

NEW CITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**A GATHERED SERVICE
OF WORSHIP**

MAY 5, 2013

Welcome to New City Presbyterian Church. We're delighted that you've joined us this morning for our gathered service of worship. Our community 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 and the central message of the Bible to be 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 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 Presbyterian Church exists to be a community rooted in truth, real in conversation and committed to renewing our lives and our city.

As the Pastor at New City, it is my privilege to extend to you an invitation to come be part of the New City Church community and to be astonished, together with us, by the splendor and grace of God.

- Ryan McVicar

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
to whoever will come - this church opens wide her doors
and offers you welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD



REFLECTION & SILENT PREPARATION

“The gospel is the message of God’s redeeming love in sending his own Son into the world. Those who understand that love will be driven to share it. They will not only rejoice to sit down with other redeemed sinners in heaven’s feast; they will seek other sinners in Christ’s name to call them home. As Christ was sent, so he sends them, and the dynamic of mission is the heart of the love of God.”

Edmund P. Clowney

“Mission begins with a kind of explosion of joy. The news that the rejected and crucified Jesus is alive is something that cannot possibly be suppressed. It must be told. Who could be silent about such a fact?”

Lesslie Newbigin

“...there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:12

PASTOR'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN OF PRAISE

“PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY”

*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 to the Lord
Who o'er 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*

*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*

*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, for ever adore Him*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

 Please stand

DECLARATION OF THE LAW

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-15

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or complaining, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL God of all grace, we confess that we are real sinners, but in Christ you have given us a real Savior. Produce in us a faith to to make him our desire, our hope, our delight. Guard us from the ways of this present world, so that its smiles never allure us, its frowns never terrify us, its vices never defile us, its errors never delude us. Cause us to live as strangers and pilgrims in the cities of this earth, knowing that our true citizenship is in the Kingdom of heaven, so that all we do may be done to the Savior's glory; in whose name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF THE GOSPEL

SONG

“PSALM 130 (FROM THE DEPTHS OF WOE)” 

*From the depths of woe I raise to Thee
The voice of lamentation;
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
And hear my supplication;
If Thou iniquities dost mark,
Our secret sins and misdeeds dark,
O who shall stand before Thee?
O who shall stand before Thee?*

 Please stand

*To wash away the crimson stain,
Grace, grace alone availeth;
Our works, alas! Are all in vain;
In much the best life faileth;
No man can glory in Thy sight,
All must alike confess Thy might,
And live alone by mercy
And live alone by mercy*

*Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit;
On Him my soul shall rest, His word
Upholds my fainting spirit;
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience
I wait for it with patience*

*Though great our sins and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow
From all their sin and sorrow*

BRINGING GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

MINISTER Generous Father, giver of all gifts, who purchased us at the immeasurable cost of the blood of your son, sharing his inheritance of the riches of your kingdom and lavishing your love on us:

ALL We joyfully and freely give back to you what is yours with thanksgiving and we profane the power, seduction and human splendor that money has been endowed with. We now return it to its status as any other object, to be used to glorify your Name.

“BE THOU MY VISION”


*Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, And Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one*

*Riches I heed not, Nor man's empty praise
Thou my inheritance now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, My Treasure Thou art*

RESPONDING WITH GRATITUDE

“DOXOLOGY” 

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Amen.* 

 Please stand



*K4-3rd grade are welcome to
join the children in the Kids City
room for Children's Worship*

SCRIPTURE READING

ACTS 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2 until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

MINISTER “All people are like grass, and all their beauty is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades,”

ALL “But the word of our God stands forever.”

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SERIES: The Acts of Jesus In and Through His Church

SERMON: "SEEING HIS PLANS THROUGH"

Acts 1:1-11

Notes and Thoughts for New City Group Discussions About the Sunday Sermon

PASTORAL PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

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 word of encouragement. If you are not a Christian, we encourage you to spend this time reflecting on the prayers printed below in the hopes that a relationship with Jesus and membership in His Church may be considered.

We will be coming forward to participate in Communion. Clear cups (located on the perimeter of the tray) contain grape juice. Red cups (interior of tray) contain wine.

Jesus is truly and spiritually present and stands ready to feed you. Come hungry. Come thirsty. Come ready to be filled.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Philippians 2:6-11

MINISTER Whom do we worship as our Lord and King?

ALL We worship Jesus as our Lord and King, “who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION COMMUNION PRAYERS

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 this 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, therefore, O Lord, the grace to commune now with Christ by faith, that I may evermore live in him and he in me. Amen.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

The ministry of prayer is one of the ways we live together as a community of believers and seekers. During Communion, members of our prayer team are available at the front and back of the sanctuary. It would be our privilege to pray with you as we walk together through the joys and struggles of life.

COMMUNION SONG

“THE POWER OF THE CROSS”

*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*

CHORUS *This, the pow’r 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
Ev’ry bitter thought, Ev’ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow*

*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 vict’ry 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 pow’r of the cross
Son of Godslain for us
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross*

HYMN OF DEPARTURE

“IN CHRIST ALONE” 

*In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

*In Christ alone! - who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This Gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live*

*There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ*

BENEDICTION & THE CHILDREN'S GATHERING

*No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand*

 Please stand

NEW CITY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New City Kids Music Camp: Save the date! July 10 - 14 (Wed - Fri 9am to 12noon, Saturday evening bbq and Sunday morning worship with the kids participating) is our first ever Summer Kids Camp. We hope your kids (ages 4 - 12) will join us for this music-rich, gospel-saturated and fun-filled camp. The camp will be even better if you invite friends and neighbors. We are in need of women volunteers (teen and up) to serve and lead different aspects of the camp. The camp is free! To register or volunteer, please check the box on pg. 14 and note the number of children you are registering, along with their age. Nursery will be provided for our volunteers. For more information, email Mandi at kids@newcitypc.org.

New City Groups New City is committed to deep and transformational community life and the backbone of our community life is found in New City Groups. These regional small groups (8-12 people) serve as our primary vehicle for spiritual formation, study, prayer, discipleship and mission. They are essential for keeping the church small enough for people to connect relationally between Sundays and local enough for people to exercise their gifts and passions for needs in our neighborhoods and networks. Find more information at the Welcome Table or email Ryan at ryan@newcitypc.org.

Sunday Picnics As you know, New City deeply values community and relationships. One avenue for this on a weekly basis throughout the Spring and Summer months (weather permitting) is to enjoy our Sunday Picnics. All are invited to bring a “brown bag” lunch or pick up something to eat after our worship services to gather on the lawn behind the Middle School. Feel free to bring a football, soccerball, frisbee or anything else as all ages enjoy some laid-back time together after worship.

Sermons can be found here: newcitypc.org/sundays/sermons

Servant Team We are organizing a “Servant Team” comprised of people who will invest their time, energy and skills on Sunday mornings to assist in the set-up and take-down needs before and after our gathered service of worship. New City will be blessed to have you prayerfully consider being on one of these rotations serving to beautify our sanctuary, disinfect nursery toys, set up the welcome area, prepare coffee and much more. We’re confident you will enjoy fellowshiping with others as you serve together. Whether you serve weekly, monthly or every other month, you will help to make New City stronger. Thank you for your willingness to serve! To join this team, check the box on pg. 14 and we will contact you with details.

Facebook Like us on Facebook to receive news, updates and pictures.
www.facebook.com/newcitypc

NEW CITY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tigers Game Following the Worship Service on June 9th, we will head downtown to enjoy each other's fellowship at a Tigers game! Tix are limited and can be purchased from Steve Sharp near the welcome table following the service (beginning today). Tickets are \$20. Please make checks to New City Church. Tickets will be given to you upon payment and cannot be reserved or held for you in advance. We hope you will join us! Steve can be reached at sharpie77@yahoo.com

Nursery and Children's Ministry To learn more about the vision, philosophy, safety standards and curriculum of the New City Kids ministry, visit www.newcitypc.org/kids/vision. Here are a few of the ways we hope to serve your family:

- *New City Nursery:* We are delighted to work hard to provide the highest level of safety, care and Christian nurture for children ages **0 - 3** in our Sunday nursery. For more information, contact Mandi Krieg (Children's Ministry Director) at kids@newcitypc.org
- *New City Kids Bible Time:* Children **K4 - 3rd Grade** are invited to enjoy rich Christian teaching and training in the Kids area during the sermon.
- *Family Balcony:* Families with young children are invited to stay throughout the entire worship service as well. Feel free to sit in the balcony if it will serve you to nurse your infant or sit with younger children needing to move around. Coloring pages and Kids Sermon Notes available in back.

VISITOR AND EVENT INFORMATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

- Membership at New City? I would like to learn more.
- We plan to attend the New City Kids Music Camp (list ages below)
- Pastor's Dessert? I would like to come and learn more about New City
- I have questions about the Bible or questions about becoming a Christian and would like to discuss these questions with someone.
- I am interested in serving on the "Servant Team" (details on pg. 13)

CONTACT

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