



# NEW CREATION CHURCH

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA  
DIOCESE OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

*We exist to exult the triune God,  
disciple together, and love our  
neighbor with the Gospel*

New Creation is an evangelical church in the Anglican tradition. We are a mission of the Anglican Church in North America in the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic, through which we are in fellowship with the 85 million Christians that compose the worldwide Anglican Communion. This is the third largest after Rome and the Orthodox Church, but perhaps the fastest growing of the three.

**HISTORIC WORSHIP WITH STRONG BIBLICAL ROOTS:** Although our worship contains many contemporary expressions, its form is rooted in the worship of the earliest Christians and is intentionally biblical, rather than simply following the latest fads in popular worship. As a result, our liturgy links us in the fellowship of the communion of saints across time and place.

(1 Corinthians 12, Hebrews 12:1)

**MISSIONAL FOCUS:** New Creation is committed to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40). As those created in the image of God, we are called to love those around us more than ourselves; and as new creations in Christ we have been given a new desire to do so. As the church, we are uniquely called to share the good news that the kingdom of the forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ is here!

## WELCOME TO NEW CREATION!

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All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We administer both elements of Holy Eucharist at New Creation: bread and actual wine using a communal cup. If you prefer not to receive the element of consecrated wine, simply indicate that to the Chalice Bearer. If you prefer to not drink from the communal cup, simply dip the consecrated bread into the cup of wine.

Thanksgiving baskets, during worship services, are available for your tithes and offerings. A basket, at the entrance to the church, is provided for contributions of non-perishable food items. These food offerings are provided to a family or non-profit in Hagerstown.

Please join us after Service for coffee and conversation in the Fellowship Hall (use the hallway, left of the altar).

Restrooms may be found one level down, via the stairway at the church's main entrance and they may also be found at the end of the hallway to the left of the altar.

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## SUGGESTED PRAYERS

For the Spirit of Prayer

*O Almighty God, you pour out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Preparation for Public Worship

*Guide and direct us, O Lord, always and everywhere with your holy light, that we may discern with clear vision your presence among us, and partake with worthy intention of your divine mysteries. We ask this for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.*

## Parenting from the Pews

*We urge that the entire family participate in the worship service – regardless of age.*

However, a nursery is provided during the entire worship service for children ages 3 and under. We ask that children, ages 4 and over, remain with the adults during worship. Teaching our children the joy of worship can be challenging, but the first step is bringing your children with you to worship on Sunday. We want to partner with you as you help your children learn to love the Lord.

*Relax! God made children with all their wiggles, fidgets, and loud whispers; please don't feel like you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome to worship here!*

*Help children to follow along in the bulletin, explain words that might be confusing, and trust that God will speak to their hearts in a way that they can understand.*

*Sing, pray, and fully enter into the worship yourself! Children learn the joy of worshipping by watching and emulating you.*

*Quietly explain parts of the worship as we go along. As they begin to understand why we worship the way we do they will be able to enter into worship and make it their own. Sit toward the front where it's easier for your little ones to see what's going on.*

*Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to God, to worship, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship; they belong here just as much as the adults!*

Please note: This is a large shared space. Boundary signs mark the limits of our usages in the building, essentially the Narthex, Nave, Nursery, Fellowship Hall, and Bathrooms. Parents are responsible for the whereabouts of their children at all times.



## Worship Postures, Gestures, Signs, Vestments & Colors

Simply standing at attention can take on a deeper meaning, if done with intentionality. For example, we stand to pray together. Why? Because living things stand up. By the grace of God, we've been given a new and living relationship with God, calling upon him as "our Father" in our corporate prayers.

Spend any amount of time in the Psalms, and you'll quickly find that worship involves the entire person! What we do with our body can be a kind of "enacted prayer" to God. What we do externally also reflects what's going on internally. We embrace this in many ways in our worship.

We make the sign of the cross. This can be done at the prayer for absolution, out of reverence for the Name of the Trinity, and at the end of the creed. The cross is also a way of marking ourselves as Christ's own, and it can be a reminder that his cross is upon us at all times.

These items are certainly not meant to be exhaustive – lift your hands, raise your voice, and fully enter into worship this morning with your whole person!

The liturgical vestments worn by priests have evolved since the earliest days of the Church. Even though priests of the Old Testament wore vestments in their liturgical rites, our "Christian" vestments are not really adaptations of them; rather, they were developed from the dress of the Graeco-Roman world.

The alb ("white") is a white robe. Its spiritual purpose is to remind us of baptism, to signify our freedom from sin, purity of new life, and Christian dignity.

The stole is a long cloth that is worn around the neck like a scarf. The stole, like a towel, is a reminder that the clergy are servants of Christ and the Church.

There are symbolic colors for each church season.

- Advent: Sarum Blue (like the blue of early dawn)
- Christmas: White/Gold (holiness/majesty)
- Epiphany: Green (renewal/promise of new life)
- Lent: Purple (pain/suffering and repentance)
- Easter: White/Gold (holiness/majesty)
- Pentecost: Green (renewal/promise of new life)