



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,



Pastor Erik Swanson

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

Worshiping God

April 18, 2021

Reflection:

*When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.
– Edward Mote*

Welcome and Announcements

Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – from Zephaniah 3 and Psalm 33

Wayne Blanding

Leader: Sing, O Daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel!

People: Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem!

*Leader: The LORD has taken away your punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.*

*People: The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.*

Leader: The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save.

*People: He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love,
he will rejoice over you with singing.*

*All: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;
it is fitting for the upright to praise him.*

Prayer of Praise

Cornerstone

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

(REPEAT)

Chorus

Christ alone: cornerstone,
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love,
Through the storm, He is Lord,
Lord of all.

Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil.

Interlude

He is Lord, Lord of all.

Verse 3

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless stand before the throne.

Confession of Faith – 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

Scripture Reading – Genesis 17:1-8

Barry Francisco

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Prayer of Confession:

**Loving Father,
Almighty God, who is rich in mercy to all those who call upon you; hear me as I come to you humbly confessing my sins, and imploring your mercy and forgiveness. I have broken your holy laws by my deeds and by my words, and by the sinful affections of my heart. I confess before you my disobedience and ingratitude, my pride and willfulness, and all my failure and shortcomings toward you and toward my family, friends, and others. Have mercy upon me, most merciful Father; and of your great goodness grant that I may from now on serve and please you in newness of life; grant me this, I pray, through the mediation of Jesus Christ my Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace – 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer-
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness, and
freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and
boundless peace.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus,
For my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing:
"All is mine."
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken,
For by my side, the Saviour, he will stay.
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need his power is displayed.

To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend
me.
Through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh the night has been won and I shall
overcome.
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Verse 3

No fate I dread; I know I am forgiven.
The future sure, the price, it has been
paid;
For Jesus bled and suffered for my
pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the
grave.

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: *"I
am free."*
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,
For he has said that he will bring me
home;
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus-
All the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips
shall repeat:
"Yet not I, but through Christ in me."

Ending

When the race is complete, still my lips
shall repeat:
"Yet not I, but through Christ in me."
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Prayers of the People

Ministry Moment – *Pete and Sharon McMillan*

Holly Wirt

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 6:13-20

¹³For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ¹⁴saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” ¹⁵And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. ¹⁶For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. ¹⁷So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, ¹⁸so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. ¹⁹We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, ²⁰where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Sermon: A Secure Faith

Pastor Erik Swanson

Series: Jesus Is Better

Sermon Notes

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
New mercies I see.
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me.

Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness,
O God my Father.
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions they fail not.
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be.

Verse 2

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness,
Mercy and love.

Verse 3

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
To cheer and to guide,
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow:
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside.

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

Ordination of Mr. Iren Snavelly

Office of the Deacon

Ordination Vows

Prayer of Ordination

Recognition of the Ordinand

Pronouncement

Exhortation to the Ordinand

Prayer

By Faith

Verse 1

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design,
In the lives of those who prove His
faithfulness,
Who walk by faith and not by sight.

Verse 2

By faith our fathers roamed the earth,
With the pow'r of His promise in their
hearts,
Of a holy city built by God's own hand-
A place where peace and justice reign.

Chorus

We will stand as children of the promise.
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's
reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is
done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

Verse 3

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would
appear
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin
and death
And rise triumphant from the grave.

Verse 4

By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good
news
In ev'ry corner of the earth.

Verse 5

By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,
For we know in Christ all things are
possible
For all who call upon His name.

Benediction – Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 4/18	9:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun 4/18	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun 4/18	3:00 PM	Ultimate Frisbee	York Township Park
Sun 4/18	5:00 PM	SILVERS: Chili Cook-Off	Fellowship Hall
Sun 4/18	6:00 PM	Community Group	Swanson Home
Tues 4/20	7:00 PM	Missions Meeting	Fellowship Hall
W 4/21	9:00 AM	Mom’s Group	Fellowship Hall
W 4/21	9:00 AM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Sanctuary
W 4/21	5:30 PM	Parenting Seminar / Kids’ Honor Club	New Life
W 4/21	7:00 PM	Women’s Bible Study	Fishbowl Room
Th 4/22	9:00 AM	Women’s Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
Th 4/22	6:55 PM	Bible Study Fellowship	Zoom
Sun 4/25	9:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun 4/25	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun 4/25	11:30 AM	Local Missions Meeting (Servants)	Sanctuary
Sun 4/25	3:00 PM	Community Hike and Picnic	Kelly’s Run

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date Offering	\$61,153.80	\$66,943.80
Week of 4/11	\$4,076.92	\$6,604.00

Announcements

- **Treasurer Transition:** New Life is grateful for Eileen's service as our treasurer. As the Palmers prepare to move closer to family, Eileen will be stepping out of that volunteer position. Barry Francisco has graciously agreed to assume the role. We thank Eileen for a job well done, and we are grateful for Barry's willingness to serve in this role.
- **Cleaning Team Help Needed:** Please contact Steve Harman if you are willing to help clean the church once every 4-5 weeks. It takes about 2 hours.
- **Ultimate Frisbee! Third at Three!** The whole New Life community is invited to come out to York Township Park every 3rd Sunday at 3:00 PM for a game of Ultimate Frisbee.
- **A HOT EVENT!! SILVERS!** The Chili Cook-Off today at 5:00PM will make your taste buds dance. Make a batch of your favorite chili recipe and compete for the Chili Cook-Off Champ. Don't cook? Come for a taste and help to judge the pots of this popular, spicy concoction and all the fixin's. Questions? Call Sue Ann Randall at 717-818-0836.
- **Local Missions Meeting:** Anyone interested in the Servants (Faith Beyond the Pews Work Camp) local missions trip this year is invited to attend a meeting in the sanctuary after church on April 25.
- **Community Hike and Picnic, April 25th, 3:00 PM:** Interested in an afternoon hike? Please join Blaine and Barbara Marsh for a 3.7-mile round trip hike at Kelly's Run Nature Preserve, on the east bank of the Susquehanna. Printed directions are available in the information center. Meet there in the parking lot at 3:00 PM on April 25.
- **Hospitality Team:** Interested in being on the hospitality team? Join the discussion as we talk, plan, and pray about what things will look like this side of the novel coronavirus. We will have two zoom meetings (April 27th; May 18th) on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81895830807?pwd=ckpvSVQ4akkvZTk4TVdINXNucG1FUT09>

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- **Free Family-Friendly Movie Night:** We'll be showing *How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World* for New Life and our community at large on Friday April 30 at 7:30PM! Snacks and drinks provided.
- **Women's Day-Retreat:** Trinity Presbyterian Church has graciously invited any women from the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery to their one-day retreat on **Saturday May 22** from 9am-2pm at Trinity PCA, 6098 Locust Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17109. The topic is *Living with Hope in a World of Despair*. The cost is \$10 and includes a boxed lunch from Panera. Registration forms are available in the entryway. Please submit forms and money to Holly Wirt by **May 9** and also let her know if you will need a ride. Please note that masks are required for this event.
- **New Members Class:** If anyone is interested in a new members class, please contact Pastor Erik.
- **Prayer for the Muslim World:** Please join the congregation in prayer for the Muslim world during Ramadan, the month-long time of fasting for Islam, April 12 to May 12, 2021. To guide your prayers, two resources are available. First, The Mission Committee is providing booklets from Worldchristian.com, which will be available on the information table. There are Adult and Child versions. Please pick one up. Also, if you prefer an on-line resource, please go to prayercast.com/love-muslims-landing.html and sign up for their prayer guide. You will receive a daily video which includes testimonies and information on various Muslim communities. Both resources are an excellent source of information and guidance for prayer; each covers different topics daily. Two of our supported missionaries serve with Muslims directly, and two more indirectly. More Muslims are coming to faith in Jesus at this time than in any other time in the 14 centuries since Islam existed. Please pray!

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: Studying *Connecting* by Larry Crab. We sense our need for connection more than ever during this COVID time. Come learn God's vision for the people in His body to connect to Him and one another. Classes for children as well. Contact Joy Swanson.

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

Women's Bible Study: We are studying the book *Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers*. The in-person group meets Wednesday at the church from 7:00-8:30 PM. A Zoom group meets Thursdays 9:00-10:30 AM. Contact Marlene Spark for more details.

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

Prayer Small Group: Meets every other Wednesday 9:00 AM 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 welcome 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 PM.

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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