

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

Welcome to New Life Presbyterian Church

Dear Visitor,

Welcome! It is a joy and privilege to gather this morning to worship God together. Here at New Life, we are a small part of the worldwide, multi-ethnic, multi-generational, multi-cultural body of Christ. Although we are Presbyterian and Reformed, our identity is found not in what makes us distinct, but in what makes us united: we belong to the Lord Jesus Christ. He is not only our Maker; He is our Savior. If you have put your hope and trust in Him, we welcome you as a brother or sister. It is in Him that we have New Life!

If you are here this morning and do not know what you think about Jesus, or about the claims of the Bible, we are delighted that you have chosen to join us for the morning. We hope and trust that you will experience a warm welcome, regardless of your religious convictions. We are a community of those who have experienced the embrace of God, through Jesus Christ. It is our goal to show that love to all who are around us. Please know that I personally would welcome your thoughts and perspectives on anything you observe this morning.

May the grace and peace of Christ be with you all!

Joyfully,

Pastor Erik Swanson

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P.S. During our 11:00 service, there is a staffed nursery, off the fellowship hall, for children ages 0-4.

Worshiping God

January 3, 2021

Reflection – *Lamentations 3:22-24*

²²The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
 ²³they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
 ²⁴"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship - From Isaiah 60:1

Minister: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

Prayer of Praise

I will rain down bread from heaven for you. Ex. 16:4



Confession of Faith - Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

OT Scripture Reading - Deuteronomy 18:15-22

Joy Swanson

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession:

O God our Father,

You have given us all that we need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. He is our life, he is our righteousness, he is our peace, he is our protection, he is our hope, and he is our strength. Our life belongs to Jesus. His blood purchased our salvation. We have peace with you and with other believers because of our Lord. We know our lives are held in His hand. We have confidence for the future because of him. He has given us His Spirit and His Word. We believe this, Father, with gratitude and thanksgiving. And we also confess our lack of faith. We fail at times to live as if these things are true. We believe lies and half-truths rather than clinging wholeheartedly to your promises in Christ. We act sometimes as if our righteousness depends on us, rather than being your gracious gift. We can be quick to take offense at others, rather than living as ambassadors of peace. Rather than live by faith in your word, we often live in fear of the other voices in our lives. At times we forget that salvation is entirely a gift from you. Sometimes we act as if it is our strength, not yours, that matters. We confess this unbelief, and we cast ourselves once again on your mercy. Lord, we believe! Help our unbelief. We ask this as we trust in Jesus' name and as we rely on the strength of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

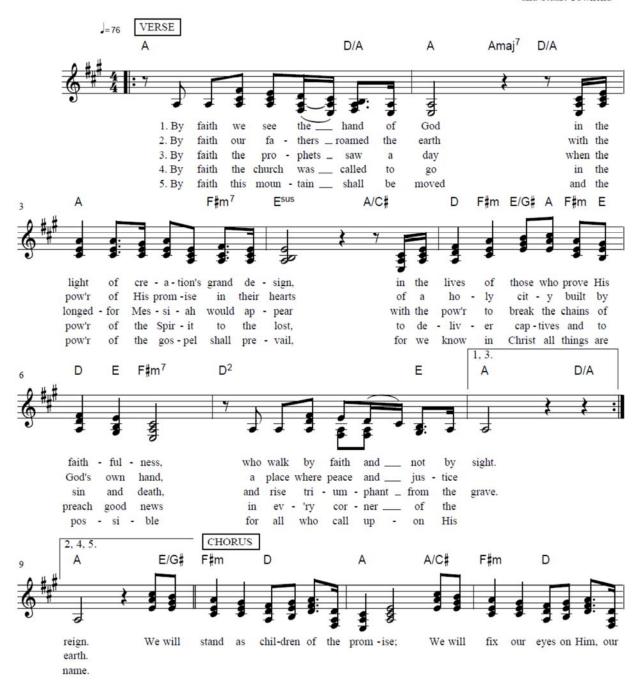
Assurance of Grace - 1 John 1:9

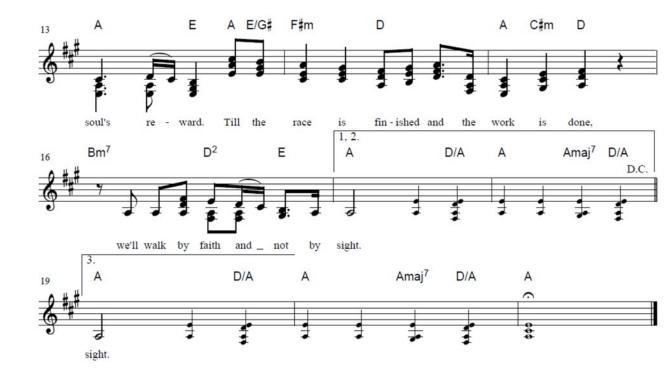
Leader: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse

us from all unrighteousness.

By Faith

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend





Prayers of the People

Ministry Moment

Offering Our Gifts

The offering allows friends and members of our church to express their faith in God's Word, and to support the extension of that Word in our community and world.

Doxology:

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! Praise Him, all creatures here below! Praise Him above, ye heavenly host! Praise, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

Scripture Reading - Hebrews 1:1-4

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Sermon: God Has Spoken Pastor Erik Swanson

Series: Jesus Is Better

Sermon Notes

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

New Life Church invites all baptized Christians who are members of Christ's church to join us in this feast of bread and wine.

The inner circle of cups contains red wine and the outer circle of cups contains white grape juice.

If you are unable to consume wheat, gluten free crackers are available.

If you wish to participate in the Lord's Supper but mobility is limited, kindly let Pastor Erik or one of the elders know. They are happy to serve you in the pew.

Prayer

Words of Institution – From I Corinthians 11

Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith.

All: Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Communing Together

Allowing space for other family units, please come up front to take communion. After you have been served the bread and wine, please partake and dispose of the communion cup prior to returning to your seat. Use the extra time during communion as a time for prayer and reflection.

Prayer of Thanksgiving



Benediction – *Numbers 6:24-26*

Leader: ²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Sending

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

*All songs are either public domain or licensed under CCLI #2410623.

This Week at New Life

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun, 1/3	9:00 AM	Worship Service (Masks Required)	Sanctuary
Sun, 1/3	10:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun, 1/3	11:00 AM	Worship Service (Masks Requested)	Sanctuary
W, 1/6	9:00 AM	Mom's Group	Fellowship Hall
W, 1/6	9:00 AM	Prayer Group	New Life
W, 1/6	9:00 AM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Sanctuary
Th, 1/7	6:55 PM	Bible Study Fellowship	Zoom
Sat, 1/9	7:00 AM	Men's Group	New Life
Sun, 1/10	9:00 AM	Worship Service (Masks Required)	Sanctuary
Sun, 1/10	10:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun, 1/10	11:00 AM	Worship Service (Masks Requested)	Sanctuary

Announcements

- *Men's Group:* Our next Men's Group will meet at 7AM on Saturday January 9 at the church. We will be studying Joshua.
- Women's Winter Book Club: We are independently reading the true story of Murder, Motherhood, and Miraculous Grace by Debra Moerke. Join us for the discussion and dinner which will take place the end of February or early March. See Connie Kay for more details.

Ongoing Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: Sunday School Classes (all ages) at 10:00 am.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday Morning Mom's Group Bible Study: Studying 1 John. Contact Joy Swanson.

Men's Group: Meeting at New Life every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 7:00AM. We are discussing a number of male characters from the Bible. Contact Rob Rothermel.

Women's Bible Study: A new study (topic to be determined) for the spring session will begin in March. For suggestions or questions, please contact Marlene Spark.

Youth Group: Please contact the church office for more information.

Prayer Small Group: Meets every other Wednesday 9:00AM at New Life. Contact Sue Rothermel.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): Currently meeting via Zoom on Thursday evenings beginning 6:55; we are studying Genesis. Contact Joe Heidler.

Discipleship Groups: These are same-gender groups that meet to encourage each other to follow Jesus as we walk with each other. Please contact Pastor Erik to join a group.

Community Groups: These are microcosms of the church. They are intergenerational and inclusive of men and women and boys and girls. Whatever age or stage of life you find yourself in, you are welcomed in a community group. Food, fellowship, discussion of the Scriptures, and prayer are all elements of community groups. At the moment our one group meets on the first and third Sundays, at the Swanson's, from 6:00-7:30.

New Life Presbyterian Church Vision, Mission, and Core Values

Vision: To see York and beyond embrace God's beauty and extend God's love.

Mission: To receive the grace of God, to give the glory to God,

and to follow the Word of God.

Core Values:

• His Voice: While God speaks through creation, God speaks directly in the

Word of God. Therefore, we receive and obey God's Word.

• **His Plan:** Because God is love, God is on a mission to save. We seek to

follow Him in His mission.

His Grace: The good news for sinners is that Jesus saves, by grace. Through

faith we believe in Christ and grow in Christ.

His Power: Only God has power to save and sustain His people. We depend

on the Holy Spirit.

• **His People:** In Christ, the church is made one. In the midst of both unity and

diversity, we must love one another.

His Gifts: Creation, redemption, and the ability to serve are all gifts from

God. The entire church should be equipped and empowered to

serve gratefully.

• **His Timing:** All things are in God's hands. Therefore, we trust in His ways.

For more information, please visit: http://www.newlifeyorkpca.com/about-us.html

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