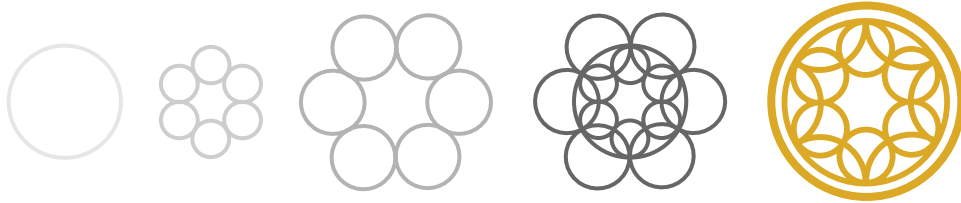




NEW CITY
presbyterian church

APRIL 11, 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

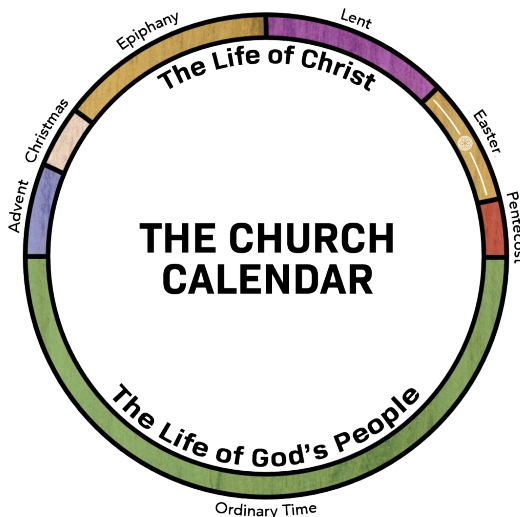
As we gather to worship this morning, take a moment to reflect on this important historical event as a way to prepare for an encounter with the living God.

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

*Holy is the Lord Almighty
Holy is the Lord Almighty*

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore Thee
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea
All the kings and rulers falling down before Thee
Who was and is and evermore shall be

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art Holy; There is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity
Jesus our Savior, mighty King of kings

PRAYER OF ADORATION

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.

Holy, Holy, Holy!

*Reginald Heber.
1826, Public Domain
CCLI #1156*

HYMN OF PRAISE

Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

*Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker.
© 2012, Bleecker Publishing
CCLI #7026028*

Come behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suffering
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hellbound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could ever restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive
What a foretaste of deliverance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes

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 dependance on—God's provision for the life and ministry of the Church.

CALL TO REPENTANCE

From Isaiah 1:18

As God draws us near and reveals Himself to us, we see our sin for what it is; an undeniable scarlet stain. God invites us to 'be reasonable' and come to Him so He can make us white as snow.

What is holding you back? What is it you fear?

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, mercy, and peace, the evidence against us is plain and we have been found guilty; we have failed to keep Your holy law, and our hearts have been unfaithful. But You, O Lord, call us to step out of the fear that entraps us, into the promise of life You have given us in Jesus Christ. May our faith—though imperfect—be sincere as we seek to grow in love for You and our neighbor.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

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

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.



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.

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.

Mark 2:1-12 (ESV)

¹ And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. ³ And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'?" ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"— he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." ¹² And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"



MINISTER
ALL

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

Sermon Series: Stained No More

Rev. Matt Luchenbill

Faith, Forgiveness, and Fixing

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

Exalted Son of glory humbly came down
Wounded for the broken, bore the sinners crown
Through the willing death you died
You became our Bread of Life

*Jesus, we hunger and thirst for you, Lord
As we remember your sacrifice
We see the wound from your hands and pierced side
Extravagant love, oh how great the price
Now our lives are yours*

The priceless blood of Jesus, this gracious cup
A life spring overflowing, poured out for us
He has conquered every sin
For the ones who trust in him

The cup we drink, the bread we eat
Reminds us you are all we need
And makes us long for your wedding feast

We Hunger And Thirst

*Alex Couch, Dave Fournier, George Romanacce.
© 2011, Sovereign Grace Praise
CCLI #6169277*



SENDING HYMN

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

*Edward Mote.
1834, Public Domain
CCLI #25417*

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust my sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the 'whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

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.

BUILDING MAP

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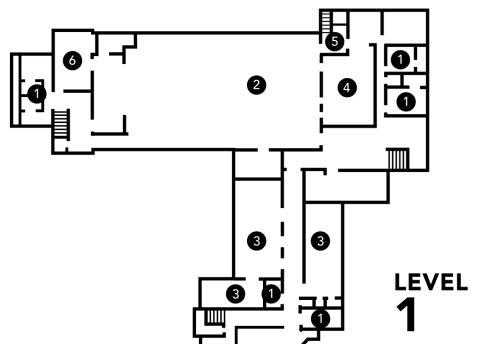
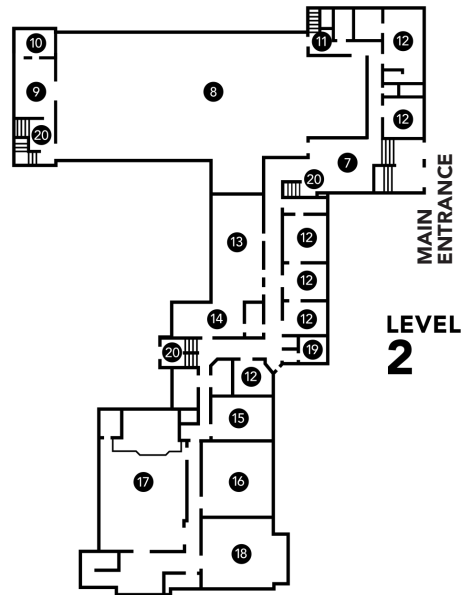
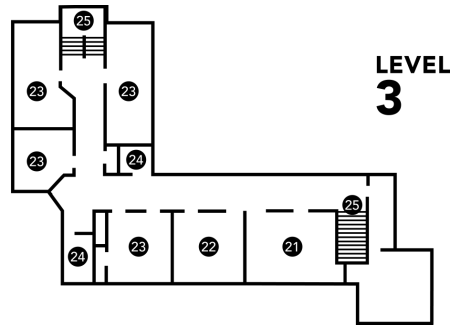
- 21 CONFERENCE ROOM
- 22 GRIFFIN WORKSPACE
- 23 STAFF OFFICES
- 24 RESTROOMS
- 25 STAIRS

2

- 7 WELCOME AREA
- 8 SANCTUARY
- 9 PINECREST LOBBY
- 10 CRYROOM
- ♿ 11 ELEVATOR
- 12 NURSERY
- 13 FIREPLACE ROOM
- 14 GARDEN ROOM
- 15 NC STUDENTS CAFE
- 16 NC STUDENTS REC ROOM
- 17 CHAPEL
- 18 DRAYTON ROOM
- ♿ 19 RESTROOMS
- 20 STAIRS

1

- 1 RESTROOMS
- 2 GATHERING PLACE
- 3 NC KIDS
- 4 KITCHEN
- 5 ELEVATOR
- 6 BACKSTAGE ROOM



CONTACT NEW CITY

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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

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Sign-up to receive our text notifications, by texting **[newcitytexts](https://newcitypc.org/texts)** to 97-000.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube under the **[newcitypc](https://newcitypc.org)** handle.

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#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.