

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

March 26, 2023



Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation. Selah Our God is a God of salvation, and to GOD, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship - Psalm 24

Minister: Lift up your heads, O you gates;

People: Be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Minister: Who is this King of glory?

People: The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Minister: Lift up your heads, O you gates;

People: Lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come

in.

Minister: Who is he, this King of glory?

People: The LORD Almighty— he is the King of glory.

Special Music – "King of Kings and Lord of Lords"

Children's Choir

King of kings and Lord of lords
Glory hallelujah
King of kings and Lord of lords
Glory hallelujah
Jesus Prince of Peace
Glory hallelujah
Jesus Prince of Peace
Glory hallelujah

"King Of Kings And Lord Of Lords" words and music by Naomi Batya, Sophie Conty
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Prayer of Adoration

Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)

Verse 1

Praise is rising
Eyes are turning to You
We turn to You
Hope is stirring
Hearts are yearning for You
We long for You

Pre-Chorus

'Cause when we see You
We find strength to face the day
In Your presence
All our fears are washed away
(Washed away)

Chorus

Hosanna hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Verse 2

Hear the sound of
Hearts returning to You
We turn to You
In Your Kingdom
Broken lives are made new
You make us new

Ending

Hosanna hosanna

"Hosanna (Praise is Rising)" words and music by Brenton Brown, Paul Baloche
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Blessed Be the Lord the God of Israel

Chorus

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting.

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting.

And let all the people say Amen—AMEN!

And let all the people say Amen, O praise the Lord!

Verse 1

Gather us, O Lord our God, from among the nations.

(echo)

Deliver us and save us, O God, God of our salvation.

(echo)

That we may give thanks to your holy name

And show forth all your praise...Alleluia!

Chorus

Verse 2

Praise the Lord give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

(echo)

For His steadfast love endures forever and He is good.

(echo)

We will tell the mighty deeds of the Lord And show forth all His praise—Alleluia!

Chorus

"Blessed Be The Lord" words and music by Dave Moody
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Affirmation of Faith - 1 Corinthians 15:3b-4

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ...he was buried, ...he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures

Special Music - "Hosanna!"

Children's Choir

Hosanna, hosanna! Let the nations sing, "Hosanna, hosanna, to the coming King!" Hosanna, hosanna! Let the nations sing, "Hosanna, hosanna, to the coming King!"

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Behold our King! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna, hosanna! Let the nations sing, "Hosanna, hosanna, to the coming King!"

Lift up your heads, o ye gates; Be lifted up, you everlasting doors, And the King of Glory, the King of Glory, the King of Glory shall come in!

Hosanna, hosanna! Let the nations sing, "Hosanna, hosanna, to the coming King!

Hosanna to the King!

Words and Music by Victor C. Johnson © 2013 Lorenz Publishing Company

Scripture Reading – *Matthew 21:1-11*

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Seth Champlin

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – *Isaiah 53:4-5*

Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

Goodness of God

Verse 1

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 2

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other

I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Bridge

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

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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 – 2 Samuel 7

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ² the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³ And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? 61 have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. 7 In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" 8 Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. 12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, 15 but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever." ¹⁷ In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

¹⁸ Then King David went in and sat before the LORD and said, "Who am I, O LORD God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far? ¹⁹ And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O LORD God. You have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come, and this is instruction for mankind, O LORD God! ²⁰ And what more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O LORD God! ²¹ Because of your promise, and according to your own heart, you have brought about all this greatness, to make your servant know it. ²² Therefore you are great, O LORD God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears. ²³ And who is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom God went to redeem to be his people, making himself a name and doing for them great and awesome things by driving out before your people, whom you redeemed for yourself from

Egypt, a nation and its gods? ²⁴ And you established for yourself your people Israel to be your people forever. And you, O LORD, became their God. ²⁵ And now, O LORD God, confirm forever the word that you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, and do as you have spoken. ²⁶ And your name will be magnified forever, saying, 'The LORD of hosts is God over Israel,' and the house of your servant David will be established before you. ²⁷ For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.' Therefore your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you. ²⁸ And now, O LORD God, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant. ²⁹ Now therefore may it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you. For you, O LORD God, have spoken, and with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever."

Sermon: Building the House 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 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

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



Benediction – Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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. 4/2	8:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 4/2	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 4/2	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Tues. 4/4	7:00 pm	Bible Study Fellowship	Classroom 1
Tues. 4/4	7:00 pm	S.I.L.V.E.R.S. Meeting	Aquarium
W. 4/5	9:00 am	Moms' Group	Classroom 2
W. 4/5	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 4/5	9:15 am	Prayer Meeting	New Life Library
W. 4/5	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 4/6	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Th. 4/6	7:00 pm	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
F. 4/7	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service	Sanctuary
Sat. 4/8	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Cracker Barrel
Sun. 4/9	6:30 am	Sunrise Service	Ray & Renee Henry Home
Sun. 4/9	10:00 am	Easter Worship Service	Sanctuary

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2023	\$66,249.95	\$82,665.21
Week of 3/26/23	\$5,096.15	\$4,605.28
Building-Improvement Fund	\$27,000	\$23,318.57

Announcements

Easter Events at NLPC:

- ➤ Palm Sunday Processional: On April 2, all are invited to show up a few minutes early for worship to be a part of the opening palm-waving processional.
- Good Friday Service: 7:00 pm on Fri. April 7
- > Sunrise Service: Meet at Ray and Renee Henry's home at 6:30 am on Sun. April 9 for a service on the Susquehanna river. A potluck breakfast will follow.
- No Sunday School for adults or youth on Easter.
- Inquirer's Class: Whether you are new to the church, or just interested in learning more about NLPC, you are welcome to the Inquirer's Sunday school class beginning April 16 and continuing through May 7. This class will examine New Life's theology, vision/mission/values, history, and culture.
- Marriage Seminar: Mark your calendars for a one-day marriage seminar. Meet at New Life from 9-2 on Sat. April 15. Lunch will be provided (donation requested).
- Short-Term Mission Trip Offering: New Life is making plans to send a team of seven people to Chile for a short-term mission trip in November of this year. The purpose of this trip would be to host/facilitate a pastor's (and their families) conference. Pastors in Chile are often overworked, isolated, and tempted towards legalism. The conference goals would be spiritual refreshment through being encouraged in the grace of the gospel, as well as physical refreshment and rest. The team will teach, lead singing, work with youth and children, and help cook/serve food. Total team costs will be approximately \$14,000. The monies raised also include funds to make the conference more affordable to the pastors' families. Among other fundraising options, there will be an offering taken on April 16 to support this short-term trip. Please prayerfully consider partnering in the trip, both through regular prayer and through giving.
- **Birdwatching Hike:** The NLPC community is invited to go on a birdwatching hike on Sat. April 22 at 7:30 am. Meet at Rocky Ridge's Hidden Laurel parking lot, which is the first left once inside the park. Whether you are a birding enthusiast or a novice, please join in! The plan is to return to the parking lot by 10:00 am. Frank Blum will be leading the hike.

- Servants Work Week: June 4-9: Servants summer work camps are week-long mission opportunities in York County that focus on residential home repair for people in need. We spend the week serving Christ through serving others building relationships with our homeowners and each other; transforming lives through meeting physical, spiritual, and emotional needs; and providing hope to their community. Projects range from painting, yard work, bathroom modifications, and wheelchair ramps. Also needed are those willing to serve in the kitchen providing the work crews with morning/evening meals. Join us on Sun. April 23 after church for an informational meeting. New Life will decide whether we are sending people to help with repairs, help in the kitchen, and/or provide an evening meal.
- **Potluck lunches:** Since the second Sunday falls on holidays for both April and May, we will instead celebrate our potluck lunches on April 23 and May 21.
- Volunteers needed for NLPC service project: On Sat. April 29, the Deckard family needs assistance with spring garden clean-up. Any amount of time you can give will be greatly appreciated. If you are interested in helping, please sign up on the "Deckard Spring Gardening Project" sheet in the lobby.
- **New Attendees Gathering:** On Fri. May 5 at 6:00 pm, New Attendees are invited to a social gathering at the Rishel's home for hors d'oeuvres, fellowship, and, in closing, a brief time of discussion about NLPC's history, beliefs, and culture.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

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

Women's Bible Study: We are using Nancy Guthrie's book, *The Son of David: Seeing Jesus in the Historical Books*, and meeting either Thursday mornings in-person from 9:30-11:00 am or Thursday evenings via Zoom, from 7:00-8:30 pm. All women are encouraged to come. 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: Women, join us as we read together *Another Gospel?* by Alisa Childers. We are discussing the movement of Progressive Christianity and how to biblically examine our faith and practice. The first half of our time together is spent visiting and praying. The second half is spent in reading and discussion. There are three different classes for children at the same time, so that your kids can learn and grow as well. We meet Wednesdays, 9-11am, at church.

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.