

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 worshiping 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 podcasts.cpcnewhaven.org. 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.

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

A PRAYER OF GOD'S PRESENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 138:1-5

Leader: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise.

People: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,

Leader: For you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

People: On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

Leader: All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth,

People: And they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

BEHOLD OUR GOD

**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?**

Chorus

**Who has felt the nails upon his hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior risen now to reign
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior risen now to reign**

Chorus

"Behold Our God" Words and music by Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, & Stephen Altrogge ©2011 Sovereign Grace Praise CCLI
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In a word or a phrase, lift up praises to the living God.

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

FRESH WIND

**Spirit sound rushing wind
Fire of God fall within
Holy Ghost breathe on us we pray
As we repent turn from sin
Revival embers smouldering
Breath of God fan us into flame**

**We need a fresh wind
The fragrance of heaven
Pour your spirit out
Pour your spirit out**

**For hearts that burn with holy fear
Purified in faith and deed
Refiner's fire strengthen what remains
So we the church who bear your light
Lamp aflame city bright
King and kingdom come is what we pray**

**We need a fresh wind
The fragrance of heaven
Pour your spirit out**

**Pour your spirit out
A holy anointing
The power of your presence
Pour your spirit out
Pour your spirit out**

**Let all the redeemed
Prophecy and sing
We can hear the wind
Blowing blowing blowing
Move upon our praise
Sons and daughters sing
We can hear the wind
Blowing blowing (blowing)
Chorus**

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CONFESSION OF SIN

Participants may kneel or lean forward.

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: **Eternal God, we confess that often we have failed to be an obedient church: we have not done your will; we have broken your law; we have rebelled against your love; we have not loved our neighbors; we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

“The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able to save those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.” (Hebrews 7:23-25)

ONCE AND FOR ALL

**Once and for all
The Father's love
He is the light in the darkness
Who took on flesh
And took our place
The weight of the world on His shoulders
The weight of the world on His shoulders
We believe God's Son is Jesus
We believe that He is Lord
We believe that He has saved us
From sin and death
Once and for all**

**Once and for all
Our debt is paid
There on the cross it is finished
The Lamb of God
For us was slain
Up from the grave He is risen
Up from the grave He is risen
Chorus
Jesus Jesus
God from God
Light from light
You are our salvation
Jesus Jesus
God from God
Light from light
Your Kingdom is forever (repeat)
Chorus**

CCLI Song # 6502212 Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jason Ingram | Matt Maher © 2013 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) S. D. G. Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Valley Of Songs Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Worship Together Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Open Hands Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved.
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If so desired, now is a good time for children to leave for childcare.

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

Old Testament: Psalm 147:1-12

New Testament: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

SERMON

The Glories of Salvation and Our Immense Reasons for Thanks

Rev. Craig Luekens

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

¹³ But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. ¹⁴ To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵ So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter. ¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

SERMON NOTES

“It is written that we shall ‘stand before’ Him, shall appear, shall be inspected. The promise of glory is the promise, almost incredible and only possible by the work of Christ, that some of us, that any of us who really chooses, shall actually survive that examination, shall find approval, shall please God. To please God...to be a real ingredient in the divine happiness...to be loved by God, not merely pitied, but delighted in as an artist delights in his work or a father in a son—it seems impossible, a weight or burden of glory which our thoughts can hardly sustain. But so it is. . . . Some day, God willing, we shall get in. When human souls have become as perfect in voluntary obedience as the inanimate creation is in its lifeless obedience, then they will put on its glory, or rather that greater glory of which Nature is only the first sketch.”

- CS Lewis, “The Weight of Glory”

Text SERMON QUESTION to 860-467-0010 and follow the prompts to submit your question, then the pastor will be in touch this week. You may also view a recorded version of the service or subscribe to our sermon podcast at podcasts.cpcnewhaven.org.

For families worshipping with young children, supplementary children’s sermon material is available in the pews and in the foyer.

MEDITATION

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*



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

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity!
(Psalm 133:1)

COLLECTION AND PRAYERS:

If you have a personal prayer request that you would like to be shared with the congregation in a weekly email, please submit them using the prayer request cards and place them in the offering basket as it is passed, or the basket located in the back of the sanctuary.

You may virtually submit a prayer request or give toward the collection at cpcnewhaven.org/live. Or text GIVE or PRAY to 860-467-0010.

MEDITATION

DOXOLOGY

**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: I believe that the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ his Son. I believe that Jesus is the Son of God and saves us from our sins even as salvation cannot be found in anyone else; it is futile to look for any salvation elsewhere. I believe that the Holy Spirit is eternal God and that He has been given to me personally, so that, by true faith, He makes me share in Christ and all his blessings, comforts me, and remains with me forever.

(Selections from Heidelberg Catechism)

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS TOGETHER

Leader: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

COMING FORWARD TO RECEIVE COMMUNION

All Christians are invited to come forward to receive Christ's presence of bread and wine. 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. (Pre-sealed elements of juice and wafer are also available.)

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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: "I urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."
(Ephesians 4:1-3)
The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

FATHER LET YOUR KINGDOM COME

Hallelu, Hallelujah, Father let your kingdom come! (4 times)

May the works of my hands bring you joy (4 times)

Refrain

May the words from my mouth speak your peace (4 times)

Refrain

You make all things new, you make all things new

In places we don't choose, you make all things new

Refrain

By Ben Cooper, Latifah Alattas, Liz Vice, Paul Zach, Madison Cunningham, Orlando Palmer, and Isaac Wardell. © 2017 Porter's Gate Publishing (BMI), Porter's Gate Publications (SESAC), and Hymns From The Porter's Gate (ASCAP). CCLI #7097862

BENEDICTION

"Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word." (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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HIGHLIGHTS

August 27 | **Sign up for BOH's I Heart New Haven Day:** Join members of Bridges of Hope churches and the wider New Haven community to love our city through service! There are projects for diverse ages and abilities, and families are welcome! Please register each individual separately as a waiver is needed for each person. Register at **bridgesnewhaven.org** or text **VOLUNTEER** to **860-467-0010**. We have a goal of sending at least 50 volunteers from CPC!

2022-2023 School Year | **BOH's Mentoring Program:** You've been hearing about BOH's mentoring program these last few weeks, now is the time to sign up in preparation for the fall! Visit **bridgesnewhaven.org/mentoring** or text **VOLUNTEER** to **860-467-0010** for all the information and details. We have a goal of sending at least 5 volunteers from CPC!

June 16-18 2023 | **CPC's 30th Anniversary Celebration Weekend:** Have you marked this on your calendar yet? Please save the date for us now if you haven't already. We're planning a very special weekend celebration for CPC's 30th anniversary and we want you there! This is an opportunity to celebrate God's goodness and providence to our church over 30 years, and we also hope that many CPC alumni will return for a reunion weekend. If you are interested in joining the celebration committee, contact the chair: Meg Bogue (mhbugue@yahoo.com).

Interested in Membership at CPC? We consider the church an essential element of the gospel, so joining CPC as a member is a way to truly join the body of Christ, in all its blessings and with all its flaws! Before joining, you'll first meet with a pastor to discuss membership, and then discuss how you've come to know Christ with the Shepherd Leaders. We'll have a Joining Sunday in the next two months. If you'd like to begin the process, reach out to Annie (annie.mchugh@cpcnewhaven.org) and learn more at cpcnewhaven.org/membership.

Fall Kick-Offs! We still have another glorious month of summer, but look ahead with us to some important fall kick-off dates:

- **Sunday 8/28 | After Worship | Congregational Meeting:** All are invited to attend, and members are especially encouraged, to hear a review of our 2022-2023 Ministry Plan and Budget. Zoom option will be available.
- **Sunday 9/11 | After Worship | Sunday Funday:** Just what it sounds like! Think all kinds of outdoor games for kids, bounce house, food, face painting, crafts. If you'd like to serve contact Anna Graham (asgraham07@gmail.com).
- **Sunday 9/18 | 9:30am | Sunday School Resumes:** for both adults and children!

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 27 | **I Heart New Haven Day** | 9am-1pm | New Haven Green and Various Locations
Join members of Bridges of Hope churches and the wider New Haven community to love our city through service! This year we will be gathering at the New Haven Green for worship at 9am and then dispersing to sites across the city for service from 10:30am until approximately 1pm. There are projects for diverse ages and abilities, so please note any special requirements or skills that you may have--families are welcome! Please register each member of your family separately as a waiver is needed for each one. Register at bridgesnewhaven.org or text **VOLUNTEER** to **860-467-0010**. We have a goal of sending at least 50 volunteers from CPC!

August 28 | **Congregational Meeting** | After Worship
All are invited to attend, and members are especially encouraged, to hear a review of our 2022-2023 Ministry Plan and Budget! Zoom link at cpcnewhaven.org/live.

September 11 | **Sunday Funday** | After Worship
Just what it sounds like! Think all kinds of outdoor games for kids, bounce house, food, face painting, crafts. If you'd like to serve, contact Anna (asgraham07@gmail.com).

September 18 | **Sunday School Resumes for Adults and Children** | Before Worship at 9:30am

June 16-18 2023 | **CPC's 30th Anniversary Celebration Weekend**
We're planning a very special weekend celebration for CPC's 30th anniversary and we want you there! This is an opportunity to celebrate God's goodness and providence to our church over 30 years, and we also hope that many CPC alumni will return for a reunion weekend. If you are interested in joining the celebration committee, contact the chair: Meg Bogue (mhbogue@yahoo.com).

ONGOING WEEKLY

Pastoral Counseling Available: Would you like to speak one-on-one with a CPC pastor? We desire to connect the truths of scripture to the realities of life. Whether you are going through suffering or just need wisdom, the pastoral staff is dedicated to being available to meet. Interested persons should sign-up confidentially at cpcnewhaven.org/pastoral-counseling or text PASTORCONSULT to 860-467-0010.

KEYWORDS TO TEXT CPC AT: 860-467-0010

- **PRAY** | Submit prayers to be prayed for weekly by staff and sent out to the congregation.
- **PASTORCONSULT** | Meet with a pastor to discuss anything from a spiritual issue to interest in membership.
- **SERMONQUESTION** | Send the pastors your sermon questions and they'll answer.
- **GIVE** | Set up an account to be able to give solely through interactions in your text app.

CPC ONLINE

Subscribe to CPC Podcasts: Listen to our School of Discipleship classes, the Sunday Sermon, Compline Homilies, Smokin' Theologians, and other inspiring conversations with our pastors. Visit **podcasts.cpcnewhaven.org** or subscribe wherever you listen.



Receive Our Weekly Newsletter: Go to **cpcnewhaven.org** and select "Newsletter Sign-Up" on the home page. Our weekly newsletter goes out on Friday mornings with Sunday Service information, highlights, upcoming events, and useful links.



Sing at Home with Our New YouTube Playlist: Enjoy the songs we regularly sing at CPC from home with our new YouTube playlist. Visit **youtube.com/c/CPCNewHaven** and select "Playlists" to find it (it's called "CPC Sunday Morning Music").



MINISTRY GROUPS

Youth | Contact: Jerry.Ornelas@cpcnewhaven.org

College | Contact: Craig.Luekens@cpcnewhaven.org

Graduate Students | Contact: Craig.Luekens@cpcnewhaven.org

LIFE GROUPS

See the inside front cover of the bulletin for a list of groups and contact info, or contact Craig for help connecting (Craig.Luekens@cpcnewhaven.org).