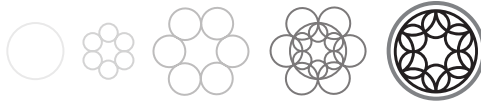


**NEW CITY**  
presbyterian church

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024**





## WELCOME TO NEW CITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful to have you with us as we worship God today. This bulletin is intended to help guide you through the elements of our worship service, including explanations of why we do what we do in corporate worship. We invite you to prepare your heart to come into the presence of our Triune God.

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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.

## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

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John 1:9-18

- MINISTER**                   <sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
- CONGREGATION**           <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.
- MINISTER**                   <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.
- CONGREGATION**           <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
- MINISTER**                   <sup>14</sup> And the Word became w and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- EVERYONE**                   <sup>16</sup> For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.  
<sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## GATHERING HYMN

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O Come, All Ye Faithful

*John Francis Wade.  
1751, Public Domain.*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;

*O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

God of God, Light of Light;  
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten not created;

*O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

*O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning:  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing;

*O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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## HYMN OF GLORY

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Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley.

1739, Public Domain.

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"*

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild, He lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"*

# LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES

True worship is biblical  
worship. Throughout  
our worship service,  
we read, pray, and sing  
the words of Scripture.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

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Psalm 24

<sup>1</sup> The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,  
the world and those who dwell therein,

<sup>2</sup> for he has founded it upon the seas  
and established it upon the rivers.

<sup>3</sup> Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?  
And who shall stand in his holy place?

<sup>4</sup> He who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not lift up his soul to what is false  
and does not swear deceitfully.

<sup>5</sup> He will receive blessing from the LORD  
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

<sup>6</sup> Such is the generation of those who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah

<sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>8</sup> Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle!

<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And lift them up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>10</sup> Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory! Selah



## HYMN OF PRAISE

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### See Amid The Winter's Snow

*Edward Caswell.  
1851, Public Domain.*

See, amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the starry skies:  
He who, throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim.

Sacred infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this!

The Call To Repentance is an invitation to privately examine and prepare our hearts to confess our sins

## CALL TO REPENTANCE

Isaiah 55:6-7

<sup>6</sup> "Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;  
<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

ALL

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Holy God, we stand before You tonight, acknowledging that our hearts are not pure. We confess that we have not waited with humble expectation, nor have we watched for Your revelation with faithful eyes. We have allowed fear, distraction, and self-interest to veil our sight, missing the true wonder of Your coming among us. Forgive us for our restless hearts that seek hope, peace, joy, and love in shallow promises rather than resting in Your truth. Cleanse our hands and purify our hearts, that we might lift our heads to behold Your glory and welcome Your Son with joy and reverence. Teach us to recognize and celebrate the redemption You have prepared for all who long for Your appearing. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and King. Amen.

## SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness

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.

We take a moment to search our hearts and confess specific ways we have offended God and transgressed His Holy Law

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.



## HYMN OF GRACE

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
From heav'n's all-gracious King";  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats  
O'er all the weary world:  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast'ning on,  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

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.

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It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

*Edward Caswell.*

*1851, Public Domain.*

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# 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.

## Luke 2:33-40 (ESV)

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.



**DECEMBER 24**

Luke 1:46-55

"Te Deum  
Laudamus"

**DECEMBER 29**

Revelation 15:3-4

"Canticum Moysi  
et Agni Dei"

**"Te Deum Laudamus"**



## DOXOLOGY

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!

Praise God who promised long ago  
A Savior, fount of all our hope;  
Emmanuel, our God and King.  
All praise, in Spirit, to Him bring!  
Amen.

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Praise God Who Promised Long Ago  
*Javier Contesse. © 2019..*



## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

We confess the mystery and wonder  
of God made flesh  
and rejoice in our great salvation  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
With the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
the Son created all things,  
sustains all things,  
and makes all things new.  
Truly God,  
He became truly man,  
two natures in one person.  
He was born of the Virgin Mary  
and lived among us.  
Crucified, dead, and buried,  
He rose on the third day,  
ascended to heaven,  
and will come again  
in glory and judgment.  
For us,  
He kept the Law,  
atoned for sin,  
and satisfied God's wrath.  
He took our filthy rags  
and gave us  
His righteous robe.  
He is our Prophet, Priest, and King,  
building His church,  
interceding for us,  
and reigning over all things.  
Jesus Christ is Lord;  
we praise His holy Name forever.  
Amen.

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Ligonier Statement on Christology



## HYMN OF PRAISE

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O Holy Night

Tr. John S. Dwight, Javier Contesse.  
1847, Public Domain.

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

*Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born.  
O night divine! O night, O night divine!*

Led by the light of faith wrought by the Spirit,  
Our grateful hearts as an off'ring we bring.  
All wage of sin no longer heav'ly weighing,  
For all our guilt He would bear on the tree.  
The King of Kings lay lowly in a manger,  
In human flesh, The Son of God behold!

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
All the redeemed, now fan the flame together  
Till His return, in His Spirit, and His Word.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy name!



## SENDING HYMN

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Joy To The World

Isaac Watts.  
1719, Public Domain.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns  
Let men their songs employ  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found  
Far as the curse is found  
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders, and wonders of His love

## 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.



# New City exists to be a church in awe of God, made new by the gospel, for the sake of all people.

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### VISITORS & GUESTS

If you are new to New City, we would love to be able to welcome you personally. 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

To access our calendar, register for events, join a small group, request prayer, schedule a baptism, give online, or access the membership directory, download our app at [newcitypc.churchcenter.com](http://newcitypc.churchcenter.com).



### NEWSLETTER & SMS

Subscribe to "New City News" at [newcitypc.org/subscribe](http://newcitypc.org/subscribe) to receive our weekly email newsletter. To receive text notifications, text "newcitytexts" to **97-000**.



### PRAYER

If you would like to share a prayer request with the elders and prayer team, please scan this QR code to share it with us. It would be our privilege to pray with you and for you.

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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)