

Welcome to Christ Presbyterian Church of New Haven!

As a church committed to Greater New Haven, we hope to serve and reach both downtown New Haven and the surrounding edge towns. We believe that the gospel transcends all ethnic, social, and demographic boundaries. We are ambitious for the glory of God and aim to extend a Christ-centered gospel throughout Greater New Haven.



We want to connect with you so please take the time to fill out a Welcome Card located in the pews and place it in the offering basket or return it to the Welcome Table. You may also include a prayer request on the reverse side. Your requests are prayed for during the week. Also, visit the Welcome Table for a Welcome Brochure!



We value families worshipping together and welcome children of all ages to join us in worship at their parents' discretion (see the booklet "Together in God's Presence" at the children's ministry table). Childcare is available for parents who wish to take advantage of it. Look for this icon in the bulletin to know when to drop off and pick up your children. Supplementary children's sermon material is available in the foyer.



When parking on Sundays please reserve our parking lot for visitors, parents with small children, and those who need to park closer. Two Yale parking lots north of the church on Whitney Ave. are available to us also. Lot 16: Gibbs Lab at Whitney Ave. and Humphrey St., and the Whitney Ave. Garage located behind 221 Whitney Ave. For safety, exit our lot on the Bradley St. side only.



We highly recommend that you participate bodily in worship, however, when necessity or mercy requires, you may access a live stream video of our full service at cpcnewhaven.org/live. You may also view a recorded version or listen to our sermons at cpcnewhaven.org/sermons. We do believe that there is a mystical communion of Christ in heaven with the body of Christ on earth by the Holy Spirit when you participate in person in worship.

A Guide to Our Worship

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

As we enter into a service carefully patterned after the logic of the gospel and the ancient temple worship, we are invited into communion with God in Christ through his Holy Spirit. We will participate in the movements of worship - which are illustrated in Revelation 4-5 - as we praise God for who he is, fall to our knees as unworthy to be in his presence, receive the free reconciliation accomplished in Christ, and sing a “new” song. We are all personally invited to meet him as the Savior of sinners and gracious King of heaven and earth.

*After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven!
Revelation 4:1*

I: REDISCOVERING GOD’S GLORY

God’s desire initiates an invitation into His presence. Through worship, we rediscover the holy otherness of God in His glory revealed through creation and salvation.

*And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here...At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne [...] And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures...and day and night they never cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”
Revelation 4:1-2, 6-8*

II: REDISCOVERING GOD’S GRACE

Entering God’s presence naturally leads us to face our sin, yet in Christ we do so both mournfully and courageously, with the knowledge that his abundant mercy awaits. God makes it safe to be honest, real, and transparent about our moral failures and brokenness because we have nothing to prove or hide in Christ.

*Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals...“Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”
Revelation 5:1-5*

III: RENEWAL IN CHRIST'S WORD

The preaching of the Word of God is the Word of God, wherein it becomes the very Word of God proclaimed and received by the illumination of the Holy Spirit to believers. This is not a lecture based on a dead letter, or a self-help talk, but an encounter with the living God in the flesh of His people.

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song...

Revelation 5:6-9

IV: RENEWAL IN CHRIST'S PRESENCE

In the Covenant Meal, we both remember the sacrificial life of Christ's atonement and partake of Christ's ascended presence by the Holy Spirit, wherein no extent of space separates us from the life-giving power of God. All Christians being united to Christ are united to each other in love and have communion in each other's gifts and graces.

...for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

Revelation 5:9b

V: RESTORED IN CHRIST'S SUPREMACY

From the throne of heaven, God's power and grace is with us. In reverence and awe, we worship an exalted King and receive a kingdom that cannot be shaken, going forth in his immeasurable power working within us.

...and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth. Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures... numbering myriads of myriads...saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

Revelation 5:10-13

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

MEDITATION

A time to quiet your heart and mind in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

Pagan converts to the [Christian] mainstream did not, for the most part, first understand the faith and then decide to become Christians; rather, the process was reversed: they first decided and then they understood. More precisely, they were first attracted by the Christian community and form of life...they submitted themselves to prolonged catechetical instruction in which they practiced new modes of behavior and learned the stories of Israel and their fulfillment in Christ. Only after they had acquired proficiency in the alien Christian language and form of life were they deemed able intelligently and responsibly to profess the faith, to be baptized.

George Lindbeck, *The Nature of Doctrine*, p. 132

I. REDISCOVERING GOD'S GLORY

CALL TO WORSHIP: Revelation 19:4-8

Leader: The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne saying,

People: **"Amen, Hallelujah!"**

Leader: And from the throne came a voice saying:

People: **"Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great!"**

Leader: Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, shouting:

People: **"Hallelujah! For our Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure."**

WE FALL DOWN

**We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus,
The greatness of mercy and love at the feet of Jesus.
And we cry holy, holy, holy,
And we cry holy, holy, holy,
And we cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.
(Repeat)**

CCLI Song # 2437367. Chris Tomlin © 1998 worshipstogether.com songs (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)

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 will 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 fore'er we adore him.**

II. REDISCOVERING GOD'S GRACE

JESUS, I COME

**Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light, Jesus, I come to thee,**

**Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.**

**Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.**

**Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.**

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CONFESSION OF SIN

Participants may kneel or lean forward.

Our Lord, we have often lashed out at you with a rebellious will, when we should embrace you by faith. We are not yet weaned from all created glory, honour, wisdom, and esteem of others, for we have a secret motive to see our name in all we do. Let us not only speak the word sin, but see the thing itself. Hatred, malice, ill-will, vain-glory that hungers for and hunts after man's approval and applause, all are crucified, forgiven, but they rise again in our sinful hearts. Destroy, O God, the dark guest within.

The cross still stands and meets our needs in the deepest straits of the soul. Forgive us through Jesus Christ our Savior, for there is no treasure so wonderful as that continuous experience of your grace toward us which alone can subdue the risings of sin within: Give us more of it. Amen.

(Adapted from Valley of Vision)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: "In those days and in that time, declares the LORD, iniquity shall be sought in Israel, and there shall be none, and sin in Judah, and none shall be found, for I will pardon those whom I leave as a remnant." (Jeremiah 50:20)

 *If so desired, during the next song is a good time for children to leave for childcare.*

HARK THE VOICE OF LOVE AND MERCY

**Hark! the voice of love and mercy sounds aloud from Calvary;
See, it rends the rocks asunder, shakes the earth, and veils the sky:
'It is finished!' 'It is finished!' hear the dying Savior cry;
Hear the dying Savior cry.**

**'It is finished!' O what pleasure do the wondrous words afford!
Heavenly blessings without measure flow to us from Christ the Lord:
'It is finished!' 'It is finished!' hear the dying Savior cry;
Hear the dying Savior cry.**

**Finished all the types and shadows of the ceremonial law,
Finished all that God had promised; death and hell no more shall awe;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to the bleeding Lamb!
Glory to the bleeding Lamb!**

**Tune your harps anew, ye seraphs, join to sing the glorious theme;
all on earth and all in heaven join to bless Emmanuel's name:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to the bleeding Lamb!
Glory to the bleeding Lamb!**

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III. RENEWAL IN CHRIST'S WORD

Old Testament: Genesis 17:15-27 (sermon)

New Testament: Romans 10:1-13

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

CHORAL MEDITATION

Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever will be

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
And all I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

SERMON

Is Faith Laughable?

Rev. Preston Graham

Genesis 17:15-27

¹⁵ And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶ I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.” ¹⁷ Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, “Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?” ¹⁸ And Abraham said to God, “Oh that Ishmael might live before you!” ¹⁹ God said, “No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. ²⁰ As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹ But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year.”

²² When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham. ²³ Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all those born in his house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him. ²⁴ Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the

flesh of his foreskin. ²⁵ And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁶ That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised. ²⁷ And all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

SERMON NOTES

Text your questions to 203-800-7689 and if comfortable please include your name. You may also view a recorded version of the service or subscribe to our sermon podcast at cpcnewhaven.org/sermons.

CHORAL MEDITATION

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer
And to guide
Strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
And all I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

IV. RENEWAL IN CHRIST'S PRESENCE



During this time parents may retrieve their children to join them for worship. You may proceed directly to your seat from the nursery.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BRINGING OUR LIFE TO GOD: COLLECTION & PRAYERS

How would you like to experience the presence of Christ in your life right now? What are you anxious about? In order for your prayer requests to be shared with the congregation in a weekly email, please submit them using the prayer request cards and place in the offering basket, or email admin@cpcnewhaven.org.

Leader: Give to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come before him.
We will sacrifice a thank offering to God
and call on the name of the Lord.
We will fulfill our vows to the Lord,

in the presence of all God's people.

Let each of us use whatever gift we have received,
faithfully sharing God's grace in many forms.

People: Freely we have received; freely we will give.

Pray for our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America, and for all of the leaders and pastors participating in presbyteries globally, and locally here in New England.

DOXOLOGY (#733)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

People: We believe that Jesus Christ has presented Himself in our behalf before the Father, to appease His wrath, by offering Himself on the tree of the cross, and pouring out His precious blood to purge away our sins. And therefore we always ascribe all the glory to God, humbling ourselves before Him, without presuming to trust in any merit of ours, relying and resting upon the obedience of Christ crucified alone, which becomes ours when we believe in Him. This is sufficient to cover all our iniquities, and to give us confidence in approaching to God; freeing our conscience of fear, terror, and dread. Wherefore we justly say with the apostle Paul that we know nothing save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified; we count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord, in whose wounds we find all manner of consolation.

(Adapted from the Belgic Confession, 1561, Articles XX-XXII)

RECEIVING AND PRAYING

All Christians are invited to come forward to receive Christ's presence of bread and wine. For all Christians and non-communing participants desiring God's special intervention and blessing, gender-specific prayer teams are available during communion in the foyer. Please enter the Sanctuary for communion.

We serve wine in the Lord's Supper, believing it to be the Biblical element used. We provide grape juice for those who, out of conscience or reasons of health, do not partake of wine. Grape juice is in the outer rim. The communion bread is gluten free.

COMMUNION SONG: BY CHRIST REDEEMED

**By Christ redeemed, in Christ restored,
The memory we keep adored,
And show the death of our dear Lord
Until He comes**

**His body broke, done in our stead
Is here in this memorial bread,
Our feeble love by this is fed
Until He comes**

Chorus:

**Let every tear be washed away
Let darkness yield to perfect day
Our hearts await to see the day
to see the day when Jesus comes.**

**His fearful drops of agony,
His life-blood shed for us we see:
The wine shall tell the mystery
Until He comes**

**Until the trump of God be heard,
Until the ancient graves be stirred,
And, with the great commanding word,
The Lord shall come.**

Chorus

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PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

Prayer for those searching: Oh God, I am discovering that the more I have, the more I need to have, the more I am loved, the more I need to be loved, the more I achieve, the more I need to achieve. Nothing seems to satisfy me. “Nothing tastes.” Could it be, as someone once said, that “Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee.” Dear God, if this is true, and if as the Bible teaches there is life and life eternal in Christ alone, please guide me to Him. Open me to the reality of the One who alone can satisfy my restless heart. Give me the courage to believe that which I cannot see but can understand, feel and touch through the Word, sacraments and church family. Lord I want to believe, please help me in my unbelief! Amen.

Prayer for belief: Lord God, I now see that I am weaker and more flawed than I ever before believed, but in Christ, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. Even as I have not loved You or my neighbor with all of my heart, You have shown Your love for me in that while I am still sinning, Christ died for me and took upon Himself the condemnation that I deserve. I now know that You owe me nothing for my efforts, but You offer acceptance, love and blessing into all eternity because of Christ’s efforts on my behalf. I therefore ask that You would enable me to turn away from trusting in my own efforts to gain Your acceptance and forgiveness, and trust in the perfectly righteous efforts of Christ on my behalf in order to be accepted by You and entered into Your holy family. And just as You raised Christ from the dead, so too I ask that You would give me a new life in Christ, one that will lead eventually to Heaven itself. Thank you for Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit to believe in Him alone for my salvation. And as You have called us to follow You in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in Your church, grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with Your people, and live in the fullness of Your Spirit. Amen.

V. RESTORED IN CHRIST’S SUPREMACY

JESUS SHALL REIGN (#441)

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.**

Let every creature rise and bring

**Peculiar honors to our King,
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!**

BENEDICTION

Leader: “Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever.” Amen. (Hebrews 13:20-21)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ARE YOU NEW TO CPC OR NEW HAVEN?

Visit the Welcome Bar

Please visit our CPC Welcome Bar in the foyer for coffee and to pick up our welcome materials. Also, fill out a **Welcome Card**, located in each pew, and return it to the Welcome Bar or basket in the back of the sanctuary. You'll receive our weekly e-newsletter to stay up to date.

Join Us Online

CPC uses Church Community Builder (CCB) to connect our congregation through groups, team serving schedules, and with a directory. To sign in, visit cpcnewhaven.org and click the link for CCB on the bottom left hand corner of the homepage.

Receive Our Weekly Newsletter

Each week we send an e-newsletter out to the congregation with information regarding upcoming events, our Sunday Schedule, announcements, and other helpful links (to groups, Sunday Studies classes, etc). To sign up to receive the newsletter, visit our website cpcnewhaven.org and click the sign-up link on the bottom left hand corner of the homepage.

HIGHLIGHTS

2019-2020 Ministry Preview and Sunday Funday Today!

Stay after service for a brief Ministry Preview of the 2019-2020 year, and then join our Sunday Funday starting at noon (see more details in “Upcoming Events”). A few more hands are needed to help cleanup after our event today, please see Cameron Costen if you can lend one!

Catered Lunch 8/25 at Noon with Guest Pakistani Lecturer

You’re invited to a special lunch and lecture with Farhana Nazir, who is part of the visiting scholar program at the OMSC, on Sunday 8/25 following worship! Farhana studied at Princeton Seminary and Edinburgh University Divinity School and is now working on the book "Lay Hands Suddenly on No One." This research is based on a historical view of the Presbyterian Mission of North America in Pakistan and its critical implications in Pakistani today on Christian converts. She is looking at early converts from poor untouchable casts, their struggle to keep the faith, and becoming role model leaders in history. The struggle of that time is different from the struggle and hardships Christians face today. What is the future of mission in the Presbyterian church in Pakistan?

Meet Our Ministry Leaders in the Foyer

For the next four weeks we’ll have eight ministries represented at the tables in the foyer. Please introduce yourself and meet our leaders! We’d love for you to learn more about the ministries at CPC and to find out how you can be involved. Visit the foyer to see the following ministries: Music, Life Groups, School of Discipleship, Children’s, Youth, College, Graduate, 20/30s.

The Well Team Is Seeking Volunteers to Nourish the Body of Christ

Do you enjoy post-worship fellowship and discussion with your brothers and sisters in Christ? The Well team needs your help occasionally to facilitate hospitality and refreshment on Sunday afternoons and/or Friday evenings. Please see Tyler Rice (tylerarice@gmail.com) for more information.

Notice: How to Report Email Phishing Scams

Some of you are aware of a recent email phishing scam targeting our congregation (in which emails come in Preston’s name but not from his actual email address). If you got a phishing email, report it. The information you give can help fight the scammers.

- **Step 1:** If you got a phishing email, forward it to the FTC at spam@uce.gov and to the Anti-Phishing Working Group at reportphishing@apwg.org.
- **Step 2:** Report the phishing attack to the FTC at ftc.gov/complaint.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our official calendar can be found at cpcnewhaven.org/calendar.

August 28 | Key Leader Kick-Off | 5:30pm | CPC Patio and Fellowship Hall

All Key Leaders (Elders, WLB, SLB, Sunday School Teachers, Small Group Facilitators, Outreach Coordinators, Mercy Coordinators, Team Leaders, Staff) are invited to attend the Key Leader Kick-Off. We will fellowship over a catered dinner at 6:00pm, with a reception on the patio at 5:30pm.

MINISTRIES

Youth Group Crossroads: Last Sunday of the Month | 5pm | CPC Fellowship Hall

Crossroads Youth Group meets the last Sunday of each month to share food, fun, faith, and fellowship, for junior and senior high students. Contact aaron.rathbun@cpcnewhaven.org.

College Students | Getting Ready for the Fall

Our Summer Group has come to an end, but if you're here for the Fall, stay tuned for much activity at Yale and SCSU! Contact Pastor Craig, craig.luekens@cpcnewhaven.org, to plug in.

Graduate Student Dinner Gathering | Thursday, Aug. 22, 7pm @ CPC Fellowship Hall

Calling all graduate students (and spouses!) - you're invited to a time of fellowship and discussion about the upcoming year! This will be a time to get to know each other, catch up from the summer, and discuss our plans for the ministry this year. All are welcome, and you're not committing to anything by attending! Dinner will be provided. Contact Pastor Craig, craig.luekens@cpcnewhaven.org, with any questions or to be added to our email list.

Graduate & Young Professional Group: Not Meeting this Week