



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

May 23, 2021

Reflection:

"I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD."

- God, through the prophet Jeremiah

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – Psalm 105:1-3

*Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!
Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!*

Prayer of Praise

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land
With the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire;
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy;
Send forth Your word, Lord,
And let there be light.

Verse 1

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth You now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Verse 2

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness;
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Verse 3

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

King of Kings

Verse 1

In the darkness we were waiting,
Without hope, without light,
Till from Heaven You came running,
There was mercy in Your eyes.

To fulfil the law and prophets,
To a virgin came the Word,
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt.

Chorus

Praise the Father,
Praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, three in one.
God of Glory,
Majesty,
Praise forever to the King of kings.

Verse 2

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation,
You did not despise the cross.

For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side,
Knowing this was our salvation,
Jesus, for our sake You died.

Verse 3

And the morning that You rose,
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death.

And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe,
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored.

Verse 4

And the Church of Christ was born,
Then the Spirit lit the flame,
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel, shall not faint.

By His blood and in His Name,
In His freedom I am free,
For the love of Jesus Christ,
Who has resurrected me.

Confession of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer #1

1. Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Scripture Reading – Acts 20:17-35

Barry Francisco

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession:

Faithful Lord,

We confess that we have walked by sight and not by faith.

We have served in our own strength instead of the strength which You supply;

We have relied on our own resources rather than trusting You to provide;

We have been consumed by worry, guilt, and restlessness because we seek to control our own lives rather than resting and relying on You for everything that we need for life and godliness.

Yet we know that even when we are faithless, You will remain faithful for You cannot deny Yourself.

Father, forgive us for our lack of faith, and by the power of Your Spirit work in us true and genuine repentance that gives life to true and genuine faith.

Grant us zealous hearts, fervent devotion, and tireless hope in the Gospel. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Amen.

Assurance of Grace – Colossians 1:13

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

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Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Gal. 5:25

Capo 3: ♭ (G) (D⁷) (G) (C) (Am⁷) (G) ♭ (Em) (F♯)

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; wean it from
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies, no sud - den
 3. Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King? All, all thine
 4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh; teach me the
 5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love, one ho - ly

(Bm) (E⁷) (D/A) (A⁷) (D) (D⁷) (C)

earth, through all its puls - es move; stoop to my weak - ness,
 rend - ing of the veil of clay, no an - gel vis - i -
 • own, soul, heart, and strength and mind. I see thy cross—there
 strug - gles of the soul to bear, to check the ris - ing
 pas - sion fill - ing all my frame; the bap - tism of the

(D⁷) ♭ (G) (C) (G) (D⁷) (G) ♭

might - y as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 tant, no o - p'ning skies; but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 • teach my heart to cling: O let me seek thee, and O let me find.
 doubt, the reb - el sigh; teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 heav'n - de - scend - ed Dove, my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

Prayers of the People

Ministry Moment – *Honoring Graduates*

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 in the 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 13:7-19*

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

¹⁸Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. ¹⁹I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner.

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

How Great Thou Art

Verse 1

O Lord my God,
When I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made,
I see the stars,
I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r thru'out
The universe displayed.

Chorus

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God to Thee,
How great Thou art.
How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul,
My Savior God to Thee,
How great Thou art.
How great Thou art.

Verse 2

And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die,
I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died
To take away my sin.

Verse 3

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home,
What joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim,
My God how great Thou art.

Benediction – 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

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 5/23	9:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun 5/23	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
W 5/26	7:00 AM	Men's Group	Fellowship Hall
W 5/26	9:00 AM	Mom's Group	Fellowship Hall
W 5/26	9:00 AM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Sanctuary
W 5/26	9:00 AM	Prayer Small Group	New Life
W 5/26	5:30 PM	Parenting Seminar / Kids' Honor Club	New Life
W 5/26	7:00 PM	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sat 5/29	9:00 AM	Closing Parenting Seminar	New Life
Sun 5/30	9:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun 5/30	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date Offering	\$81,538.40	\$87,237.80
Week of 5/16	\$4,076.92	\$3,028.00

Announcements

- **Officer Nominations:** The session is opening officer nominations from May 23 - June 27. Although elder candidates are the greater need, nominations may be made for elder or deacon. More information on the process is available at the information table. After nominations, there will be training, examination by the session, and a called congregational meeting near the end of the year for the purpose of voting.
- **Palmers' new address!** 142 Williams Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201
- **Women's Book Club:** Reading *A Change of Affection* by Beckett Cook. See Connie Kay for details or for help ordering a book (\$14.50). Dinner/discussion is TBD in August.
- **Sunday Morning Greeter Ministry:** Help requested. Contact Pastor Erik if interested.
- **Upcoming Men's Events: Men's Boating Trip:** Meet at the Lake Marburg main boat launch at Codorus State park at 10:30 AM on Saturday June 5. A handful of boats will be available for those who want them. Please bring your own lunch, water, and sunscreen.
- **SILVERS!** Come join the fun and fellowship planned for you on Saturday June 19 at Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord, 2760 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA. You may do the smorgasbord or order from a menu and enjoy the scrumptious food that is served. There is a gift shop to browse through and buy something you like. Follow the Covid-19 guidelines in place. Please sign up at the information table in the hall by the Sunday June 13 cut-off date. We will car pool from New Life at 3:00 PM. If you have any questions contact Mary at 717-428-6380.
- **CEF 5 Day Club:** Mark your calendars for August 2-6, 9:30-11:30 AM, for a Children's Evangelism Fellowship 5 Day Club at New Life. Help is needed for the second hour, as we provide crafts, snack, and activities.
- **Bible Study Fellowship:** Beginning again in September and studying Matthew. Sign up online at bsfinternational.org. See Joe Heidler with questions.
- **2nd Annual Fall Camping Trip:** A group from New Life will be going camping at Codorus state park from Thursday September 9 through Sunday September 12. Come when you can; leave when you need to. A group of people has already booked sites: if you want to book electric sites, book as close as possible to sites 87, 89, 90, 91, and 94; if you want book non-electric, book as close as possible to 140-142 or 84-86. All of New Life is invited for a 6:00 PM potluck dinner on Saturday September 11.

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 Moms' Group: This group gathers to study Larry Crabb's book, *Connecting*. 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: Men meet 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.

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

Prayer Small Group: This group meets at New Life on alternate Wednesdays, beginning at 9:00 AM. Contact Sue Rothermel.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): Beginning again in September and studying Matthew. Sign up online at bsfinternational.org. See Joe Heidler with questions.

Discipleship Groups: 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 microcosms of the church are intergenerational gatherings of men, women, and children. Whatever age or stage of life you find yourself in, you are welcome in a community group. Come to the Swanson's home to enjoy food, fellowship, a discussion of the Scriptures, and prayer. This group meets on the first and third Sundays 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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