



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,



Pastor Erik Swanson

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

Worshiping God

November 21, 2021

Reflection:

"God gives God. That is the gift God always ultimately gives. Because nothing is greater and we have no greater need, God gives God. God gives God, and we only need to slow long enough to unwrap the greatest Gift with our time: time in His Word, time in His presence, time at His feet." - Ann Voskamp

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – *adapted from Luke 1*

Joe Heidler

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

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1. Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home:
 2. All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
 3. For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his har-vest home;
 4. E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home;

all is safe-ly gath-ered in, ere the win-ter storms be-gin;
 wheat and tares to- geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown;
 from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
 gath-er thou thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin;

God, our Mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied:
 first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear:
 give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy pres-ence to a-bide:

come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
 Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
 come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
 2. A help - er just he comes to thee, his char - iot
 3. O blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the
 4. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 is hu - mil - i - ty, his king - ly crown is
 Rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 ho - li - ness, his scep - ter, pi - ty in dis - tress.
 hap - py homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!
 heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.

First Sunday of Advent

Reader: This first Sunday of Advent we light a candle symbolizing **hope**, as we read, pray, and reflect on the **hope** God's plan gives us, which was foretold by the prophets and fulfilled by the life and death of Christ. We also meditate on the promise of Christ's coming glory-filled return.

One Candle Lit

Reader: "The day will come, says the LORD, when I will do for Israel and Judah all the good things I have promised them. In those days and at that time I will raise up a righteous descendant from King David's line. He will do what is just and right throughout the land. In that day Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this will be its name: 'The LORD Is Our Righteousness.'"

- Jeremiah 33:14-16

All: Father, let your hope arise in our hearts! Lift our eyes up to see that our hope comes from you alone. Help us to shake off the anxiety, discouragements, and distractions that have filled this year. You know the end of our stories, and we give thanks because you have promised that it will be a victorious ending. Give us the grace we need to wrap up this year joyfully. We ask that your Spirit be at work in this beautiful Advent season. Renew our sense of holy anticipation! Let us be those who are waiting eagerly for Jesus to come again. More than anything, we ask that you be glorified in this season of expectation. Amen.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come _____ and cheer our spir - its by Thine
 3. O come, Thou Wis - dom from _____ on high, and or - der all things,
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

5 Am Em/B Bm Em Am Em/G D/F# Em Bm C D Em



Is - ra - el; That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds _____ of night, and
 far _____ and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show, and
 heart _____ and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease; Fill

CHORUS

10 D G C G/B D G D Em Bm G



-til the Son of God _____ ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 death's dark shad - ows put _____ to flight.
 cause us in her ways _____ to go.
 the whole world with heav - en's peace.

15 C G/B D Em D/F# G C Am Em/B Bm Em



-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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 in the world.

**All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising
To th'eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

Scripture Reading – *Genesis 12:1-7*

Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” ⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

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 1 Corinthians 11

Minister: 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

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.

Deacons' Offering

Benediction – *2 Corinthians 13:14*

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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 11/28	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages	Classrooms + Fishbowl rooms
Sun 11/28	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun 11/28	6:00 PM	Make Your Own Advent Wreath	Fellowship Hall
Tu 11/30	7:00 PM	Bible Study Fellowship	New Life and/or Zoom
W 12/1	9:00 AM	Moms' Group	Fellowship Hall
W 12/1	9:00 AM	Morning Bible Study	TV Room
W 12/1	7:00 PM	Music team rehearsal	Sanctuary
F 12/3	7:30 PM	Men's Book Discussion	Swanson Home
Sun 12/5	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages	Classrooms + Fishbowl rooms
Sun 12/5	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun 12/5	6:00 PM	Community Group	Swanson Home

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date Offering	\$191,615.24	\$190,525.15
Week of 11/21	\$4,076.92	\$3,650.00

Announcements

- **Poinsettia Order:** A sign-up sheet for ordering poinsettias is on the information table. Today is the last day to place your order. The cost is \$13 per plant.
- **Men's Book Discussion:** The early winter activity for the men of the church is reading and discussing "Live Not by Lies," by Rod Dreher. We will discuss part one on Fri. 12/3 at 7:30pm and part two on Sun. 1/23 at 7:30pm.
- **Congregational Meeting:** The elders have scheduled a congregational meeting for Sun. 12/12 at 11:45am. The only item on the agenda is for the congregation to discuss and then vote on Willard Pope as an elder candidate. Only members may join the discussion and voting; regular attenders and visitors are more than welcome to be present! We do not anticipate the meeting to last more than about 15 minutes. Please mark your calendars.
- **Advent at New Life:**
 - Advent Reading Guides: Individuals and families are invited to stop at the information table to pick up guides for advent readings.
 - Make-Your-Own Advent Candle Wreath: On Sun. 11/28 at 6pm at New Life, come join in an advent wreath making event. The cost is \$5 per person. To ensure adequate supplies, RSVP to Sarah Fox (717-712-3985) by Sun. 11/21. Help is needed ahead of time; contact Pastor Erik if you are willing to collect the greens for the wreaths.
 - Parents' Day Out and Kids' Christmas Party: On Sat. 12/11 from 9:00am-2:00pm, parents from New Life and the surrounding community can drop the kids off at New Life. While the parents have an opportunity for Christmas preparations, the kids will have a Christmas party. There will be games, crafts, snack and lunch, Christmas carols, and teaching on the real meaning of Christmas. Pre-registration is requested, although it will be possible to register at the door. Please prayerfully consider whom you can invite.
 - Open House Christmas Party at the Swansons': NLPC is invited to stop in at the Swansons' (55 Blueberry Lane, Red Lion) from 3pm-8pm on Sat. 12/18. There will be a white elephant gift exchange at 4:30, and we will sing Christmas carols at 7:00.
 - Christmas Eve Service: A "Lessons and Carols" service will be held on Christmas eve at 7pm.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: Sunday School Class is offered for all ages at 9am.

Women's Bible Study: Meets Thursdays 9:30-11:00am and is reading *God of Deliverance: A Study of Exodus 1-18* by Jen Wilken. Contact Marlene Spark (717-428-3827) for details.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: Anyone interested in discussing the upcoming sermon text is welcome to join us at 9am here at New Life.

Moms' Group: Meets at the church from 9:00-11:00am on Wednesdays and is studying the book of *James*. The children are welcome in the nursery/preschool class, the elementary school class, or study hall.

Men's Group: Meets at New Life every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 8:00-9:00am. Currently we are discussing *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. Contact Rob Rothermel at rrothe01@gmail.com for details.

Youth Group: Please contact the church office for information.

Prayer Small Group: Join us in prayer at New Life on alternate Wednesdays, beginning at 9:00 AM. Contact Sue Rothermel at rothermelfam@gmail.com.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): Meets Tuesdays at 7pm at New Life and studies the book of Matthew via Zoom. Contact Joe Heidler at jvheidler@comcast.net with questions.

Discipleship Groups: Same-gender groups meet to encourage each other to follow Jesus as we walk with each other. Please contact Pastor Erik to join a group.

Community Group is designed to be a microcosm of the church. It is an intergenerational gathering of men, women, and children. Whatever age or stage of life you find yourself in, you are welcome. Currently our one group meets at the Swanson's home (usually on the 1st and 3rd Sundays from 6:00-7:30pm) to enjoy food, fellowship, a discussion of the Scriptures, and prayer.

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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