

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 15, 2022

## **Reflection:**

"Follow thou me. I am the way and the truth and the life. Without the way there is no going; without the truth there is no knowing; without the life there is no living. I am the way which thou must follow; the truth which thou must believe; the life for which thou must hope. I am the inviolable way; the infallible truth, the never-ending life. I am the straightest way; the sovereign truth; life true, life blessed, life uncreated." - Meditation by Thomas A Kempis

# Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

#### Call to Worship – Isaiah 12

Minister:	We will praise you, O LORD. Though you were angry with us, your anger has been turned away, and you have comforted us.	
People:	The LORD, the LORD is our strength and our song; he has become our salvation. We will trust and not be afraid. With joy we will draw water from the wells of salvation.	
Minister:	Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.	
People:	Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.	

**Prayer of Praise** 

# **Come People of the Risen King**

#### Verse 1

Come people of the Risen King Who delight to bring Him praise. Come all and tune your hearts to sing To the Morning Star of grace. From the shifting shadows of the earth We will lift our eyes to Him, Where steady arms of mercy reach To gather children in.

#### Chorus

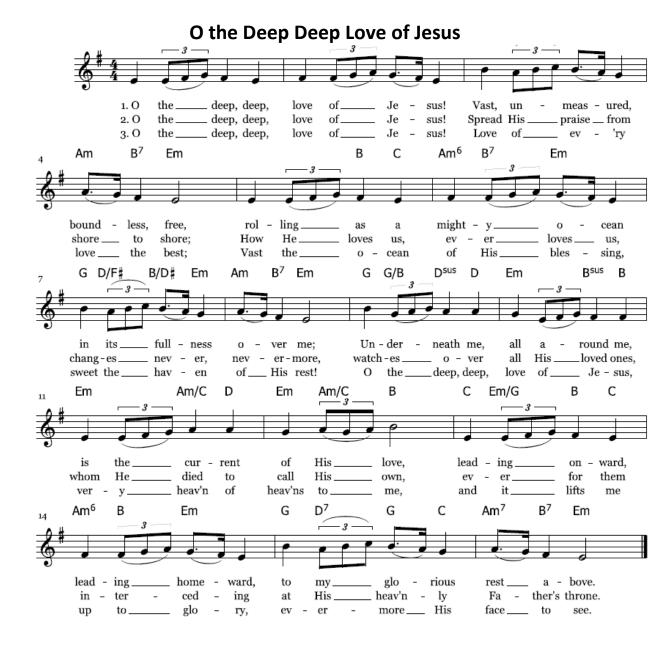
Rejoice, rejoice, let ev'ry tongue rejoice; One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ rejoice!

#### Verse 2

Come those whose joy is morning sun And those weeping through the night. Come those who tell of battles won And those struggling in the fight. For His perfect love will never change And His mercies never cease, But follow us through all our days With the certain hope of peace.

#### Verse 3

Come young and old from ev'ry land, Men and women of the faith. Come those with full or empty hands Find the riches of His grace. Over all the world His people sing, Shore to shore we hear them call. The truth that cries through ev'ry age: Our God is all in all.



## Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism Q & A #26

Q. What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ his Son. I trust him so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and he will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this sad world. He is able to do this because he is almighty God; he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 45:18-25

Wayne Blanding

*Reader:* This is the word of the Lord. *All:* Thanks be to God!

## **Prayer of Confession:**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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.

# **Living Hope**

## Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us. How high the mountain I could not climb. In desperation I turned to heaven And spoke Your name into the night. Then through the darkness Your lovingkindness

Tore through the shadows of my soul. The work is finished, the end is written, Jesus Christ my living hope.

## Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace? The God of ages stepped down from glory To wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has spoken, I am forgiven. The King of kings calls me His own. Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever, Jesus Christ my living hope.

#### Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free.

Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me. You have broken every chain. There's salvation in Your name, Jesus Christ my living hope.

## Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise, Your buried body began to breathe. Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me. (REPEAT) Jesus Yours is the victory!

## Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope, Oh God You are my living hope.

## **Prayers of the People**

## **Missions 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 – John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Sermon: "There Can't Just Be One Way!" Series: Cultural Criticism and Christianity's Beauty Pastor Erik Swanson

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

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**

## Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death

#### Verse 1

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to Him belong.
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ in which we stand.

#### Chorus

O sing hallelujah, Our hope springs eternal, O sing hallelujah. Now and ever we confess Christ our hope in life and death.

#### Verse 2

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.
Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

#### Verse 3

Unto the grave, what will we sing? Christ He lives, Christ He lives. And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and death will be destroyed And we will feast in endless joy When Christ is ours forevermore.

## 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.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 5/15	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms & Fishbowl Rooms
Sun. 5/15	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 5/15	6:00 pm	Community Group	Swanson Home
M. 5/16	7:00 pm	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
W. 5/18	9:00 am	Moms' Group	Fellowship Hall
W. 5/18	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	TV Room
W. 5/18	10:00 am	Prayer Group	Library
W. 5/18	5:30 pm	Parenting Seminar/Kids' Club	Fellowship Hall
W. 5/18	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 5/19	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study	Fishbowl Room
Sat. 5/21	5:00 pm	Spring Festival	New Life
Sun. 5/22	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms & Fishbowl Rooms
Sun. 5/22	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 5/22	11:30 am	Nursery Volunteers' Meeting	Fishbowl Room

## This Week at New Life

# Announcements

- **Spring Festival:** Invite your friends and community to come to an outdoor Spring Festival at New Life on Sat. May 21, rain or shine. The event starts at 5 pm, with a pulled pork dinner served at 5:30 pm. Games, bounce house, and activities are available for family fun. Please consider signing up to help.
- **Nursery Volunteers' Meeting:** Nursery volunteers, please meet in one of the fishbowl rooms at 11:30 on May 22 for a refresh regarding nursery care best practices.
- **Graduation Celebration:** The Wirt Family would like to invite the saints of New Life to join with us as we celebrate Damien's high school graduation on Sat. May 28 at 1 pm. The ceremony will be held at the church building with food to follow.
- Planetarium Visit: You are invited to the Planetarium at the York Learning Center on Fri. June 3 for a free evening of learning about the heavens. We will hear two programs: a live presentation on the stars in the June night sky, and a recorded presentation "Back to the Moon for Good", with live updates on upcoming Moon projects. Both presentations are by Todd Ullery, Member of the York County Astronomical Society and a NASA Ambassador (volunteer). Go to 301 East 6th Avenue, York, and follow the signs to the Planetarium. *Arrive no later than 6:15* for a 6:30 start time, as it is customary at Planetariums to lock the outside doors so that the viewing experience is not interrupted by late arrivals. There will be a break between the two programs. The event should conclude by about 8 pm. There is room for 60, and this is an event for New Life and our invited guests. Please invite friends and please RSVP to Mark Deckard by May 31.
- VBS Planning Meetings: VBS this summer will be July 25-29. The theme will be "Jesus Does the Impossible." This science-themed VBS will explore learning about Jesus' miracles. Planning sessions will occur on Sun. June 5, and Sun. July 3 at 4 pm at New Life. Please help in this ministry to New Life kids and to the community.
- Servants' Outreach June 5-10: Volunteers are needed to donate a dessert for the Thurs. June 9 evening meal. If you are willing to donate a dessert, please see Barbara Henry or sign up in the foyer.
- **3**<sup>rd</sup> **Annual NLPC Camping Trip:** Reserve a site at Codorus State Park for the 3rd Annual NLPC Camping Trip from Fri. Sept. 16 through Sun. Sept. 18. Choose from sites as close as possible to sites 88/140 at Loop C. Early arrival on Thursday is an option. Come when you can; leave when you must. All of NLPC is invited to the community dinner at 5:30 pm on Sat. Sept. 17. Sunday worship at the camp site begins at 8:30 am.

# **Groups for Fellowship and Growth**

Christian Education: Sunday School Classed for all ages are offered at 9:00 am.

*Women's Bible Study:* Meets to study the Word using Jen Wilkins' *God of Freedom: Exodus 19-40.* For more information, contact Marlene Spark.

*Wednesday Morning Bible Study*: Anyone interested in discussing the upcoming sermon text is welcome to join us here at 9:00 am.

*Moms' Group:* Meets at the church from 9:00-11:00 am on Wednesdays to study the virtue of wisdom. The children are welcome in the nursery/preschool class, the elementary school class, or the study hall. For more information, contact Joy Swanson.

*Men's Group:* Meets at Cracker Barrel every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 7:00 am. Currently we are discussing *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Contact Rob Rothermel 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 10:00 am. Contact Sue Rothermel.

*Bible Study Fellowship (BSF):* Join us on Tuesdays at 7 pm at New Life to study the book of Matthew. Contact Joe Heidler 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:** An intergenerational gathering of men, women, and children, is designed to be a microcosm of the church. All are welcome. Currently we meet at the Swansons' home on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, from 6:00-7:30 pm. Come to enjoy food, fellowship, a discussion of Scripture, and prayer. Bring a snack to share, or just bring yourself!

## New Life Presbyterian Church Vision, Mission, and Core Values

Vision: To see York and beyond to embrace God's beauty and extend God's love.

Mission: To receive the grace of God, to give 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 to 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 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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