

Welcome!

We are glad you chose to worship with us today!

If you would like to know more about New City Fellowship, stop by the Welcome Table to ask questions, learn about our ministries, or fill out a visitor card to be personally contacted.

Our Mission

New City Fellowship exists to seek the establishment of God's kingdom rule in the lives of people from every ethnic group by discipling the nations in the reconciling Gospel of Jesus Christ through a clear proclamation of salvation by grace through faith in Christ alone and by doing Spirit-led deeds of justice and mercy.



Become part of a house church to know the joy of walking with each other through the ups and downs of life. **House churches are where the primary care for the body takes place.** Groups meet on different nights of the week in different locations around the city. Pick up a copy of the **HOUSE CHURCH BROCHURE** in the foyer for meeting times and locations, or contact Jim Ward for more information: jward@ncfstl.org, 314-726-2302 x257.

FYI

Worship Service and Livestream at 10:30am
French service at 10:30am in the auditorium
Adult Ed Classes at 9:15am—Resuming January 9th

Church Office: _____ 1142 Hodiamont Ave, 63112; 314-726-2302
Email & Website: _____ ncfstl@ncfstl.org; www.newcityucity.org
Get the Mobile App: _____ Text NCFStLouis to 206-859-9405
New City Fellowship St. Louis Podcasts: _____ Google Play Music, Apple iTunes
Listen to sermons online: _____ www.newcityucity.org
Weekly church updates via email: _ send email address to ehedlund@ncfstl.org
For a copy of the church directory: _____ ehedlund@ncfstl.org



Please reserve the parking lot behind the gym for those in our congregation that have a physical need for accessible parking close to the building. Able-bodied people may also park at the school across the street.

Baptisms—if you are interested in scheduling a baptism or to arrange to meet with a pastor contact Emily Hedlund: ehedlund@ncfstl.org, 314-726-2302 x243



Sermon Text

Isaiah 11:1-10 (ESV)

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
² And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.
⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.
¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

New City Fellowship

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Advent Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 (ESV)

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel!"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Eh Yawhe Kumama

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

O Holy Night

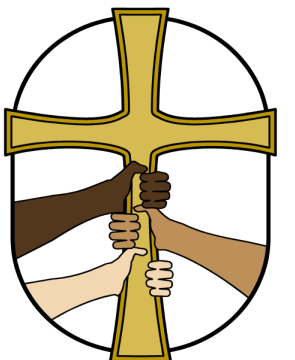
Offering and Announcements

Ministry Moment - Health Connection

Sermon

Precious Is The Blood

The Lord's Supper



What's Happening at New City Fellowship ...



Important Dates - WINTER BREAK

- Children's Sunday School** - Not meeting December 19th - resuming January 9th
- Adult Ed** - Not meeting December 19th - resuming January 9th
- Kids' Bible Time** - Not meeting December 19th - resuming January 9th
- Baby and Preschool** - Not meeting December 26th - resuming January 9th
- Middle School Youth Group** - Not meeting December 9th - resuming January 27th
- High School Youth Group** - Not meeting December 13th - resuming January 24th
- Church Office** - Closing December 23rd (half-day) - reopening January 3rd

Special Holiday Services

Christmas Eve Service - December 24th from 6-7pm in the gym. Join us for a festive service where we light the last advent candle and sing Christmas songs celebrating the birth of Christ. This is a joint service with our French speaking brothers and sisters and with New City West End. You won't want to miss it!

Francophone New Years Eve Service - December 31st from 8pm-1am in the gym. Our French speaking brothers and sisters would like to invite you to their annual New Years Eve Worship Service. This is a time of celebration and worship for what the Lord has done in the past year.

Testimony Sunday - January 2nd, 10:30am in the gym. It's a New City tradition to share testimonies on the first Sunday of the New Year, proclaiming God's goodness. Consider sharing a 3-5-minute testimony of what God has done in your life in 2021. We hope you can join us!

Health Connection Volunteers Needed

The Health Connection ministry relies on volunteers to:

- Visit elderly homebound folks, helping them attend their medical appointments and obtain their prescriptions
- Connect immigrants and refugees with medical providers and provide transportation to their appointments
- Help individuals apply for health insurance or understand their medical bills
- Be an advocate and a compassionate FRIEND!

Health Connection volunteers come from all walks of life. You ARE qualified if you desire to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ and are willing to give 8 hours a month. Come be part of our team! Training is provided.

For more information contact Kim Swedlund: kim@ncfstl.org, 314-479-0919

NCF Sunday Morning Worship Services

As a church we will follow local and CDC guidelines.

- Masks are currently required in the building for those ages 2 and up. Soft masks appropriate for small children will be available.
- A large section of the gym is open seating and another section of the gym is reserved for social distancing.
- In addition, we have a livestream service available in the building across the breezeway with masks and social distancing for those who wish to avoid crowds.

Our chief goal is to allow as many of the people of God as possible to safely return to worship and fellowship.

Winter Coats at The Exchange

We have received a large donation of winter coats for anyone who could use them. The Exchange will be open **TODAY immediately following the service.** The Exchange is located under the overpass and down the stairs. If you need assistance, any deacon would be happy to help you.

For more information contact Anna Scannell: annakathryn.hardy@gmail.com

Join the Hospitality Team

Do you love people? Want to meet more folks and learn their names? Consider helping us greet on Sunday mornings! The commitment is just one Sunday a month, starting in January.

For more information contact Emily Hedlund: ehedlund@ncfstl.org

Care For Our Congregation

The deacon team at New City is here for you! If you are struggling to have enough food, to pay your bills, or make financial decisions - please stop struggling alone. We want to come alongside you. If you belong to a house church, share your need with your HC leader or deacon. If you don't belong to a house church, please reach out to any deacon.

For more information contact: ucdeacons@ncfstl.org

infants, kids & teens

Wiggle room

The Wiggle Room is located at the back northwest corner of the gym and is meant to allow parents to let children who are restless play quietly under their supervision during the service. We appreciate everyone 2 years of age and older to mask. We ask that you socially distance, particularly because children under 2 cannot safely mask and multiple households will use the space. Hand gel, soft cloth masks that are safe for 2 year olds as well as children's masks will be available.

Questions? Please email Amy Jensen: ajenaen@ncfstl.org

baby & preschool

During the sermon portion of the worship service we provide staffed preschool rooms for babies who are crawling through children 4 years of age (or beginning kindergarten). The nursery rooms are located at the top of the stairs from the foyer. You can register your child before the service at the "Baby & Preschool Sign Up Table." Parents are free to spend time in the nursery rooms with volunteers if they believe it will help their little one adjust to new surroundings. We are excited to welcome them!

Parents - please do not send kids to the nursery without you! Older siblings can NOT drop off children - drop off must be done by a parent or responsible adult.

A room has been provided for nursing mothers up the stairs in the foyer and to the far end of the hallway as you turn left. The sermon will be streamed to speakers there. Water and snacks are available.

children

New City Children's Ministry Team is committed to offering both in-person and virtual options for the discipleship of our children. Because of the on-going challenges of keeping children and volunteers safe amidst Covid-19, adjustments and changes to our programs happen often. Please make sure you are subscribed to the weekly children's ministry emails to receive updates, opportunities, and timing. If you do not currently receive these emails, contact Marianne Dean.

For more information contact Marianne Dean: mdean@ncfstl.org

teens

High School and Middle School Youth Group are on holiday break until the week of January 24th.

For more information or to volunteer contact Otto: otto@ncfstl.org