

**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

Eik Snam

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

# **Worshiping God**

May 9, 2021

#### Reflection:

"We might say that as High Priest he does what the Old Covenant could not do by cleansing the heart from sin. As Mediator he undoes what the Old did, by removing the condemnation pronounced on the sinner." - Cockerill

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Erik Swanson

**Call to Worship** – *from Colossians* 1

Joe Heidler

Leader: Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

**People:** For all things were created by him and for him.

Leader: He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

People: And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning and

firstborn from among the dead.

Leader: Christ has supremacy in all things, for God was pleased to have all his

fullness dwell in him.

**People:** Through Christ, God has reconciled all things to himself.

Leader: Things on earth or things in heaven, visible and invisible; whether thrones

or rulers or powers or authorities.

People: He has reconciled them to himself, making peace through his blood

shed on the cross.

#### **Prayer of Praise**

## **Better Is One Day**

#### Verse 1

How lovely is Your dwelling place,
O Lord almighty,
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

#### Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts, Better is one day in Your house, Better is one day in Your courts Than thousands elsewhere (Than thousands elsewhere).

## Verse 2

One thing I ask and I would seek:

To see Your beauty,

To find You in the place

Your glory dwells.

(REPEAT)

## Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out
For You the living God,
Your Spirit's water to my soul.
I've tasted and I've seen,
Come once again to me.
I will draw near to You,
I will draw near to You, to You.

## Bridge

Better is one day, better is one day, Better is one day than thousands elsewhere. Better is one day, better is one day, Better is one day than thousands elsewhere.

## What A Beautiful Name

#### Verse 1

You were the Word at the beginning, One with God the Lord Most High. Your hidden glory in creation Now revealed in You our Christ.

#### Chorus 1

What a beautiful Name it is,
What a beautiful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ my King.
What a beautiful Name it is,
Nothing compares to this.
What a beautiful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus.

#### Verse 2

You didn't want heaven without us So Jesus You brought heaven down. My sin was great, Your love was greater. What could separate us now?

#### Chorus 2

What a wonderful Name it is,
What a wonderful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ my King.
What a wonderful Name it is,
Nothing compares to this.
What a wonderful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus.
What a wonderful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus.

#### Bridge

Death could not hold You,
The veil tore before You,
You silence the boast of sin and grave.
The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again.

#### Bridge

You have no rival,
You have no equal,
Now and forever, God, You reign.
Yours is the kingdom,
Yours is the glory,
Yours is the Name above all names.

#### Chorus 3

What a powerful Name it is,
What a powerful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ my King.
What a powerful Name it is,
Nothing can stand against.
What a powerful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus.

### Ending

What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus. What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus.

## 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** – *Jeremiah 31:31-34* 

Connie Kay

*Reader:* This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

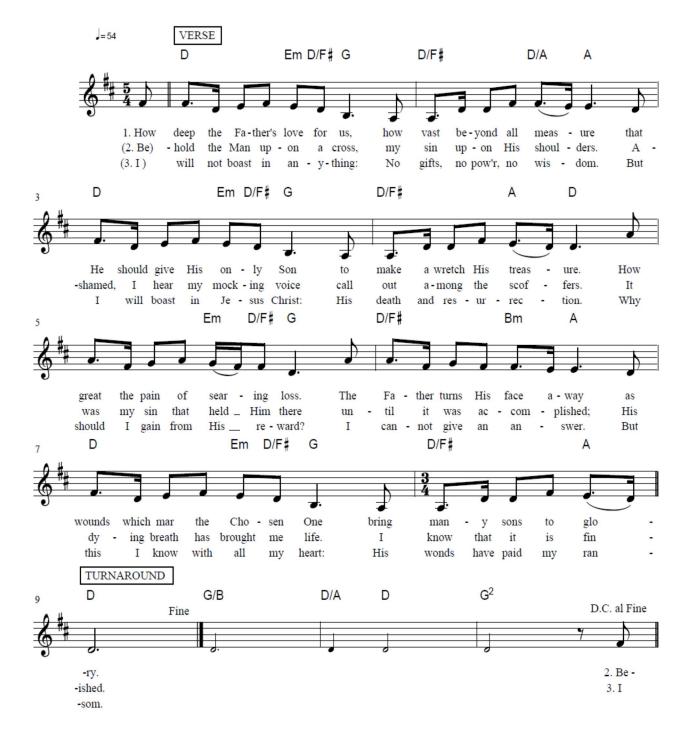
## **Prayer of Confession:**

### Our Father,

You sent your Son to reveal your kingdom and accomplish your will. We confess that we pursue our own kingdoms, and we think that our will is best. In our pursuit, we dishonor you, and we wound ourselves and our neighbors. Have mercy, Father, and forgive. Remember the death of your Son, who came to bring a kingdom of true righteousness and peace. May your Spirit enable us to walk in the ways of our king, for we ask in Jesus name, 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.



## **Prayers of the People**

### **Ministry Moment –** Celebrating Mothers

#### **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 9*

<sup>1</sup>Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness. <sup>2</sup>For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. <sup>3</sup>Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place, <sup>4</sup>having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. <sup>5</sup>Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

<sup>6</sup>These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties, <sup>7</sup>but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people. <sup>8</sup>By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing <sup>9</sup>(which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, <sup>10</sup>but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.

<sup>11</sup>But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but

by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. <sup>16</sup>For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. <sup>17</sup>For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. <sup>18</sup>Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. <sup>19</sup>For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, <sup>20</sup>saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." <sup>21</sup>And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. <sup>22</sup>Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

<sup>23</sup>Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. <sup>24</sup>For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup>Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, <sup>26</sup>for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup>And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, <sup>28</sup>so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Sermon: The Best Offering 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**

# My Faith Has Found A Resting Place

#### Verse 1

My faith has found a resting place
Not in device nor creed.
I trust the ever-living One,
His wounds for me shall plead.

## Chorus

I need no other argument,
I need no other plea.
It is enough that Jesus died
And that He died for me.

## Verse 2

Enough for me that Jesus saves,
This ends my fear and doubt.
A sinful soul I come to Him,
He'll never cast me out.

## Verse 3

My heart is leaning on the Word, The living Word of God; Salvation by my Savior's name, Salvation thru His blood.

## Verse 4

My great Physician heals the sick,
The lost He came to save.
For me His precious blood He shed,
For me His life He gave.

## **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 5/9	9:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun 5/9	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
W 5/12	7:00 AM	Men's Group	Fellowship Hall
W 5/12	9:00 AM	Mom's Group	Fellowship Hall
W 5/12	9:00 AM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Sanctuary
W 5/12	9:00 AM	Prayer Small Group	New Life
W 5/12	5:30 PM	Parenting Seminar / Kids' Honor Club	New Life
W 5/12	7:00 PM	Women's Bible Study	Fishbowl Room
W 5/12	7:00 PM	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th 5/13	9:00 AM	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
Th 5/13	6:55 PM	Bible Study Fellowship	Zoom
Sun 5/16	9:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun 5/16	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun 5/16	3:00 PM	Ultimate Frisbee	York Township Park

## **Church Financial Summary**

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date Offering	\$73,384.56	\$78,707.80
Week of 5/2	\$4,076.92	\$5,383.00

#### **Announcements**

- Palmer's new address! 142 Williams Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201
- Transportation help: Interested in great conversation during a short car ride to church? Ron Shank needs a ride to Sunday School and church. Here are three possibilities: a. An alternate to substitute if the scheduled person cannot help, b. People who would like to take a turn for the month of June, c. Volunteer for a given week each month. (Example: First week of June.) Interested drivers may call the Donovan/Snavelys at 717-580-6135 or 717-645- 8565 or e-mail at kthln.donovan@gmail.com or ilsnavely@gmail.com.
- 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.
- Cleaning Team Help Needed: Contact Steve Harman.
- Hospitality Meeting: If you are interested in serving the snack after worship, please attend the Zoom meeting on Tuesday May 18 at 8:00 PM.
   <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84819273742?pwd=bEhEUncyN2UyeGNEdIJGMVBPczY5QT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84819273742?pwd=bEhEUncyN2UyeGNEdIJGMVBPczY5QT09</a>
- Attention SILVERS: Today is the last day to sign up for the May 22 chalk talk.
- May 22 Women's Retreat: Forms and money are due today to Holly Wirt.
- Upcoming Men's events: Men's Bike ride: Meet at 9:00 AM at Brillhart Station on Saturday May 22. Contact Rob Rothermel for more details. Men's boating trip: Meet at the Lake Marburg main boat launch at Codorus State park at 10:30 AM on Saturday June 5 for a time of boating. A handful of boats will be available for those who want them. Please bring your own lunch, water, and sun screen.
- **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.
- 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.

**Women's Bible Study:** Both women's Bible study group 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. The Zoom group meets Thursdays from 9:00-10:30 AM. Contact Marlene Spark for more details.

**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):** Currently meeting via Zoom on Thursday evenings beginning 6:55; we are studying Genesis. Contact Joe Heidler.

**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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