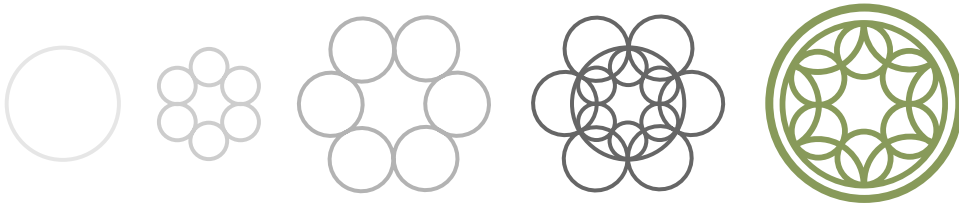


JULY 18, 2021

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

Holy, Holy, Holy!

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

*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

Baptism is the washing with water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to signify and seal three spiritual realities:

- 1) Our ingrafting into the body of Christ.
- 2) Our partaking of the covenant of grace.
- 3) Our engagement to be the Lord's

THE SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

Today, we are delighted to celebrate the baptism of *James Eastland Richardson*, son of Cole and Anne Eastland Richardson, born July 16th, 2020.

BAPTISM VOWS

PARENTAL VOWS:

Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God's covenant promises on behalf of your child, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you have for your own?

Do you now unreservedly commit your child to God, and promise in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of the Christian Faith, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

CONGREGATIONAL VOWS:

Will you, as members of New City Church, promise to guide and nurture Cole, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of His Church?

BAPTISMAL READING

James 1:17-18

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

BAPTISMAL PRAYER PASTORAL PRAYER

The Baptismal prayer is a prayer offered by the minister to bless the covenant child, or confessing adult, as they grow deeper into the reality of their baptism. It's also a call to church members to remember God's faithfulness and find strength in their own baptism.



HYMN OF PRAISE

To God Be The Glory

Fanny Crosby.
1875, Public Domain
CCLI #23426

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son.
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the lifegate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

In praise to God, and in celebration of a wonderful week of exploring God's truth in Scripture during Kids' Camp, our NC Kids will sing their theme song.

NC KIDS CAMP THEME SONG: IT'S TRUE

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.

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 6 (ESV)

¹ There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind: ² a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous evil. ³ If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life's good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he. ⁴ For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered. ⁵ Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. ⁶ Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place?

⁷ All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. ⁸ For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? ⁹ Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind.

¹⁰ Whatever has come to be has already been named, and it is known what man is, and that he is not able to dispute with one stronger than he. ¹¹ The more words, the more vanity, and what is the advantage to man? ¹² For who knows what is good for man while he lives the few days of his vain life, which he passes like a shadow? For who can tell man what will be after him under the sun?

PREACHER
ALL

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



Sermon Series: Life Under The Sun
The Devaastation of Discontentment

Rev. Ryan McVicar

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.

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.

MINISTER

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

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

CALL TO REPENTANCE

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you are holy and worthy of all praise. We humble ourselves before you to confess our sin: Our hearts and minds obsess over the passing things of this world, rather than being fixed on your everlasting kingdom. We allow circumstances and feelings to govern our lives rather than the truth of your Word and the guidance of your Spirit. Our interactions with others lack the love and grace you have been so quick to extend to us, your children. Lord, have mercy on our idolatrous hearts and forgive us our sin. In Jesus' powerful name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

From Psalm 103

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

HYMN AT THE TABLE

My Worth Is Not In What I Own

Graham Kendrick, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty.
© 2014, Make Way Music
CCLI #7024758

My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love at the cross

My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose, in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross

*I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest Treasure,
Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him, no other
My soul is satisfied in Him alone*

As summer flowers we fade and die
Fame, youth and beauty hurry by
But life eternal calls to us at the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed, my ransom paid at the cross

MINISTER

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

Before The Throne Of God Above

*Charitie Lees Bancroft, Vikki Cook.
1860, Public Domain
CCLI #2306412*

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a 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 heaven He stands
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.

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.

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

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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.