



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

January 2, 2022

Reflection:

“Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required.” – Jesus

“At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” – Jesus

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – Isaiah 45:22-25

Wayne Blanding

“Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other.
By myself I have sworn;
from my mouth has gone out in righteousness
a word that shall not return:
‘To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear allegiance.’
“Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me,
are righteousness and strength;
to him shall come and be ashamed
all who were incensed against him.
In the LORD all the offspring of Israel
shall be justified and shall glory.”

Prayer of Praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



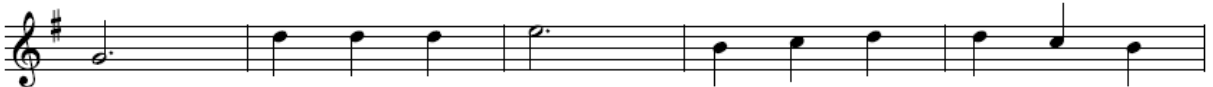
1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly reign -
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend
 4. Praise to the Lord, who hath fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly made
 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

6 G G Em D/F# G D Em Bm C G C D7/A Em C D7



-tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va -
 -eth, shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain -
 thee; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend
 thee; Health hath vouch - safed and, when heed - less - ly fall - ing, hath stayed
 Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore

12 G G D/F# G C G C/E D/F# G D7/A G/B



-tion! All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw
 -eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have
 thee. Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can
 thee. What need or grief ev - er hath failed of re -
 Him! Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a -

17 D G/B C D7/A Em C B7 C D7 G Fine



near; Praise Him in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 been grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?
 do, if with His love he be - friend thee.
 -lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade thee.
 -gain; Glad - ly for aye (all) we a - dore Him.

O Praise the Name

Verse 1

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me.
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet,
My Saviour on that cursed tree.

Verse 2

His body bound and drenched in tears,
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb.
The entrance sealed by heavy stone,
Messiah still and all alone.

Chorus

O praise the Name of the Lord our God.
O praise His Name forevermore.
For endless days we will sing Your praise.
Oh Lord, oh Lord, our God.

Verse 3

Then on the third at break of dawn,
The Son of heaven rose again.
O trampled death, where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King.

Verse 4

He shall return in robes of white.
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints,
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face.

Affirmation of Faith – *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Scripture Reading – *Isaiah 6:8-13*

Joy Swanson

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession:

O God our Father, You have given us all that we need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. He is our life, he is our righteousness, he is our peace, he is our protection, he is our hope, and he is our strength. Our lives belong to Jesus. His blood purchased our salvation. We have peace with you and with other believers because of our Lord. We know our lives are held in His hand. We have confidence for the future because of him. He has given us His Spirit and His Word. We believe this, Father, with gratitude and thanksgiving, and we also confess our lack of faith. We fail at times to live as if these things are true. We believe lies and half-truths, rather than clinging wholeheartedly to your promises in Christ. We act sometimes as if our righteousness depends on us, rather than being your gracious gift. We can be quick to take offense at others, rather than living as ambassadors of peace. Rather than

living by faith in your word, we often live in fear of the other voices in our lives. At times we forget that salvation is entirely a gift from you. Sometimes we act as if it is our strength, not yours, that matters. We confess this unbelief, and we cast ourselves once again on your mercy. Lord, we believe! Help our unbelief. We ask this as we trust in Jesus' name, and as we rely on the strength of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness – *Ephesians 2:8-10*

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

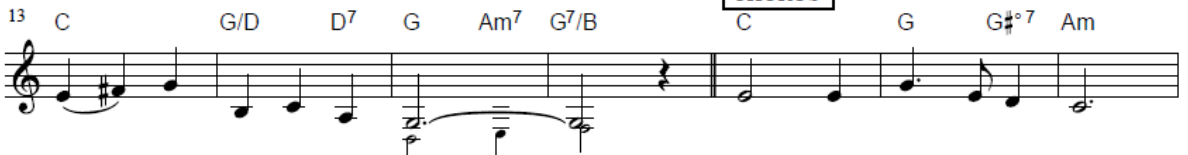


1. O soul, are you wea - ry and trou - bled? No light in the
 2. Thru death in - to life ev - er - last - ing He passed, and we
 3. His Word shall not fail you - He prom - ised; Be - lieve Him, and



dark - ness you see? _____ There's light for a look at the Sav - ior, and
 fol - low Him there; _____ O'er us sin no more hath do - min - ion - for
 all will be well: _____ Then go to a world that is dy - ing, His

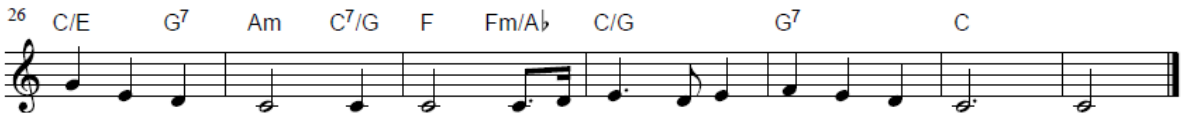
CHORUS



life more a - bun - dant and free! _____ Turn your eyes up - on Je -
 more _ than con - q'rors we are! _____
 per - fect sal - va - tion to tell! _____



-sus, look full in His won - der - ful face; _____ And the things of



earth will grow strange - ly dim in the light of His glo - ry and grace. _____

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.

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 – *Matthew 13:10-17, 34-35*

Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" ¹¹ And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹² For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

““You will indeed hear but never understand,
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

¹⁵ For this people's heart has grown dull,
and with their ears they can barely hear,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should see with their eyes
and hear with their ears
and understand with their heart
and turn, and I would heal them.’

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

³⁴ All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. ³⁵ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:

“I will open my mouth in parables;
I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.”

Sermon: He Gave Us Stories
Series: Stories of the Kingdom

Pastor Erik Swanson

Sermon Notes

Ordination Vows – Willard Pope

The Nature of the Office and the Officer

Vows

Ordination Prayer

Welcome

Pronouncement

Exhortation

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

Jesus, What a Beautiful Name



1. Je - sus, _____ what a beau - ti - ful name. Son _____ of God, Son of
 2. Je - sus, _____ what a beau - ti - ful name. Truth _____ re - vealed, my fu - ture
 3. Je - sus, _____ what a beau - ti - ful name. Res - cued my soul, my strong -

6 Eb/Bb Cm7 Fm7 Bb Ab Eb/G Ab Eb/Bb



Man, Lamb that was slain. _____ Joy _____ and peace, strength _____ and hope,
 sealed, healed _____ my pain. _____ Love _____ and free - dom, life _____ and warmth,
 -hold, lifts me from shame. _____ For-give-ness, se - cur - i - ty, pow - er and love,

11 G Cm Fm7 Eb/Bb



grace that blows all fear a - way. _____ Je - sus,
 grace that blows all fear a - way. _____ Je - sus,
 grace that blows all fear a - way. _____ Je - sus,

14 Ab/Bb Bb Eb



what a beau - ti - ful name. _____
 what a beau - ti - ful name. _____
 what a beau - ti - ful name. _____

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 1/2	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages	Classrooms + Fishbowl rooms
Sun 1/2	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun 1/2	6:00 PM	Community Group	Swanson Home
Tu 1/4	7:00 PM	Bible Study Fellowship	New Life and/or Zoom
W 1/5	9:00 AM	Moms' Group	Fellowship Hall
W 1/5	9:00 AM	Morning Bible Study	TV Room
W 1/5	7:00 PM	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun 1/9	9:00 AM	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms + Fishbowl rooms
Sun 1/9	10:00 AM	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun 1/9	11:30 AM	Second Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun 1/9	11:45 AM	Short-term Missions Conversation	Fishbowl room

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date Offering	\$212,000.00	\$215,429.75
Week of 12/26	\$4,076.92	\$3,190.00

Announcements

- **Women's Bible Study:** The fall study of Exodus 1-18 by Jen Wilken was excellent and well received. A "reprise" of this study will be available through the winter months on Zoom for anyone interested. The exact time will be determined at the convenience of those who wish to sign up. We plan to begin very early in January 2022; so, **please contact Marlene Spark at mjsmarlene@hotmail.com or call 717-428-3827 as soon as possible.** Reasons to sign up: (1) The study goes through the familiar story of Moses, Pharaoh, and God's deliverance of his people, but in a way that focuses our attention on the characteristics of God so that the story becomes fresh and alive. (2) Because Exodus 1-18 was so enjoyable, we will be continuing in the spring with Jen Wilkin's *God of Freedom: Exodus 19-40*. Doing the first 18 chapters is not necessary for the spring study, but it would be good background. All ladies are welcome.
- **Christianity Explored Dinner and Discussion:** Advent and Christmas focus on the good news: Jesus came to seek and save! Please prayerfully consider whom you can invite to join you in a bible study of Mark called "Christianity Explored". This outreach-focused study will explore the fundamentals of Christianity: Jesus' identity, mission, and call. This study is geared for the person willing to consider the claims of Christianity. If interested, contact Pastor Erik. The hope is to have enough interest to offer this class starting some time mid-January. The class will meet for dinner and discussion. A host family who is willing to provide dinner for eight weeks is needed.
- **Short Term Missions Opportunities in 2022:** Interested in the possibility of a short-term missions trip? Join the conversation on Sun. 1/9 at 11:45. Meet in one of the fishbowl rooms.
- **SILVERS:** Come join us at New Life to enjoy the movie *War Room*.
Date: Saturday, January 15th
Time: 6:30 PM
Snacks and beverages will be provided.
SILVERS: Please sign up at the information table in the lobby. Looking forward to seeing you then!

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 two on Sun. 1/23 at 7:30pm.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

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

Women's Bible Study: A new study will begin in March 2022 using the Jen Wilkin study guide, *God of Freedom: Exodus 19-40*. For information please contact Marlene Spark, 717-428-3827 or mjsmarlene@hotmail.com.

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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