



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.

Worshipping God

February 26, 2023

Reflection:

*“O LORD, God of vengeance,
O God of vengeance, shine forth!
Rise up, O judge of the earth;
repay to the proud what they deserve!”
– Psalm 94:1-2*

*“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgement you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.”
– Matthew 7:1-2*

*“When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.”
– 1 Peter 2:23*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – from Psalm 22

Minister: You have rescued me from the horns of wild oxen!
I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
You who fear the LORD, praise him!

Prayer of Praise

O Worship the King

Chords: G D G C D7 G D

1 O wor - ship the King all - glo - rious a - bove,
 2 O tell of his might and sing of his grace,
 3 Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
 5 O mea - sure - less Might, un - change - a - ble Love,

Chords: G D G C C D7 G

O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
 whom an - gels de - light to wor - ship a - bove!

Chords: D D7 G D G D7

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 Your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
 Your ran - somed cre - a - tion, with glo - ry a - blaze,

Chords: G D G C G D7 G

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!
 in true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise!

Come Thou Fount

1. Come, Thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing Thy
 2. Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; Hith - er by Thy help I'm
 3. O, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to

4 D A7 D A D G D A7 D

grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise: Teach me
 come; And I hope, by Thy good pleas - ure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home: Je - sus
 be! Let Thy grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to

9 D F#m G G/D D D F#m G D A7

some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove; Praise the
 sought me when a stran - ger, wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
 wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; Here's my

mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of Thy re - deem - ing love.
 res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 heart, Lord, take and seal it; Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong — body and soul, in life and in death — to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Scripture Reading – Romans 12:14-21

Barry Francisco

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

You tell us repeatedly in your word that the battle belongs to you. Our salvation was accomplished by your Son. Our hope for daily strength comes from your Spirit. You are our hope, our righteousness, our refuge, and our rock. We praise you and thank you. We confess, Father, that our hearts are prone to wander. We often turn away from a posture of trusting you. We look at the challenges we face, and we feel overwhelmed. At times, we fail to rely on your promises and your grace. Sometimes that failure to trust leads to actions that dishonor you and wound ourselves and others. Forgive us, we ask, for our hope is in Christ alone. Help us, this week, to trustingly obey you in all things. We ask this in Jesus' name, amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness – Psalm 37:39-40

The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

The LORD helps them and delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

He Will Hold Me Fast

Verse 1

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 2

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

Verse 3

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last

"He Will Hold Me Fast" words and music by Ada Ruth
Habershon, Matthew Merker
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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 – 1 Samuel 25

Now Samuel died. And all Israel assembled and mourned for him, and they buried him in his house at Ramah.

Then David rose and went down to the wilderness of Paran. ² And there was a man in Maon whose business was in Carmel. The man was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel. ³ Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. The woman was discerning and beautiful, but the man was harsh and badly behaved; he was a Calebite. ⁴ David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep. ⁵ So David sent ten young men. And David said to the young men, “Go up to Carmel, and go to Nabal and greet him in my name. ⁶ And thus you shall greet him: ‘Peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have. ⁷ I hear that you have shearers. Now your shepherds have been with us, and we did them no harm, and they missed nothing all the time they were in Carmel. ⁸ Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have at hand to your servants and to your son David.’”

⁹ When David's young men came, they said all this to Nabal in the name of David, and then they waited. ¹⁰ And Nabal answered David's servants, “Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants these days who are breaking away from their masters. ¹¹ Shall I take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shearers and give it to men who come from I do not know where?” ¹² So David's young men turned away and came back and told him all this. ¹³ And David said to his men, “Every man strap on his sword!” And every man of them strapped on his sword. David also strapped on his sword. And about four hundred men went up after David, while two hundred remained with the baggage.

¹⁴ But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, “Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to greet our master, and he railed at them. ¹⁵ Yet the men were very good to us, and we suffered no harm, and we did not miss anything when we were in the fields, as long as we went with them. ¹⁶ They were a wall to us both by night and by day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep. ¹⁷ Now therefore know this and consider what you should do, for harm is determined against our master and against all his house, and he is such a worthless man that one cannot speak to him.”

¹⁸ Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves and two skins of wine and five sheep already prepared and five seahs of parched grain and a hundred clusters of raisins and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys. ¹⁹ And she said to her young men, “Go on before me; behold, I come after you.” But she did not tell her husband Nabal. ²⁰ And as she rode on the donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, behold, David and his men came down toward her, and she met them. ²¹ Now David had said, “Surely in vain have I guarded all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belonged to him,

and he has returned me evil for good. ²² God do so to the enemies of David and more also, if by morning I leave so much as one male of all who belong to him.”

²³ When Abigail saw David, she hurried and got down from the donkey and fell before David on her face and bowed to the ground. ²⁴ She fell at his feet and said, “On me alone, my lord, be the guilt. Please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant. ²⁵ Let not my lord regard this worthless fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he. Nabal is his name, and folly is with him. But I your servant did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. ²⁶ Now then, my lord, as the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, because the Lord has restrained you from bloodguilt and from saving with your own hand, now then let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be as Nabal. ²⁷ And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. ²⁸ Please forgive the trespass of your servant. For the Lord will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the Lord, and evil shall not be found in you so long as you live. ²⁹ If men rise up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living in the care of the Lord your God. And the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. ³⁰ And when the Lord has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you and has appointed you prince over Israel, ³¹ my lord shall have no cause of grief or pangs of conscience for having shed blood without cause or for my lord working salvation himself. And when the Lord has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant.”

³² And David said to Abigail, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! ³³ Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand! ³⁴ For as surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there had not been left to Nabal so much as one male.” ³⁵ Then David received from her hand what she had brought him. And he said to her, “Go up in peace to your house. See, I have obeyed your voice, and I have granted your petition.”

³⁶ And Abigail came to Nabal, and behold, he was holding a feast in his house, like the feast of a king. And Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk. So she told him nothing at all until the morning light. ³⁷ In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. ³⁸ And about ten days later the Lord struck Nabal, and he died.

³⁹ When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, “Blessed be the Lord who has avenged the insult I received at the hand of Nabal, and has kept back his servant from wrongdoing. The Lord has returned the evil of Nabal on his own head.” Then David sent and spoke to Abigail, to take her as his wife. ⁴⁰ When the servants of David came to Abigail at Carmel, they said to her, “David has sent us to you to take you to him as his wife.” ⁴¹ And she rose and bowed with her face to the ground and said, “Behold, your handmaid is a servant to

wash the feet of the servants of my lord.” ⁴² And Abigail hurried and rose and mounted a donkey, and her five young women attended her. She followed the messengers of David and became his wife.

⁴³ David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel, and both of them became his wives. ⁴⁴ Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Palti the son of Laish, who was of Gallim.

Sermon: As For Me, My Foot Had Almost Slipped

Pastor Erik Swanson

Series: I Samuel: A King After God's Own Heart

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

Only a Holy God

Verse 1

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

Verse 2

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendour outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

Chorus

Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Verse 3

What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

Verse 4

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God

"Only A Holy God" words and music by Dustin Smith, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson
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Benediction – Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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. 2/26	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 2/26	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 2/26	11:30 am	Photo-taking for Directory	Classroom 3
Sun. 2/26	12:00 pm	Chile Information Meeting	Aquarium
Tues. 2/28	7:00 pm	Bible Study Fellowship	Classroom 1
W. 3/1	9:00 am	Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 3/1	9:00 am	Moms' Group	Sanctuary
W. 3/1	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/5	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 3/5	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/5	11:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/5	11:30 am	Photo-taking for Directory	Classroom 3
Sun. 3/5	6:00 pm	Women's Book Club Dinner	Kay Home

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2023	\$40,769.20	\$52,072.76
Week of 2/19/23	\$5,096.15	\$13,657.02
Building-Improvement Fund	\$27,000	\$21,018.57

Announcements

- **Picture Directory:** Please submit a picture for the spring NLPC pictorial directory. Our goal is to update the directory 2x annually, once in the fall and once in the spring. You may submit any photo of your household, or you can get your picture taken at church. For the next 2 Sundays after worship (Feb. 26 and March 5), Charles Fox will be taking pictures for the directory. Please go to classroom 3 to have your picture taken. If you prefer to submit your own picture, please email a digital picture to admin@newlifeyorkpca.com.
- **ESV Scripture Journal: Romans:** Starting on Easter, the preaching series will be on the book of Romans. Divided into two parts, with a break in-between, the series will include approximately 50 sermons. For a convenient record of sermon notes, consider purchasing your own “Scripture Journal” of Romans. Christianbook’s description is this: “ESV Scripture Journals pair the text of individual books of the New Testament with lightly lined blank pages opposite each page of biblical text. This allows readers to take extended notes or record insights and prayers directly beside corresponding passages of Scripture.” Contact the church office by Wed. March 1 to have your name added to a group order of Romans Scripture Journals. The cost is \$4 per Journal.
- **Palm Sunday Children’s Choir:** We are very excited to announce the opportunity for children to participate in a choir here at NLPC! The choir will sing in worship on April 2, 2023 and is being led by Catherine Kloetzi and Sarah Fox, with Jami Paules accompanying on piano. The details:
 - What? Palm Sunday Children's Choir
 - Who is invited? All children of NLPC aged 4 through 6th grade (older students with an interest are also welcome)
 - When are rehearsals? Every Sunday in March after worship
 - Where? NLPC Sanctuary
 - Please contact Jenn Ryan (jenn@newlifeyorkpca.com) with any questions. We hope to see your children there!
- **Women’s Book Club:** We will meet at Connie Kay’s home for a potluck dinner on Sun. March 5 at 6 pm. Questions? Contact Connie Kay.

(continued on next page)

- **New Adult Ed. Classes:** On **March 5**, there will be a single class instructing parents on how to teach sermon note-taking to their children, including picture notes and outlining. The class content is appropriate for parents of children from birth through the end of elementary school. On **March 12**, a 10-week class entitled “Habits of Grace” will look at how the disciplines of grace (bible study, prayer, etc.) help us grow in our faith.
- **Women’s Fellowship Meeting:** Please join us for a meeting to discuss this year’s fellowship activities. We will meet in the Aquarium room at noon on Sun. March 12. Hope to see you there!
- **Women’s Bible Study:** Beginning March 16, women are invited to participate in the spring Bible study, using a companion text, *The Son of David: Seeing Jesus in the Historical Books*, by Nancy Guthrie. Choose a Thursday morning study in-person from 9:30-11:00 am, or a Thursday evening study via Zoom, from 7:00-8:30 pm. To sign up, contact Marlene Spark.
- **S.I.L.V.E.R.S.:** Meet for lunch at Lion’s Pride Restaurant (20 Dairyland Square, Red Lion) on Sat. March 18 at 1:30 pm. Please sign up if you plan to join us. Questions? Contact Alice Lomax.
- **International Short-Term Mission Opportunity:** New Life may be partnering this year with a missionary in Chile. The ministry opportunity is for a New Life team of 8-12 to run a Pastors’ Conference. Pastors in Chile face burnout from overwork and isolation. Teams from the States help provide the gospel teaching and the personal margin for the pastors and their families to be refreshed for ministry. Previous retreats have ministered to around 60 people: pastors, wives, and children. The New Life team would need a variety of gifts in order to teach, lead small groups, lead worship, lead children’s/youth ministry, and cook/serve meals. The trip is for adults and minors (with previous mission trip experience) aged 16+. Trip dates would be Nov 7-14th. An informational meeting will be held **TODAY** at 12:00 in the “aquarium” classroom. The hope is to make a decision/have a committed team by March 1. Please be in prayer for God’s guidance.
- **4th Annual New Life Camping Trip:** Mark your calendars for Sept. 7-10 for a community-wide weekend of camping and fellowship. Make a camping reservation ASAP at Codorus State Park. Non-campers, join in the potluck dinner on Saturday evening. All are invited to worship Sunday morning at 8:15.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

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

Women's Bible Study: A 10-week study begins Thurs. March 16. Choose a Thursday morning study in-person from 9:30-11:00 am, or a Thursday evening study via Zoom, from 7:00-8:30 pm. We are using the book *The Son of David: Seeing Jesus in the Historical Books* by Nancy Guthrie. For details, please 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 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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