# 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

# 1. 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: Revelation 5:11-14

Leader: Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures

and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads

and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice,

People: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth

and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Leader: 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,

People: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and

honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

Leader: And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and

worshiped.

#### HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free, To take away transgression, and rule in equity. (Chorus)

He comes in comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong, To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong. (Chorus)

To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in His sight. (Chorus)

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth. (Chorus)

The tide of time shall never His covenant remove. His Name shall stand forever, That Name to us is Love. (Chorus)

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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

#### **GRANT US THY GRACE**

Grant us Thy grace Grant us Thy grace, Lord Grant us Thy grace Grant us Thy grace, Lord

Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God Have mercy on each of us (Repeat)

> Grant us Thy grace Grant us Thy grace, Lord Grant us Thy grace Grant us Thy grace, Lord

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Participants may kneel or lean forward.

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

People: Lord Jesus, we have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in our daily lives. Our sins and shortcomings present us with a list of accusations, but we thank you that they will not stand against us, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver us from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in us, everything that prevents us from taking delight in you. Amen.

For the things we have done And the things we have left undone (Repeat)

> Grant us Thy grace Grant us Thy grace, Lord Grant us Thy grace Grant us Thy grace, Lord

Words and Music by Jefferson Bennett ©2020 (ASCAP)

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin." (Romans 4:7-8)

#### **HIS MERCY IS MORE**

Praise the Lord His mercy is more Stronger than darkness new every morn Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more
Chorus

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more
Chorus

What riches of kindness He lavished on us His blood was the payment His life was the cost We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford Our sins they are many His mercy is more Chorus

CCLI Song # 7065053 Matt Boswell | Matt Papa © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Love Your Enemies Publishing (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Messenger Hymns (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

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: Genesis 22:1-14 New Testament: John 1:19-34

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

#### Who is Jesus? Rev. Jerry Ornelas John 1:19-34

<sup>19</sup> And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup> And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup> So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." <sup>24</sup> (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup> They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup> John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup> even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup> These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing. <sup>29</sup> The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.<sup>131</sup> I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit. And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

SERMON NOTES
Text SERMONQUESTION 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 worshiping 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.

#### 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!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

People: I believe that Jesus Christ our Lord is the image of the invisible

God, the firstborn of all creation. By him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

(Colossians 1:15-20)

#### 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

<u>Prayer for those searching:</u> 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.

#### WE ABIDE WE ABIDE IN YOU

We are the vineyard You have planted Tend our leaves and wild branches We abide we abide in You We abide we abide in You

Fruit growing from our strength and labor Rain on us with grace and favor We abide we abide in You We abide we abide in You

Chorus
Where can my soul find living water
Apart from You we bear no fruit
O plant my feet down by the river
We abide we abide in You

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#### 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!"

#### ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS I STAND

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye. To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains, Shines one eternal day.
There God, the Son forever reigns, And scatters night away.
I am bound, I am bound for the Promised Land.
I am bound, I am bound for the Promised Land.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath, Can reach that healthful shore, Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.

Chorus

When shall I reach that happy place, and be forever blest, When shall I see my Father's face, and in his bosom rest. Chorus

CCLI Song #6555410 Words by Samuel Stennett, Music by Christopher Miner, Arr. by Belmont RUF; © 1997 Christopher Miner Music

#### BENEDICTION

"Peace be to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Amen. (Ephesians 6:23)

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Today! **Sunday Funday After Worship:** Join us for our fall kickoff event! Stick around after church to enjoy a time of connection over food and drink and fun and games! There will be activities for kids and adults alike, and a chance to connect with a local CPC Life Group.

**Life Groups:** "Be CPC In Your Neighborhood" - As the heartbeat of our church family, life groups are authentic and small gatherings where we experience and share Christ. Wanna join one? Text LIFEGROUPS to 860-467-0010 or see list in the foyer.

**CPC Connect Board:** Share an event or invitation with the whole congregation on our Connect Board in the foyer. For digital distribution, email Colleen (c.mccormack418@gmail.com). Our online Connect Board is coming soon!

CPC @Yale: Digging Deep, "Hot Takes on Christianity" | Wednesdays 1pm, Commons
Join students and pastor Craig for an active discussion on important, yet controversial topics like
Exclusivity and Pluralism, Suffering, Hell, and Sexuality. A great opportunity to dig deeper into
important issues and apply Christ to all parts of our life. You're encouraged to bring your own
questions too. All students are welcome!

#### September 18 | Full Weekly Sunday Schedule Begins:

- 9:30am SS Before Worship: Sunday School resumes for children and Sunday Studies for Adults. Parents, see info about your classes online at cpcnewhaven.org/children or in the foyer. Adults meet in the Fellowship Hall for Sermon Discussion (of the previous week's sermon). Life Group Leaders (facilitators, mercy coordinators, and outreach coordinators) will meet for their own training for 5 weeks in the Sanctuary.
- 12:00pm Lunches After Worship: Weekly lunches begin with fried chicken and mac and cheese (vegetarian gluten-free option: eggplant rollatini)! See the sign-up board in the foyer to help with set-up/clean-up this semester. It's a whole family affair and we can't wait for this special time of fellowship and connection on a weekly basis.

#### **Sunday Service Opportunities**

- CPC's Nursery Team | Worship throughout the Bible included families with children, but
  we know that infants and young children can be a deterrent to a parents' attention and
  experience of worship. To help serve our families and join the rotation, contact Phoebe
  (phoebe.kebabian@gmail.com).
- **CPC's Food Service Team** | Foster fellowship through hospitality and food! Contact Elena (gerard.elena@gmail.com) to serve.

### NEW HERE?

- Submit a Welcome Card! We want to connect with you, please take the time to fill out a
  Welcome Card located in the pews and place it in the offering basket (at the back of the
  Sanctuary or when it's passed) or return it to the Welcome Bar in the foyer. Or you can
  text CONNECT to 860-467-0010 to get connected.
- 2. **Check Out a Life Group!** See the inside front cover of this bulletin for a list of all of our Life Groups. If you would like help discerning which group may be a good fit, contact Pastor Craig Luekens (craig.luekens@cpcnewhaven.org).
- 3. **Learn about Membership!** 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 listen to an online membership seminar, meet with a pastor, and discuss how you've come to know Christ with the Shepherd Leaders. Contact Annie McHugh (annie.mchugh@cpcnewhaven.org) to begin the process.

### 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.

# 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.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

September 23 | Women's Happy Hour | Save the Date!

#### October 1 | 20/30s Essex Steam Train and Hang | 2pm | Essex, CT

Come spend time with the 20s/30s on Oct. 1st in Essex, CT followed by a one-hour scenic, narrated train ride with views of the Connecticut River Valley. Those who don't have a car can meet at the church for an 11:30 a.m. departure. Train ride is from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. out of Essex Station. If you sign up in advance, your train ticket is on us! Sign-up sheet is in the church foyer. Contact Josh S. with any questions (joshuatsanders@yahoo.com, 951-813-6521)

#### 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).

# 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 | Sunday School and One-on-One Discipleship:** Youth ministry at CPC takes place primarily through our Sunday School lessons and one-on-one discipleship with youth pastor Jerry Ornelas. Special events and seasonal activities will also happen throughout the year. Contact: Jerry.Ornelas@cpcnewhaven.org

College | Weekly CPC @Yale: Digging Deep, "Hot Takes on Christianity": Join students and pastor Craig on Wednesdays at 1pm in the Commons for an active discussion on important, yet controversial topics like Exclusivity and Pluralism, Suffering, Hell, and Sexuality. A great opportunity to dig deeper into important issues and apply Christ to all parts of our life. You're encouraged to bring your own questions too. All students are welcome!

Contact: Craig.Luekens@cpcnewhaven.org

**Graduate Students | Weekly Small Group:** Our weekly small group with graduate students (and significant others!) meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:30pm in the CPC Fellowship Hall. We discuss Scripture, pray for each other, and build relationships during this unique time of life. If you're new, feel free to join us!

Contact: Craig.Luekens@cpcnewhaven.org

### LIFE GROUPS

#### **Downtown New Haven Life Group**

Contact: Tyler Rice | tylerarice@gmail.com

Meets: Weekly on Thursdays at 7:30pm, location varies from week to week.

#### **Hamden Cheshire Life Group**

Contact: Julie Walker | walkerfj@comcast.net

Meets: 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 2pm at different members' homes.

#### **East Rock Life Group**

Contact: Kaitlyn Jessee | kaijessee@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, either mid or late afternoon.

#### **Shoreline Saturday Life Group (Madison)**

Contact: Lisa Tweed | hatwik@aol.com

Meets: 2nd Saturday of each month from 4:30pm-7:30pm.

#### **Shoreline Sunday Life Group (Guilford)**

Contact: Peggy Kebabian | kebabianp@gmail.com

Meets: Twice monthly, once on Sunday at 1pm and once on a weeknight at 7:30pm.

#### **Trumbull Life Group**

Contact: Stacy Roney | mrsprofdoc@icloud.com

Meets: 2nd Sunday of each month from 5pm-6:30pm.

#### West Side Life Group (West Haven)

Contact: Miranda Healy | mirandajrdn8@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd Sunday of each month at 4pm.