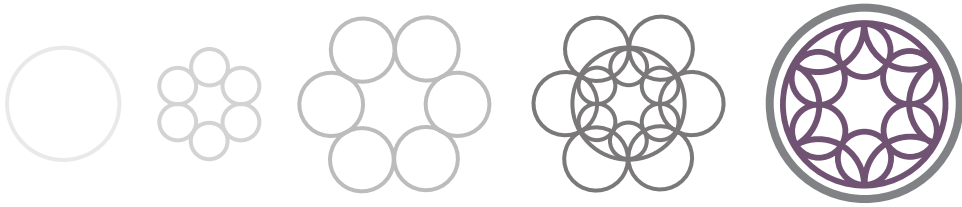




NEW CITY
presbyterian church

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

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.

It is our privilege to welcome you and to invite you to be astonished, together with us, by the splendor and grace of God.

New City Ruling Elders

Jeff Ammons	(313) 938-4581	jeff.ammons@newcitypc.org
Scott Cairo	(313) 908-3054	scott.cairo@newcitypc.org
Oliver Jeromin	(505) 803-5280	oliver.jeromin@newcitypc.org
Mark Krieg	(248) 463-8844	mark.krieg@newcitypc.org
Ken Reynolds	(248) 808-8360	ken.reynolds@newcitypc.org



NEW CITY VISION & VALUES

*To be a church in awe of God,
made new by the gospel, for the sake of all people.*

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

From Isaiah 55:1-7

LEADER

"Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Incline your ear, and come to me;

ALL

hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant
"Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near

GATHERING HYMN

Speak, O Lord

*Keith Getty, Stuart Townend.
© 2005, Thankyou Music
CCLI #4615235*

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for Your glory

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience
Holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of power that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

THE SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

Today, we are delighted to celebrate the baptism of Tarek Bakker, son of Marshall & Maris Bakker..

Baptism is the washing with water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to signify and seal these 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

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 Tarek by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ, and to be a faithful member of His Church?

BAPTISMAL READING

Revelation 22:16-17

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

The Baptismal prayer is offered to entrust the baptized to God, as they grow deeper into the reality of their baptism. It also serves church members as a reminder of God's covenantal faithfulness in their own baptism.



HYMN OF PRAISE

Behold Our God

*Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, Stephen Altrogge.
© 2011 Sovereign Grace Praise
CCLI #5937510*

Who has held the oceans in His hands
Who has numbered every grain of sand
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

*Behold our God seated on His throne,
come let us adore Him
Behold our King nothing can compare,
come let us adore Him*

Who has given counsel to the Lord
Who can question any of His words
Who can teach the One who knows all things
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

Who has felt the nails upon His hand
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus Savior risen now to reign

You will reign forever
(Let Your glory fill the earth)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



The word "doxology" comes from the Greek translation of the Old Testament word for worship. Throughout our service, we respond to the gospel of God's grace with songs of praise!



As a confessional church, we participate in the rich heritage of biblically faithful summaries which seek to build and strengthen our faith in Christ. Creeds, Confessions, and Catechisms serve us in this regard, along with biblical confessions.

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 we can follow-up with you.



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.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*Thomas Ken.
1551, Public Domain*

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.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 63-64

- Q.** How can our good works be said to merit nothing when God promises to reward them in this life and the next?
- A.** This reward is not earned; it is a gift of grace.
- Q.** But doesn't this teaching make people indifferent and wicked?
- A.** No. It is impossible for those grafted into Christ through true faith not to produce fruits of gratitude.

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.

The Pastoral Prayer is a time to express our gratitude for—and dependence on—God's provision for the life and ministry of His Church.

In anticipation of the proclamation of God's Word, we lift a prayer of illumination to God asking Him to speak to us through His living and active 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.

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Elder Jeff Ammons

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Joshua 8 (ESV)

¹ And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear and do not be dismayed. Take all the fighting men with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, and his people, his city, and his land. ² And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its livestock you shall take as plunder for yourselves. Lay an ambush against the city, behind it."

³ So Joshua and all the fighting men arose to go up to Ai. And Joshua chose 30,000 mighty men of valor and sent them out by night. ⁴ And he commanded them, "Behold, you shall lie in ambush against the city, behind it. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you remain ready. ⁵ And I and all the people who are with me will approach the city. And when they come out against us just as before, we shall flee before them. ⁶ And they will come out after us, until we have drawn them away from the city. For they will say, 'They are fleeing from us, just as before.' So we will flee before them. ⁷ Then you shall rise up from the ambush and seize the city, for the LORD your God will give it into your hand. ⁸ And as soon as you have taken the city, you shall set the city on fire. You shall do according to the word of the LORD. See, I have commanded you." ⁹ So Joshua sent them out. And they went to the place of ambush and lay between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai, but Joshua spent that night among the people.

¹⁰ Joshua arose early in the morning and mustered the people and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai. ¹¹ And all the fighting men who were with him went up and drew near before the city and encamped on the north side of Ai, with a ravine between them and Ai. ¹² He took about 5,000 men and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, to the west of the city.

¹³ So they stationed the forces, the main encampment that was north of the city and its rear guard west of the city. But Joshua spent that night in the valley. ¹⁴ And as soon as the king of Ai saw this, he and all his people, the men of the city, hurried and went out early to the appointed place toward the Arabah to meet Israel in battle. But he did not know that there was an ambush against him behind the city. ¹⁵ And Joshua and all Israel pretended to be beaten before them and fled in the direction of the wilderness. ¹⁶ So all the people who were in the city were called together to pursue them, and as they pursued Joshua they were drawn away from the city. ¹⁷ Not a man was left in Ai or Bethel who did not go out after Israel. They left the city open and pursued Israel. ¹⁸ Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Stretch out the javelin that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand." And Joshua stretched out the javelin that was in his hand toward the city. ¹⁹ And the men in the ambush rose quickly out of their place, and as soon as he had stretched out his hand, they ran and entered the city and captured it. And they hurried to set the city on fire. ²⁰ So when the men of Ai looked back, behold, the smoke of the city went up to heaven, and they had no power to flee this way or that, for the people who fled to the wilderness turned back against the pursuers. ²¹ And when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had captured the city, and that the smoke of the city went up, then they turned back and struck down the men of Ai. ²² And the others came out from the city against them, so they were in the midst of Israel, some on this side, and some on that side. And Israel struck them down, until there was left none that survived or escaped. ²³ But the king of Ai they took alive, and brought him near to Joshua. ²⁴ When Israel had finished killing all the inhabitants of Ai in the open wilderness where they pursued them, and all of them to the very last had fallen by the edge of the sword, all Israel returned to Ai and struck it down with the edge of the sword. ²⁵ And all who fell that day, both men and women, were 12,000, all the people of Ai. ²⁶ But Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction. ²⁷ Only the livestock and the spoil of that city Israel took as their plunder, according to the word of the LORD that he commanded Joshua. ²⁸ So Joshua burned Ai and made it forever a heap of ruins, as it is to this day. ²⁹ And he hanged the king of Ai on a tree until evening. And at sunset Joshua commanded, and they took his body down from the tree and threw it at the entrance of the gate of the city and raised over it a great heap of stones, which stands there to this day. ³⁰ At that time Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal, ³¹ just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the people of Israel, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, "an altar of uncut stones, upon which no man has wielded an iron tool." And they offered on it burnt offerings to the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings. ³² And there, in the presence of the people of Israel, he wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he had written. ³³ And all Israel, sojourner as well as native born, with their elders and officers and their judges, stood on opposite sides of the ark before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded at the first, to bless the people of Israel. ³⁴ And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law. ³⁵ There was not a word of all that Moses commanded that Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the sojourners who lived among them.

Sermon Series:

Taking Courage In A Covenant God

Rev. Matt Luchenbill



?????

Parents wanting to have their children alongside them during communion and for the remainder of the service, may now pick them up from their Kids' Bible Time classes.



CHILDREN'S PICK-UP (NOT REQUIRED)

HYMN OF RESPONSE

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

*Edward Mote.
1834, Public Domain*

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.

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 bread and the wine (gluten-free cracker 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.

CALL TO REPENTANCE

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 our merciful God.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

○ Lord, our God, forgive us for seeking refuge and security in many other things and people rather than in You. Pardon us for living in the bondage of sin's dominion rather than in the security of Your covenantal love. Deliver us from our distrust in Your promises, our unwillingness to forgive others, and our consuming pride. Lord, how comforting it is to know that You declare sinners like us completely forgiven, totally accepted and profoundly loved through faith in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

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 in Christ.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jeremiah 31:33-34

³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ [...] For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

MINISTER

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

INVITATION & FENCING OF THE TABLE

MINISTER

This prayer is offered to set apart the bread and the wine as holy, for the purpose of spiritually nourishing us through our communing with Christ

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

ALL

HYMN AT THE TABLE

Nothing But The Blood Of Jesus

*Robert Lowry.
1876, Public Domain*

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus!*

For my pardon this I see.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my cleansing, this my plea.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Naught of good that I have done
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

MINISTER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PARTAKING OF THE BREAD & WINE

The Words of Institution echo
Jesus' words at the Last Supper,
which now invite us to partake
of the bread and wine in
remembrance of Him.



SENDING HYMN

To God Be The Glory

Fanny Crosby.
1875, Public Domain

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.

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

BENEDICTION

Our gathered worship service
concludes with God's blessing;
a joyful declaration of God's
satisfaction in us in Jesus
Christ, and a vow to be in
fellowship with us wherever
we may go.

CONTACT NEW CITY

(248) 808-2523

2441 Pinecrest Dr.

Ferndale, MI 48220

info@newcitypc.org

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Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

under the **@newcitypc** handle.

PASTORAL NEEDS

New City Elders

matt.luchenbill@newcitypc.org

session@newcitypc.org

WORSHIP, MEDIA, & COMMUNICATIONS

Javier Contesse

javier.contesse@newcitypc.org

STUDENT MINISTRY

Cameron & Remy Dickinson

cameron.dickinson@newcitypc.org

remy.dickinson@newcitypc.org

Jennifer Schoon

jennifer.schoon@newcitypc.org

NEW CITY KIDS

Brigitte Bailey

brigitte.bailey@newcitypc.org

NURSERY & TODDLERS

Angela Wood

angela.wood@newcitypc.org

OFFICE & FINANCIAL NEEDS

Tracy Reynolds

tracy.reynolds@newcitypc.org

EVENTS NEEDS

Michelle Luchenbill

michelle.luchenbill@newcitypc.org



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.



CHURCH CENTER

Church Center is our hub for all things New City. From knowing what's happening next, to signing up for an event or small group, to requesting baptism or prayer, to online giving, all your next steps for getting involved at New City are there at newcitypc.churchcenter.com



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!

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WIFI PASSWORD

NewCity2022!

Visit our website at:

NEWCITYPC.ORG