shepherd good and true is He, Who will at last His Israel free  
From all their sin and sorrow

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

### BRINGING GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS ❖

SHOW US CHRIST

Prepare our hearts, O God, help us to receive  
Break the hard and stony ground,  
Help our unbelief  
Plant Your Word down deep in us,  
Cause it to bear fruit  
Open up our ears to hear, lead us in Your truth

Show us Christ, show us Christ  
O God, reveal Your glory  
Through the preaching of Your Word  
Until every heart confesses Christ is Lord

Your Word is living light,  
Upon our darkened eyes  
Guards us through temptations,  
Makes the simple wise  
Your Word is food for famished ones,  
Freedom for the slave  
Riches for the needy soul,  
Come speak to us today

Where else can we go, Lord?  
Where else can we go?  
You have the words of eternal life



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

## THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

GENESIS 2:8-10, 15-17

### READER

And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. 15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die..."

REVELATION 21:1-7, 22:1-5

### READER

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." 5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. 7 The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

### READER

"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."**

**SERMON:** RETURN TO EDEN

REV. TED POWERS

**SERIES:** ONCE UPON A BEGINNING - EXPLORATIONS IN GENESIS

*(notes and thoughts)*

## **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.

### **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS YOU CAN PRAY 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 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.



## COMMUNION SONG

## BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

ALL

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great high Priest whose name is love Who ever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands,  
My name is written on His Heart  
I know that while in heav'n He stands.  
No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin  
Because the sinless Savior died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God, the Just, is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me

Hallelujah  
Hallelujah  
Praise the One Risen Son of God

Behold Him there the risen Lamb My perfect spotless righteousness  
The great unchangeable I AM The King of glory and of grace  
One with Himself I cannot die  
My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Savior and my God  
With Christ my Savior and my God

## COMMUNION SONG

JESUS THANK YOU

**ALL**

The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend  
The agonies of Calvary  
You the perfect holy One crushed Your Son  
Drank the bitter cup reserved for me

Your blood has washed away my sin  
Jesus, thank You  
The Father's wrath completely satisfied  
Jesus, thank You  
Once Your enemy now seated at Your table  
Jesus, thank You

By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near  
Your enemy You've made Your friend  
Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace  
Your mercy and Your kindness know no end

Lover of my soul, I want to live for You (repeat)

## THE BENEDICTION

### DOXOLOGY

**ALL**

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.

## CHILDREN'S GATHERING AND POSTLUDE

# New City News & Announcements

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Mark your calendar! It is time to change your clocks back. Daylight savings will occur NEXT WEEKEND, Sunday, November 3rd.

## MORNING MEN

Our next meeting is Monday, November 4th at 6:30 am. We will meet every other week through the end of the year. Join us for an hour of study, fellowship and breakfast at Jimi's Restaurant located at 714 S. Washington, Royal Oak. This group is intended for everyone, whether you're a long time Christian, new to the faith, or just exploring Christianity. We will aim to start as close as we can to 6:30 and keep our meeting to an hour to protect everyone's schedules. If you are planning to join us or if you have any questions, please contact Mike Bossenbroek ([mdbossenbroek@hotmail.com](mailto:mdbossenbroek@hotmail.com)).

## MILLWARD WELCOME LUNCHEON

**Sunday, November 10:** We couldn't be more thrilled welcome Dan Millward to the New City Pastoral Team! Dan will officially be welcomed as a New City pastor at our worship service on November 10th. Please mark this date as you will not want to miss this opportunity to welcome the Millwards as well as hear from our guest speaker, Dr. Richard Pratt. A special luncheon will be held in the Gathering Place after the service in honor of the Millwards!

Until November 10th, Dan and Laura will be visiting New City every other week. Dan will begin the groundwork for New City's second worship site in Midtown (New City will be one church with one pastoral team and two separate worship sites. Dan will be the lead pastor of the Midtown site.) Our congregation will be richly blessed with the addition of Dan to our pastoral team.

## SERVE LOCAL FAMILIES

In an effort to serve our community, please consider participating in the two following service projects: **1. Honey Baked Ham gift cards for those in need** - We will provide the Royal Oak Middle School with Honey Baked Ham gift cards to present to families with children attending the Royal Oak Middle School. These gift cards will enable families who, for a variety of reasons, might be struggling or in need to have a special Thanksgiving meal. Any gift card denominations will be appreciated. Please deposit gift cards in the offering box at the back of the auditorium or mail to the New City office (104 W. Fourth St. Suite 304, Royal Oak 48067) by November 20th.

**2. Hand sanitizer and kleenex boxes** - We are collecting hand sanitizer and kleenex boxes to give to the Royal Oak Middle School to use during the cold season! Please place items in the labeled box next to the book table in the hallway.

**NEW CITY  
KIDS  
NIGHT**

Mark your calendar: New City children ages 3 and up are invited to a night of fun including pizza dinner, Bible lessons, crafts and games on Friday, November 22nd from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. More details about this special event will be available soon!

**NEW CITY  
GROUPS  
STARTED**

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 Christian 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.

**ROYAL OAK | EVERY OTHER SUNDAY | 6:00PM**

This small group will discuss the sermon. Led and hosted by Mark + Amanda Krieg. 304 Oakdale Street.

Contact: mkriegiii@hotmail.com

**ROYAL OAK | EVERY OTHER SUNDAY | 1:00PM**

This small group will discuss the sermon. Led and hosted by Scott + Kelly Cairo. 509 W. 13 Mile Rd. Contact: kacairo1@yahoo.com

**ROYAL OAK | TUESDAYS | 7:00PM**

This small group will read and discuss a book on not wasting our lives. Led by Cameron Francis + Shelby Reynolds. 306 E 13 Mile Rd.

Contact: hello.shelbyreynolds@gmail.com

**FERNDALE | 1ST + 3RD SUNDAYS | 6:00PM**

This small group will discuss the sermon. Led and hosted by Evan + Liz Chisholm and Stefan + Amanda Schaefer. 438 E. Saratoga.

Contact: chisho21@gmail.com

**GROSSE POINTE | EVERY OTHER SUNDAY | 5:15PM**

This small group will discuss the sermon. Led and hosted by Jeff + Meredith Ammons. 747 Lakeland St.

Contact: meredithammons@hotmail.com

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Check out the New City website at [www.newcitypc.org](http://www.newcitypc.org) for an updated calendar of fall events.