



New Life Presbyterian Church

# 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 black ink that reads "Erik Swanson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Erik Swanson

P.S. There is a staffed nursery, off the fellowship hall, for children ages 0-4.

# Worshiping God

December 13, 2020

## Reflection:

*“Never in any experience of God here or hereafter will you or I ever find anything that is not already there for us in Jesus Christ, the Word became flesh.” – H.R. Mackintosh*

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

*Bud Palmer*

## Call to Worship – *Philippians 4:4-7*

*<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

## Prayer of Praise

7

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 2. Shep- herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
 3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,  
 5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;

ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 God with man is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
 • seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:  
 sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:  
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One:

REFRAIN

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

### Third Sunday of Advent – The Reese family

*Reader: Today we relight the first two candles of the Advent wreath. The candle of **HOPE** and the candle of **PEACE**. Now we light the third candle of Advent. This is the candle of **JOY**. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth. From the Book of Isaiah we read the words of our Lord: “But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.”—Isaiah 65:18  
From the New Testament, the words of Paul to the people of the church at Galatia: “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.”—Galatians 5:22-25  
Let us pray:*

***All: We joyfully praise you, O Lord, for the fulfillment of your promise of a Savior and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with your living Spirit. Amen.***

# What Child Is This

Words by  
William Chatterton Dix

Music  
Traditional English Folk Melody  
"Greensleeves"

VERSE

Em D/F# G D Em Am/C

1. What Child is this, who laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is  
 2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are  
 3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to

4 B Em D/F# G D Em Am B

sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are  
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear for sin - ners here, the si - lent Word is  
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en -

8 E<sup>sus</sup> Em Bm G D Em Am/C

keep - ing? This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and  
 plead - ing. Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for  
 - throne Him. Raise, raise the song on high; The Vir - gin sings her

12      B                      Bm   G                      D                      Em   Am B                      E<sup>sus</sup>   Em

an - gels sing. Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mar - y.  
me, for you. Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mar - y.  
lull - a - by. Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mar - y.

**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 – John 1:1-18 (with a focus on John 1:6-13)**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.



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**

# He Shall Reign Forevermore

## Verse 1

In the bleak mid-winter,  
All creation groans  
For a world in darkness,  
Frozen like a stone.  
Light is breaking  
In a stable for a throne.

## Chorus

And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore  
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore!  
Unto us a Child is born,  
The King of kings and Lord of lords,  
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore!

## Verse 2

If I were a wise man  
I would travel far;  
If I were a shepherd  
I would do my part;  
But poor as I am,  
I will give to Him my heart.

## Bridge

Here within a manger lies the One  
Who made the starry skies,  
This baby born for sacrifice,  
Christ the Messiah,  
Into our hopes, into our fears  
The Savior of the world appears,  
The promise of eternal years,  
Christ the Messiah.

Words and Muic by Chris Tomlin and Matt Maher

**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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sun, 12/13	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all Ages	New Life
Sun, 12/13	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
W, 12/16	9:00 AM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Sanctuary
W, 12/16	9:00 AM	Mom's Group	Fellowship Hall
Th, 12/17	6:55 PM	Bible Study Fellowship	Zoom
Sun, 12/20	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all Ages	New Life
Sun, 12/20	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun, 12/20	3:00 PM	Ultimate Frisbee	York Township Park
Sun, 12/20	6:00 PM	Cookies and Carols	New Life

## Church Financial Summary

<b>Category</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Year to Date Offering</b>	\$192,000	\$191,506.73
<b>Last Week</b>	\$4,000.00	\$5,269.00

## Announcements

- ***Cookies and Carols:*** In lieu of community group, all of New Life is invited to meet at the church on Sunday, Dec 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM, for an hour of cookies and carols.
- ***Lessons and Carols Service:*** New Life will host a brief Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve, at 6:30 PM.
- ***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 on the second and fourth Saturdays 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 Group:** These are a microcosm 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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