



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.

Worshipping God

December 4, 2022

Reflection:

“Wilt thou love God as he thee? then digest, My soul, this wholesome meditation, How God the Spirit, by angels waited on In heaven, doth make His temple in thy breast. The Father having begot a Son most blest, And still begetting—for he ne'er begun— Hath deign'd to choose thee by adoption, Co-heir to His glory, and Sabbath' endless rest. And as a robb'd man, which by search doth find His stolen stuff sold, must lose or buy it again, The Sun of glory came down, and was slain, Us whom He had made, and Satan stole, to unbind. 'Twas much, that man was made like God before, But, that God should be made like man, much more.” – John Donne

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – from Psalm 107

Joe Heidler

Minister: Give thanks to the LORD!

*People: **For he is good; his love endures forever.***

*Minister: Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,*

*People: **For he is good; his love endures forever.***

*Minister: Those he gathered from the lands,
from east and west, from north and south.*

*People: **For he is good; his love endures forever.***

Prayer of Praise

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 Fm Cm/G Gm Cm Fm Cm/Eb Bb/D Cm Gm Ab Bb Cm



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 Bb Eb Ab Eb/G Bb Eb Bb Cm Gm Eb



-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 Ab Eb/G Bb Cm Bb/D Eb Ab Fm Cm/G Gm Cm



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

Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts)

Verse 1

O come behold the works of God
The nations at His feet
He breaks the bow and bends the spear
And tells the wars to cease
O Mighty One of Israel You are on our
side
We walk by faith
In God who burns the chariots with fire

Chorus

Lord of hosts You're with us with us in the
fire
With us as a Shelter
With us in the storm
You will lead us
Through the fiercest battle
Oh where else would we go
But with the Lord of hosts

Verse 2

O God of Jacob fierce and great
You lift Your voice to speak
The earth it bows
And all the mountains move into the sea
O Lord You know the hearts of men
And still You let them live
O God who makes the mountains melt
Come wrestle us and win
O God who makes the mountains melt
Come wrestle us and win

Bridge

Though oceans roar You are the Lord of
all
The One who calms the wind and waves
And makes my heart be still
Though the earth gives way
The mountains move into the sea
The nations rage
I know my God is in control

"Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts)" words and music by Jennie Lee
Riddle, Josh Miller, Josiah Warneking, Shane Barnard
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Reader: Waiting is hard in a fast-paced society. We want the stoplight to change quickly, the grocery line to move fast, and Christmas morning to arrive soon. We forget that before good things happen, preparations must be made.

Last week we lit the Prophecy candle and remembered those who first spoke the promise of the coming Christ child.

The second candle on the Advent Wreath is called the Bethlehem candle. It is a symbol of the preparations being made to receive and cradle the Christ child.

[Light two purple candles]

Reader: Psalm 72 is one of the "royal psalms," sung at the coronation of a new king. Central to this prayer is the expectation that the king will be just and compassionate and that he will especially protect the needy. The church has traditionally seen this as a messianic psalm since the ideal of the compassionate ruler finds its ultimate expression in Christ.

Scripture: Psalm 72:1-8

Congregational Prayer

Dear God, as the kings and rulers of our world are enthroned, we have witnessed the elaborate preparations made for those events. By the power of your Spirit, move us to make the preparations needed to welcome you, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Soften our hearts, break down our resistance. Open us anew to your life and love that we may be transformed and may be agents of transformation in the lives of others. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

King of Kings

Verse 1

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

Verse 2

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died

Verse 3

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

Verse 4

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint

By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

"King of Kings" words and music by Brooke Ligertwood, Jason
Ingram, Scott Ligertwood
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Prayers of the People

Special Music – “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child”

Traditional American Spiritual/arr. Mark Hayes

Jami Paules, Jim Spark, Tim Ryan

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.

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 – 1 Samuel 2:1-11

And Hannah prayed and said,
“My heart exults in the LORD;
my horn is exalted in the LORD.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.
² “There is none holy like the LORD:
for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.
³ Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your
mouth;
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.
⁴ The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.
⁵ Those who were full have hired
themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry have
ceased to hunger.

The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is
forlorn.
⁶ The LORD kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
⁷ The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.
⁸ He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.
For the pillars of the earth are
the LORD's,
and on them he has set the world.
⁹ “He will guard the feet of his faithful
ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in
darkness,
for not by might shall a man prevail.

¹⁰ The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces;
against them he will thunder in heaven.
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

¹¹ Then Elkanah went home to Ramah. And the boy was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli the priest.

Sermon: My Heart Exults in the LORD
Series: Celebrating the Advent of the King

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.

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

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty 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

The first system of music consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 2/2 time. The treble staff contains the vocal melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The second system continues the musical notation with the same treble and bass staves. The lyrics continue across the vocal line.

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.

The third system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The treble staff ends with a final chord and a fermata over the last note. The bass staff also concludes with a final chord.

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. 12/4	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 12/4	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Tu. 12/6	7:00 pm	Bible Study Fellowship	TV Room
W. 12/7	9:00 am	Morning Bible Study	TV Room
W. 12/7	9:00 am	Moms' Group	New Life
W. 12/7	7:00 pm	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
F. 12/9	4:00 pm	Christmas Open House	Swanson Home
Sat. 12/10	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Cracker Barrel
Sun. 12/11	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 12/11	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 12/11	11:30 am	Christmas Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 12/11	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Swanson Home

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2022	\$206,769.24	\$239,292.29
Week of 11/27/22	\$4,307.69	\$2,106.00

Announcements

- **Cleaners Needed:** Many of our cleaning volunteers will be gone over the winter months which leaves us in need of more volunteers to help clean the church. Would you prayerfully consider volunteering in this way? Sign up with a partner, or on your own and we will try to pair you with someone else. Email kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com.
- **Christmas Open House:** The congregation is invited to the Swansons' for an Open House Christmas party on Fri. Dec 9 anytime from 4-8pm. Just bring yourselves for a festive evening of food and fellowship.
- **12/11 - Special ministry opportunity for those of you who know Teresa Deckard as well as those who may only know her as our Worship Team Flute Player** – Teresa has begun treatment for Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer and currently she is not able to attend Church or receive visitors at home. But she does miss visits with her friends. After the Sunday service on December 11, her husband, Mark, will be recording audio/video messages from you to share with her. Enjoy the Christmas dinner and pop into the sanctuary to share a few words, share a bible verse, share a special Christmas thought, share a Christmas carol, or anything else! The video recording will be only for Teresa to see. If you do not know Teresa well, she would still love to hear a word from you.
- **Ladies' Christmas Tea:** All women from New Life are invited to a Christmas Tea on Sat. Dec. 17 from 11am-1pm in the fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed to help with decorations, food preparation, and serving. There will be a sign-up sheet in the lobby for attending as well as volunteering. Please contact Holly Wirt with any questions.
- **Good News Jail and Prison Ministry** is collecting items to assemble gift bags for children of inmates at York County Prison. Items are listed on tags in the foyer. Take a tab or few, buy those items, and bring back to New Life no later than Sun. Dec. 18. Questions? See Barb Marsh.
- **Youth Group Christmas Party:** Youth, bring a gift for the gift exchange and come to the Swansons' on Sun. Dec 18 from 6-8pm for a Christmas party.
- **Christmas Changes:** Our Christmas Eve "Lessons and Carols" service will be at 7pm. There will be no Sunday School or snack after worship on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.
- **Ladies of New Life and Friends:** Winter book: *Where the Light Fell* by Philip Yancey. Discussion and dinner to be announced for late February.

(continued on next page)

- **Giving Need for the Building Improvement Fund:** New Life hopes to fundraise and finish several building improvement projects this 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 \$12,368.57. 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. While a final decision has not been made about the surplus, the Session wishes to inform the Congregation of its desire to act on the current list of building improvements. 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: Adult Sunday School meets at 9:00 am in the Fishbowl Room. During the summer, children and youth do not meet for their Sunday School classes.

Women's Bible Study: This fall we completed our study of *Galatians*. A new study will begin in March 2023 with the topic of study to be determined. Meanwhile, the chosen reading for the women's winter book club is *Where the Light Fell* by Philip Yancy. For more information on the book and the February discussion, contact Connie Kay. For more information on Women's Bible Study, 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: Moms of children of all ages are welcome to come together for support and to study Ephesians on Wednesday mornings from 9-11 at church. There are three classes for the children as well. 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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