

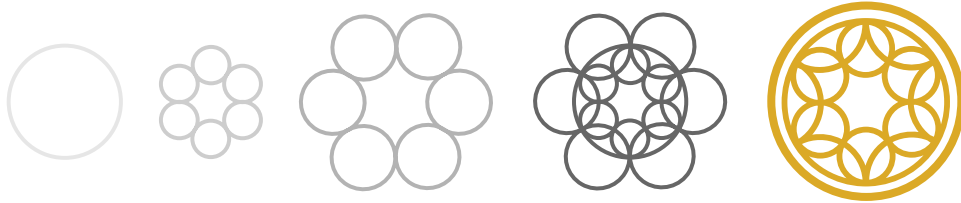


**NEW CITY**  
presbyterian church

**APRIL 18, 2021**

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# 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

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## 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

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# LITURGY FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

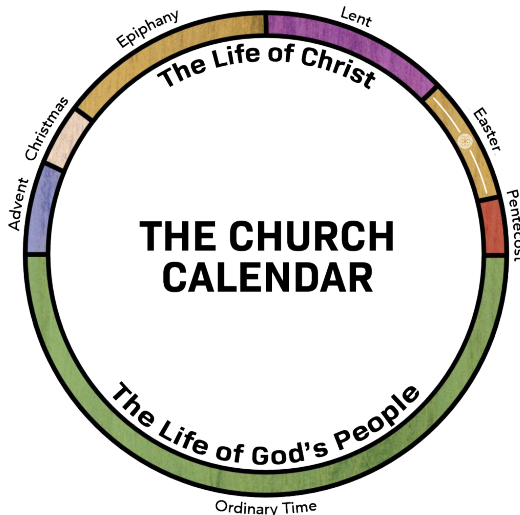
As we gather to worship this morning, take a moment to reflect on this important historical event as a way to prepare for an encounter with the living God.

## 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

### A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*Martin Luther, tr. Frederick H. Hedge.  
1528, Public Domain  
CCLI #42964*

A Mighty Fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing:  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

If we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right man on our side; the man of God's own choosing:  
You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;  
The Lord of Hosts, His name, from age to age the same.  
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us;

**MEN:** A Mighty Fortress is our God,  
**WOMEN:** His Kingdom is forever!

If we in our own strength confide,  
Our striving would be losing.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 41:10

<sup>10</sup>fear not, for I am with you;  
be not dismayed, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

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

### Begone Unbelief

*John Newton.*  
1803, Public Domain  
CCLI #2482343

Begone unbelief, my Savior is near, and for my relief will surely appear:  
By faith let me wrestle, with God in the storm  
And help me my Savior, the faith to adorn,  
And help me my Savior, the faith to adorn.

Though dark be my way, since He is my guide, 'tis mine to obey, and His to provide;  
Though cisterns be broken, and creatures all fail,  
The Word he has spoken will surely prevail,  
The Word he has spoken will surely prevail.

*/// Begone unbelief, the Savior is here ///*  
*Though cisterns be broken and creatures all fail,*  
*The Word he has spoken will surely prevail,*  
*The Word he has spoken will surely prevail.*

Why should I complain, of want or distress, temptation or pain? He told me no less.  
The heirs of salvation, I know from his word,  
Through much tribulation must follow their Lord,  
Through much tribulation must follow their Lord.

Since all that I meet will work for my good, the bitter is sweet, the medicine food;  
Though painful at present, will cease before long,  
And then, O how glorious, the Conqueror's song,  
And then, O how glorious, the Conqueror's song!

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

?

How did you relate to God this past week? Did you blame him for your circumstances more than you praised him for his wisdom? Did you forget or ignore him more than you sought him in prayer and devotion? Did you taste the sweetness of your idols more than you tasted the sweetness of the gospel?

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we gather as Your holy people to worship You, but seldom do we live as You have called us to live.

We entertain temptation, and fall into its trap; we point out sins in others, but fail to acknowledge our own; we think too highly of ourselves when we manage to get a few things right, but forget our absolute dependence on You.

Jesus, forgive us our sin, and cause Your Spirit to bear fruit in our lives as we seek to honor You. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

1 John 1:7-9

<sup>7</sup>[...] the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

## 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](http://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



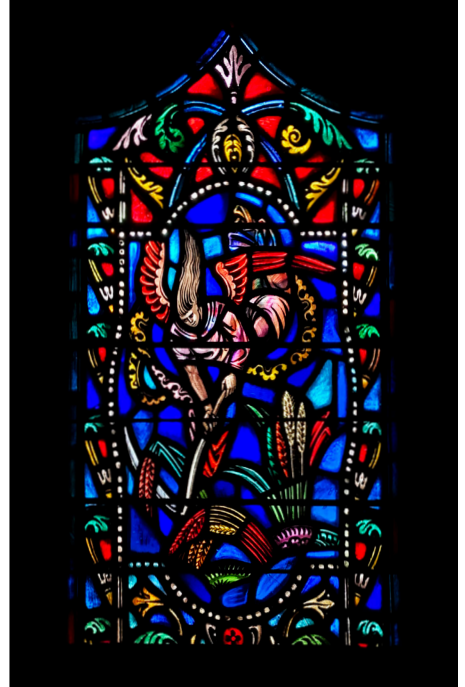
# THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

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.

## Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (ESV)

<sup>24</sup> He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup> but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup> And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' <sup>28</sup> He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' <sup>29</sup> But he said, No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" [...] <sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went

into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." <sup>37</sup> He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.



MINISTER  
ALL

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



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**The Problem of Evil**

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# 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

Oh, to see the dawn  
Of the darkest day:  
Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men,  
Torn and beaten, then  
Nailed to a cross of wood.

*This, the power of the cross:  
Christ became sin for us;  
Took the blame, bore the wrath—  
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

Oh, to see the pain  
Written on Your face,  
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.  
Every bitter thought,  
Every evil deed  
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

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### The Power Of The Cross

*Keith Getty, Stuart Townend.  
© 2005, ThankYou Music  
CCLI #4490766*

Now the daylight flees;  
Now the ground beneath  
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.  
Curtain torn in two,  
Dead are raised to life;  
“Finished!” the victory cry.

Oh, to see my name  
Written in the wounds,  
For through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death;  
Life is mine to live,  
Won through Your selfless love.

*This, the power of the cross:  
Son of God—slain for us.  
What a love! What a cost!  
We stand forgiven at the cross.*



## SENDING HYMN

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### Blessed Assurance

Jaywan Maxwell, Michael Farren, Nathan Singh, Rhyan Shirley.  
© 2016, Farren Love And War Publishing  
CCLI #7073328

All my attempts to be satisfied were vain and empty  
Until the moment You rescued me and your love filled me  
My soul sings; Now my soul sings

*What blessed assurance  
I've found in You, I've found in You  
I won't be shaken I will not be moved  
How steadfast your strong hand  
Is keeping me, is keeping me  
I won't be shaken I will not be moved  
Oh blessed assurance*

No other love that I've ever known compares to You, God  
No other love that I've ever found has done what you've done  
My soul sings; Now my soul sings

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

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# 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.

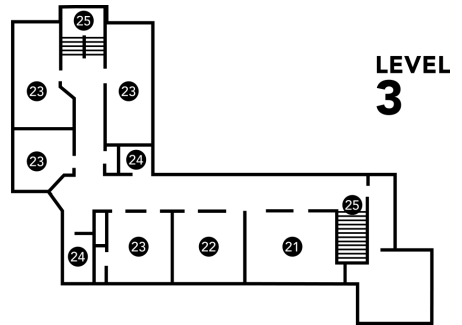


For perspective and practical tips regarding worshipping alongside children, please read our "Worshipping with Little Ones" article in our New City Journal by scanning this QR code.

# BUILDING MAP

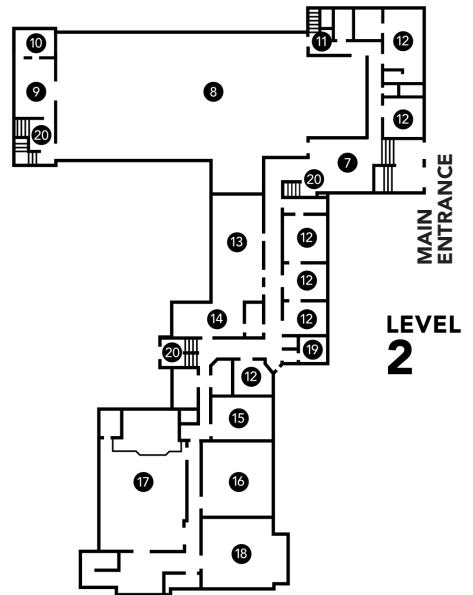
**3**

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



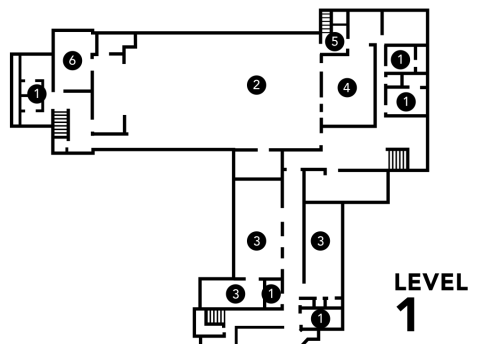
**2**

- 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



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# CONTACT NEW CITY

## **PASTORAL NEEDS**

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Visit our website at:  
**NEWCITYPC.ORG**

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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.

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## CONTACT INFO

(248) 808-2523  
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*New City News* is our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe to receive the latest news at **[newcitypc.org/subscribe](https://newcitypc.org/subscribe)**

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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**CCLI LICENSE**  
#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](https://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.