



**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

February 5, 2023

## Reflection:

*“From Christ as from a fountain sanctification flows into the souls of the saints: their sanctification comes not so much from their struggling, and endeavors, and vows, and resolutions, as it comes flowing to them from their union with him.”*

*– Jeremiah Burroughs*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Erik Swanson*

## Call to Worship – from Psalm 34

*Will Pope*

**Minister:** I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

**People:** **My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.**

**Minister:** Glorify the LORD with me;

**People:** **let us exalt his name together.**

**Minister:** I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

**People:** **Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.**

**All:** **Glorify the LORD with me! Let us exalt his name together!**

## Prayer of Praise

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1. A might - y for - tress is \_\_\_\_\_ our God, a bul - wark nev - er  
 2. Did we in our \_\_\_\_\_ own strength - con - fide, our striv - ing would be  
 3. And tho' this world, - with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -  
 4. That word a - bove \_\_\_\_\_ all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

4 Dm G C C/E C G Em Am D G Am Em F C Am



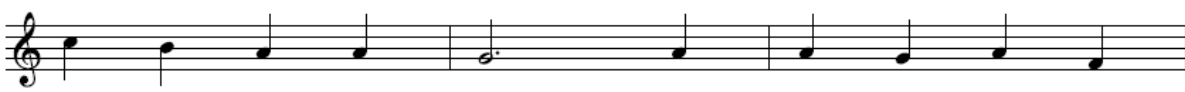
fail - ing; Our help - er He \_\_\_\_\_ a - mid \_\_\_\_\_ the flood of mor - tal ills pre -  
 los - ing, were not the right - man on \_\_\_\_\_ our side, the man of God's own  
 -do \_\_\_\_\_ us, we will not fear, - for God - hath willed His truth to tri - umph  
 -bid - eth; The Spir - it and \_\_\_\_\_ the gifts - are ours through Him who with us

8 Dm G C Am G/B D G C G/B C F G<sup>7</sup>/D Am E/G<sup>#</sup>



-vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe - His  
 choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He - Lord  
 thru \_\_\_\_\_ us. The prince of dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him - His  
 sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so. The

13 Am E/B Am/C D G F F/A C A/C<sup>#</sup> Dm



craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cru - el  
 Sab - a - oth His name, from age to age the  
 rage we can en - dure, for age lo, his doom is  
 bod - y they may kill; God's truth a - bid - eth

16 E Am Em F C Am Dm G C



hate, on earth is not his e - qual.  
 same, and He must win the bat - tle.  
 sure: One lit - tle word shall fell \_\_\_\_\_ him.  
 still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

# Ancient of Days

## Verse

Blessing and honor glory and power  
Be unto the Ancient of Days  
From ev'ry nation all of creation  
Bow before the Ancient of Days

## Chorus

Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth  
Shall declare Your glory  
Ev'ry knee shall bow at Your throne  
In worship  
You will be exalted O God  
And Your kingdom shall not pass away  
O Ancient of Days

## Bridge

Your kingdom shall reign  
Over all the earth  
Sing unto the Ancient of Days  
For none can compare  
To Your matchless worth  
Sing unto the Ancient of Days

"Ancient of Days" words and music by Gary Sadler and Jamie Harvill  
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## **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 – 2 Peter 3:1-13**

*Wayne Blanding*

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not always bowed before him, and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world, and fail to be governed by holiness and love. In your mercy, forgive us and raise us up to a deeper experience of the Lordship of Christ. In your great power, show forth your glory in every area of our lives that we may be worthy of our calling to be your royal Sons and Daughters. 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.

# O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus



1. O the \_\_\_ deep, deep love of \_\_\_ Je - sus. Vast, un -  
 2. O the \_\_\_ deep, deep love of \_\_\_ Je - sus; spread His \_\_\_  
 3. O the \_\_\_ deep, deep love of \_\_\_ Je - sus, love of \_\_\_

6 B/D# Em Am B<sup>7</sup> Em Em/G B C Am B



-mea - sured, bound - less, free. Roll - ing \_\_\_ as a might - y \_\_\_  
 praise \_ from shore \_ to shore! How He \_\_\_ lov - eth, ev - er \_\_\_  
 ev - 'ry love \_ the best. 'Tis an \_\_\_ o - cean vast of \_\_\_

12 Em G D/F# ( C/B B/D# Em Am B<sup>7</sup> Em G G/B



o - cean in its \_\_\_ full - ness o - ver me. Un - der -  
 lov - eth, chang - eth \_\_\_ nev - er, nev - er - more. How He \_\_\_  
 bless - ing; 'tis a \_\_\_ ha - ven sweet \_ of rest. O the \_\_\_

18 D<sup>sus</sup> D Em Em/G B<sup>sus</sup> B Em Em/D C D Em C



-neath me, all a - round me, is the \_\_\_ cur - rent of Thy \_\_\_  
 watch - es o'er His \_\_\_ loved ones, died to \_\_\_ call them all His \_\_\_  
 deep, deep love of \_\_\_ Je - sus; 'Tis a \_\_\_ heav'n of heav'ns to \_\_\_

24 B Em Em/G B C Am B Em



love. Lead - ing \_\_\_ on - ward, lead - ing \_\_\_ home - ward,  
 own. How for \_\_\_ them He in - ter - ced - eth,  
 me. And it \_\_\_ lifts me up to \_\_\_ glo - ry,



to my \_\_\_ glo - rious rest \_\_\_ a - bove.  
 watch - es \_\_\_ o'er \_\_\_ them from \_\_\_ the throne.  
 for it \_\_\_ lifts \_\_\_ me up \_\_\_ to Thee.

## **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 18:1-16 (Context: 1 Samuel 18-21)**

As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. <sup>2</sup> And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. <sup>3</sup> Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. <sup>4</sup> And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt. <sup>5</sup> And David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him, so that Saul set him over the men of war. And this was good in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

<sup>6</sup> As they were coming home, when David returned from striking down the Philistine, the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with musical instruments. <sup>7</sup> And the women sang to one another as they celebrated,

“Saul has struck down his thousands,  
and David his ten thousands.”

<sup>8</sup> And Saul was very angry, and this saying displeased him. He said, “They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands, and what more can he have but the kingdom?” <sup>9</sup> And Saul eyed David from that day on.

<sup>10</sup> The next day a harmful spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in his hand. <sup>11</sup> And Saul hurled the spear, for he thought, “I will pin David to the wall.” But David evaded him twice.

<sup>12</sup> Saul was afraid of David because the LORD was with him but had departed from Saul. <sup>13</sup> So Saul removed him from his presence and made him a commander of a thousand. And he went out and came in before the people. <sup>14</sup> And David had success in all his undertakings, for the LORD was with him. <sup>15</sup> And when Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in fearful awe of him. <sup>16</sup> But all Israel and Judah loved David, for he went out and came in before them.

**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**

# Great Is Thy Faithfulness

## Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning  
New mercies I see  
All I have needed  
Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Lord unto me

## Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness  
O God my Father  
There is no shadow  
Of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not  
Thy compassions they fail not  
As Thou hast been  
Thou forever wilt be

## Verse 2

Summer and winter  
And springtime and harvest  
Sun moon and stars  
In their courses above  
Join with all nature  
In manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness  
Mercy and love

## Verse 3

Pardon for sin  
And a peace that endureth  
Thy own dear presence  
To cheer and to guide  
Strength for today  
And bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine  
With ten thousand beside

## 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. 2/5	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 2/5	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Tues. 2/7	7:00 pm	Bible Study Fellowship	Classroom 1
Tues. 2/7	7:00 pm	SILVERS Planning Meeting	Aquarium
W. 2/8	9:00 am	Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 2/8	9:00 am	Moms' Group	Classroom 2
W. 2/8	9:15 am	Prayer Group	New Life Library
W. 2/8	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
F. 2/10	5:30 pm	Church Wide Game Night	Fellowship Hall
Sat. 2/11	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Cracker Barrel
Sun. 2/12	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 2/12	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 2/12	11:30 am	Souper Bowl Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 2/12	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Swanson Home

## Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
<b>Year to Date 2023</b>	\$25,480.75	\$23,472.38
<b>Week of 1/29/23</b>	\$5,096.15	\$4,013.44
<b>Building-Improvement Fund</b>	\$27,000	\$20,418.57

## Announcements

- **Young Adult Event: Sat. Feb. 25 @ 3 pm:** Soap-making and game-playing at the Waldrops.
- **Church-Wide Game Night:** At 5:30 pm on Fri. Feb. 10, meet in the Fellowship Hall for an evening of games, food, and fellowship. Bring your favorite board games and money to help offset the cost of the pizza. Grapes, carrots, dessert, and beverages will be provided.
- **Good News Jail & Prison Ministry** is seeking study Bibles. If you can help, please drop off new or used study Bibles at the church office before Sun. Feb. 12.
- **Souper Bowl Luncheon:** In lieu of Second Sunday Lunch, please join us for a Souper Bowl Luncheon on Feb. 12. Each family should bring one pound of sandwich meat. We are also asking 10 people to donate a crock pot of soup; please see the sign-up sheet in the lobby. Rolls, cheese, crackers, beverages, and condiments will be provided.
- **Breakaway Youth Retreat:** Please pray for the 13 students and 4 adults who will be attending the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery youth retreat on the weekend of Feb. 17-19.
- **Women's Book Club:** There is still time to read Philip Yancey's *Where the Light Fell* before our discussion date! We will meet at Connie Kay's home for a potluck dinner on Sun. March 5 at 6 pm.
- **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. Order your books with Marlene Spark by Feb. 15 to get a reduced price of \$11.40. 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.
- **VBS Save the Date:** New Life will host Vacation Bible School weekday mornings the week of July 24. Please mark your calendars. More details TBA.

## 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. Join in-person at the church from 9:30-11:00 am, or 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Susquehanna Valley Presbytery Growth Report to SVP Congregations

At the end of 2018, which was soon after the closure of 2 failed church planting efforts, SVP adopted a “7-Year Church Planting Plan.” The goal set in the Plan was to have 25 churches by the end of 2025. At that time there were 20 congregations in the presbytery. A 25% increase in 7 years is quite a challenge.

Four years into the Plan we have seen the addition of 3 churches added by 3 different means.

- Lebanon Valley Presbyterian Church was a “scratch plant” under the leadership of Francisco (Cisco) Victa and 4 elders appointed by Presbytery. They began worship services in the face of the Covid pandemic.
- Christ Reformed Church is a “transfer church” that came out of the UCC denomination. It is a small congregation in Huntingdon County led by Pastor Angelo Valle and under the guidance of elders from our church in State College.
- Bellefonte Presbyterian Church is a “daughter church” of Oakwood PCA in State College and being led by Owen Hughes the Associate Pastor at Oakwood. Oakwood bought a disused Presbyterian (USA) building for this plant.

Pray with us for:

- The leaders of the 3 current “Mission Churches.”
- The financial resources necessary to carry these churches to maturity.
- That the Presbytery may be guided to churches that may be struggling and wish to transfer into SVP.
- That the right man and the money may become available to do another plant from scratch.
- That other churches in the Presbytery may be able to plant daughter churches.

By the grace of God our goal is within reach. That means the 3 present Mission Church must continue to grow and 2 more churches need to be added to the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery.

If you would like to see a copy of the  
“7-Year Church Planting Plan,”  
email David Cross