

*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. The nursery off the fellowship hall is available for parents who wish to stay with their babies/young children during the service.

Worshiping God

December 25, 2022

Reflections:

“If you cannot magnify God, it probably is because you are magnifying yourself. May the Lord cut self down and make nothing of you, and then you will make everything of Him.”
– Charles Spurgeon

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. – Galatians 4:4-5

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – Adapted from Luke 1 (The Song of Mary)

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

Joy to the World

Chords: F, D, A7, D, G, A

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

Chords: D, T

King: let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

Chord: A

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,

Chords: F, D, D/A, A7, and D T

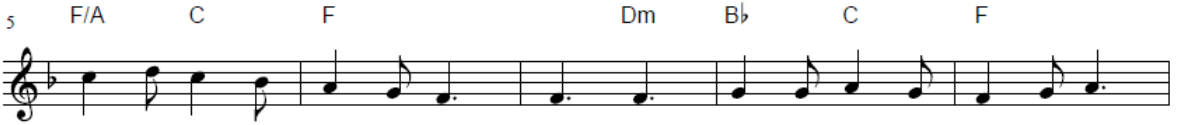
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

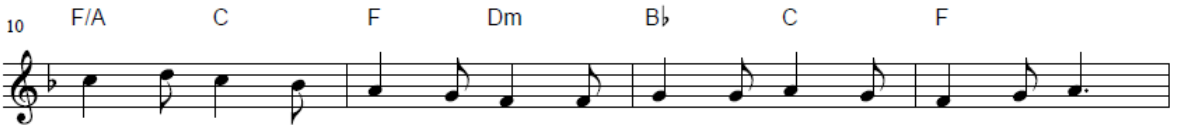
Good Christian Men Rejoice



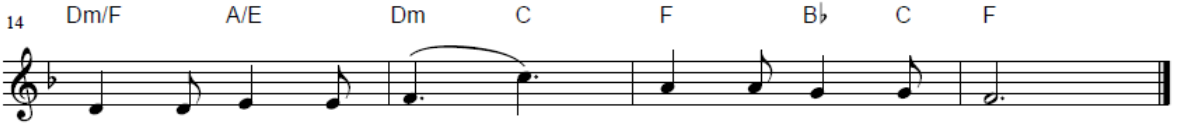
1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice _____ with heart and soul and voice; _____
 2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice _____ with heart and soul and voice; _____
 3. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice _____ with heart and soul and voice; _____



Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Je - sus Christ is born to - day!
 Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save!



Ox and ass be - fore Him bow, and He is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and man is bless - ed ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain His ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! _____ Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! _____ Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! _____ Christ was born to save!

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 11:1-10

Seth Champlin

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 heart; 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.

Prayers of the People

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.

Angels from the Realms of Glory (as Doxology)

**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 – Luke 1:46-56

And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”
⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Sermon Notes

Christmas Medley (All join in!)

Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

The first Noel, the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their
sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
who hath made heaven and earth of
naught,
and with His blood our life hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

God rest ye merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray;
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring Him laud,
the babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him;
the King of Kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the Son of Mary.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet
head;
the stars in the sky looked down where
He lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me I pray;
bless all the dear children in Thy tender
care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee
there.

Our God heav'n cannot hold Him, nor
earth sustain;
heav'n and earth shall flee away when He
comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place
sufficed,
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a
lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give Him? Give my heart.

O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

For You alone are worthy,
for You alone are worthy,
for You alone are worthy, Christ the Lord.

We'll give You all the glory,
we'll give You all the glory,
we'll give You all the glory, Christ the Lord

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace;
chains shall He break, for the slave is our
brother,
and in His name all oppression shall
cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus
raise we,
let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord,
O praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!

"O Come Let Us Adore Him" words and music by John Francis
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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.

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

The elders and deacons will serve you in your seats. Please hold the elements so that we can partake together after all have been served. Use the extra time during communion for prayer and reflection.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Go Tell It on the Mountain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

5 D G/D D Bm⁷ E⁹ G/A A⁷ D G/D D Fine



Go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.

VERSE

9 D A/C# Bm⁷ Em G/A A⁷ D G/D



1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
 2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when lo a - bove the earth, rang -
 3. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

14 D A/C# Bm⁷ E D/E E A^{7sus} A⁷ D.C.



-hold through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light. _____
 out the an - gel chor - us that hailed the Sav - ior's birth. _____
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bles - sed Christ - mas morn. _____

Benediction – Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Sending:

Leader: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

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This Week at New Life

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|------------|----------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Sun. 12/25 | 10:00 am | Corporate Worship Service | Sanctuary |
| W. 12/28 | 9:00 am | Wednesday Morning Bible Study | TV Room |
| W. 12/28 | 9:00 am | Prayer Group | New Life Library |
| Sun. 1/1 | 10:00 am | Corporate Worship Service | Sanctuary |

Church Financial Summary

| Category | Budget | Actual |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Year to Date 2022 | \$219,692.32 | \$269,258.77 |
| Week of 12/18/22 | \$4,307.69 | \$15,017.38 |

Announcements

- **Christmas Changes:** There will be no Sunday School or snack after worship on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.
- **Nursery:** The nursery will not be staffed on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Parents are still welcome to use the nursery to stay with their children as needed during those services.
- **A New Adult Sunday School Class:** Starting Jan. 8, Wayne Blanding will teach a class on Finances and the Bible. The study of 1 Corinthians will also resume that day.
- **Youth Group Parents' Meeting:** After the second Sunday lunch on Jan. 8, there will be a meeting for parents of youth group aged children (grades 6-12). The purpose is to discuss ways that the church can grow in discipling the next generation.
- **Congregational Meeting:** Mark your calendars for Jan. 15 for NLPC's annual congregational meeting. We will look back at 2022 and forward to 2023. We will discuss the 2023 budget and hold a congregational vote on a proposed salary change for Pastor Erik.
- **Women's Book club:** Women of New Life and their friends are reading *Where the Light Fell* by Philip Yancey. Discussion and dinner to be announced for late February.

(continued on next page)

- **Online Giving:** The donation portal for online giving to New Life is changing. Online donations will still be made to the PCA Foundation and forwarded to New Life on a weekly basis. The new portal accepts both credit card and bank debit transactions. Additionally, the portal will provide the donor the option of supporting processing charges, called “Complete Cover”. The donor can select to cover anywhere from 5% (default) to 0% of the donated amount as an additional processing fee. For example, if a donor intends to donate \$100 to New Life and selects a 5% cover, then the donor will be charged \$105, and \$100 will be given to New Life. If the donor selects a 0% cover, then the donor will be charged \$100 and \$100 will be given to New Life.
- **Giving Need for the Building Improvement Fund:** New Life hopes to fundraise and finish several building improvement projects in the coming year. These include: classroom wall removal and ceiling replacement; a level, fenced play area in the yard for children/youth; replacement of the external sanctuary door; and a redesign/replacement of the external fellowship hall door. The redesigned door will include a transom to allow natural light into the fellowship hall, as well as an ADA compliant paved sidewalk out to the asphalt driveway. The cost of all these changes is \$27,000. The Building Improvement Fund has a current balance of \$15,068.57. Although we have a current YTD giving surplus, there are some expenses that NLPC has incurred that are not in the 2022 budget (50 new chairs, the new piano, etc.). Further, the elders think that the capital reserve fund - for major upkeep of the existing property like a new roof or new HVAC units - is very underfunded. Any undesignated budget surplus from 2022 will be allocated to the capital reserve fund. As you prayerfully consider the ways in which you feel led to give, please consider designated giving to the building improvement fund.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: Youth and adult Sunday School are offered during the 9:00 hour.

Women's Bible Study: The next Bible study begins in March 2023. For more information, contact Marlene Spark.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: Interested in discussing the upcoming sermon text? Join us at New Life in the TV Room at 9:00 am.

Moms' Group: Regardless of the children's ages, all moms are welcome to come together for support and to study Ephesians on Wednesday mornings from 9-11 at church. Three classes for the children run concurrently. Please contact Joy Swanson for more details.

Men's Group: Meets at Cracker Barrel every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 7:00 am. 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 9:15 am. Contact Sue Rothermel.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): We are studying "People of the Promise: Kingdom Divided." 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.

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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