



NEW LIFE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erik Swanson".

Pastor Erik Swanson

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

Worshiping God

December 27, 2020

Reflection:

We may ignore, but we can nowhere evade, the presence of God. The world is crowded with Him. He walks everywhere incognito. And the incognito is not always hard to penetrate. The real labor is to attend. In fact, to come awake. Still more, to remain awake. - C.S. Lewis

O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there thy cheerful beams. - St. Augustine

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – From Luke 1 (The Song of Mary)

Minister: My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

People: His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

Minister: He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

People: He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

Minister: He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

People: He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers.”

All: O come let us adore Him! O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Prayer of Praise

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Words by
Charles Wesley

Music by
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

VERSE

D A D/F# D D/A A D/F# Dmaj7/F# G Em/G



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — “Glo - ry to — the
2. Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored; — Christ, the ev - er -
3. Hail, the heav’n - born Prince of Peace! — Hail, the Sun — of
4. Come, De - sire of na - tions, come! — Fix in us — Thy

4 D/A A D A Bm D/A G#m7(b5) E7 F#m E/G# A A/C#



new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild; — God and sin - ners
-last - ing Lord; Late in time be - hold Him come, — off - spring of — the
Right - eous - ness! Light and life to all He brings, — ris’n with heal - ing
hum - ble home: Rise, the wom - an’s con - qu’ring seed, — bruise in us — the

8 Dmaj7 E7 A N.C. D/F# A7/C# D D/A A D/F#



rec - on - ciled.” Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, — join the tri - umph
Vir - gin’s womb. Veiled in flesh the God - head see, — hail th’in - car - nate
in His wings: Mild He lays His glo - ry by, — born that man no
ser - pent’s head; Ad - am’s like - ness now ef - face, — stamp Thine im - age

12 A7/C# D D/A A G Gmaj9 Em/G B Em A/G D/F# D



of the skies; — With th’an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, “Christ is — born — in
De - i - ty! — Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, — our — Em -
more may die; — Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to — give — them
in its place: — Sec - ond Ad - am from a - bove, re - in - state — us

16 D/A A D G D/F# Em B Em Em/D



Beth - le - hem." Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, ____
-man - u - el. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, ____
sec - ond birth. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, ____
in Thy love. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, ____

19 A/C# A/G D/F# D D/A A7 D



"Glo - ry ____ to ____ the new - born King."
"Glo - ry ____ to ____ the new - born King."
"Glo - ry ____ to ____ the new - born King."
"Glo - ry ____ to ____ the new - born King."

Confession of Faith – John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

OT Scripture Reading – Isaiah 60

Pastor Erik Swanson

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God, gracious Father, we confess that we are not worthy of your presence, but we look now to the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin. Through him we would now come near to you, listening to your voice, trusting in your love, delighting in your Word, and leaning on your arm. We joyfully beg to see your face! Now cleanse our minds of all error and our hearts of all idols, that we may shine in the world with the radiant light of your Spirit and your character. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

255 Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse. Isaiah 11:1

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The Rose I have in
3. This Flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As men of old have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - ery -

sung. It came, a Flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
kind. To show God's love a - right She bore to
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and

cold of win - ter When half - spent was the night.
men a Sav - ior When half - spent was the night.
death He saves us And light - ens ev - ery load.

TEXT: German carol, 16th century; translated by Theodore Baker, stanzas 1,2 and Harriet Krauth Spaeth, stanza 3
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Cologne, 1599; harmonized by Michael Praetorius

ES IST EIN' ROS'
7.6.7.6.6.7.6.

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 – Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Galatians 3:23-25

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

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

Go Tell It On The Mountain

Words by
John W. Work, Jr.

Music
Traditional African-American Spiritual

CHORUS

G C/G G Em⁷ Am C/D D⁷ G C/G G C/G

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

5 G C/G G Em⁷ A⁹ C/D D⁷ G C/G G Fine

Go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ _ is born.

VERSE

9 G D/F# Em⁷ Am C/D D⁷ G C/G

1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
 2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when lo a - bove the earth, rang
 3. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

14 G D/F# Em⁷ A G/A A D^{7sus} D⁷ D.C.

-hold through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light. ____
 out the an - gel chor - us that hailed the Sav - ior's birth. ____
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bles - sed Christ - mas morn. ____

Benediction – Luke 2:14

*Leader: Glory to God in the highest,
 and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!*

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, 12/27	9:00 AM	Worship Service (Masks Required)	Sanctuary
Sun, 12/27	10:00 AM	Adult Sunday School	New Life
Sun, 12/27	11:00 AM	Worship Service (Masks Requested)	Sanctuary
W, 12/30	9:00 AM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	New Life
Sat, 1/2	2:00 PM	Women's Zoom Tea Party	Zoom
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

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date Offering	\$200,000.00	\$204,467.73
Last Week	\$4,000.00	\$6,814.00

Announcements

- **No Children's/Youth Sunday School on Dec 27th:** There will not be children's/youth classes on Dec 27th. The adult Christian education class on the gospel of John will meet that day.
- **Women's Zoom Tea:** Join us via Zoom for a virtual tea party on Saturday January 2nd at 2PM. For more information, contact Holly Wirt at 717-916-2113 or holly_hursh@yahoo.com.
- **Women's Winter Book Club:** We will be 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 9:00 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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