

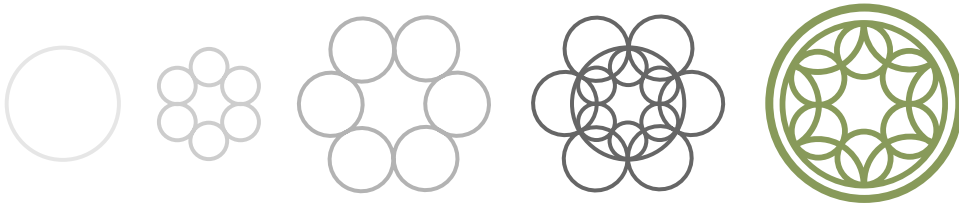


NEW CITY
presbyterian church

JUNE 20, 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

Praise To The Lord The Almighty

*Joachim Neander, Tr. Catherine Winkworth.
1680/1863, Public Domain
CCLI #2648022*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
Praise Him in glad adoration; Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who over all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all your longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth? Granted in what He ordaineth.

*Praise Him, Praise Him;
O my soul praise Him. (Praise Christ our King!)*

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriend thee; If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him; Gladly forever adore Him

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 127:1-2

¹ Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.
² It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.



HYMN OF PRAISE

Jesus Thank You

Pat Sczebel.

© 2003 Integrity's Hosanna! Music
CCLI #4475341

The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend
The agonies of Calvary
You the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son
Who 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

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 or by scanning the QR code.

Alternatively, A dropbox is available in the Welcome Area for cash or check 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



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 2:12-26 (ESV)

¹² So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly. For what can the man do who comes after the king? Only what has already been done. ¹³ Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. ¹⁴ The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. ¹⁵ Then I said in my heart, "What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?" And I said in my heart that this also is vanity. ¹⁶ For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! ¹⁷ So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind. ¹⁸ I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³ For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. ²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶ For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

MINISTER
ALL

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



Sermon Series: Life Under The Sun

Rev. Ryan McVicar

Outsmarting & Outworking Life Under the Sun

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.

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.

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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.

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All who can examine themselves regarding their faith and participation in Christ, are invited to participate in the Lord's Table.

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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

CALL TO REPENTANCE

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, to know you is the fulfillment of our deepest longings and the satisfaction of our desires. Yet foolishly we have sought our pleasures elsewhere. We have put the seeking of idols, which are bound to leave us insecure and empty, above seeking you. We have failed to love you with our whole heart, soul, and mind. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us. Cleanse us. Renew our hearts and lead us into newness of life for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Proverbs 28:13

¹³ Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

HYMN AT THE TABLE

There Is A Fountain

*William Cowper.
1772, Public Domain
CCLI #27707*

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day
And there may I though vile as he wash all my sins away
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away
And there may I though vile as he wash all my sins away

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed Church of God be saved to sin no more
Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more
Till all the ransomed Church of God be saved to sin no more

Ever since by faith I saw the stream, Thy flowing wounds supply
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die

When this poor lispng stammering tongue lies silent in the grave
Then in a nobler sweeter song I'll sing Thy power to save
I'll sing Thy power to save, I'll sing Thy power to save
Then in a nobler sweeter song I'll sing Thy power to save

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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

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

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

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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.