



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

April 16, 2023

Reflection

*Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
Come into the daylight's splendor, there with joy your praises render.
Bless the One whose grace unbounded, this amazing banquet founded;
He, though heav'nly, high, and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
- Catherine Winkworth, 1858*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – 1 Timothy 1:17

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer of Praise

Come, Christians Join to Sing

1. Come, Chris - tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - jice;
 he is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 on heav - en's bliss - ful shore, his good - ness we'll a - dore.

praise is his gra - cious choice, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

The Church's One Foundation

1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4. The church shall nev - er per - ish! Her dear Lord to de - fend,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word;
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end;

from heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song,
a - gainst or foe or trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.

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 Scripture

Scripture Reading – Romans 15:18-33

Wayne Blanding

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

**Lord God, there are many times we think we love you well, O God.
But upon hearing your call to love you with all our heart,
And all our mind, and all our strength,
We confess that our love for you is a diluted love,
Made insipid and flat by lesser loyalties and a divided heart.
Forgive us, we pray, for Jesus' sake.
Enable us, by the power of your Spirit, to love you as we ought. Amen!**

Assurance of Forgiveness – Isaiah 53:7-12

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?

⁹ And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us

F(D) C(A) C⁷(A⁷) F(D)

Chris - tian love; the fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear, and of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be

C(A) F(D) B^b(G) F(D) B^b(G)F/C(D/A)C⁷(A⁷) F(D)

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

5 This glorious hope revives
 our courage by the way;
 while each in expectation lives
 and waits to see the day.

6 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
 and sin, we shall be free;
 and perfect love and friendship
 reign through all eternity.

Prayers of the People

Missions Moment

Marlene Spark

Special Offering

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 – *Romans 1:8-15*

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. ⁹For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you ¹⁰always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. ¹¹For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— ¹²that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. ¹³I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. ¹⁴I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. ¹⁵So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

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

We Are God's People

Unison

1. We are God's peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord, born of his
 2. We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have
 3. We are the Bod - y of which the Lord is Head, called to o -
 4. We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it's dwell - ing place, formed in great

Spir - it, es - tab - lished by his Word; our cor - ner - stone is
 known it, the love of God out - poured; now let us learn how
 bey him, now ris - en from the dead; he wills us be a
 weak - ness, a cup to hold God's grace; we die a - lone, for

Christ a - lone, and strong in him we stand: O let us live trans -
 to re - turn the gift of love once giv'n: O let us share each
 fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly one: O let us give our
 on its own each mem - ber los - es fire: yet joined in one the

par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.
 joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es heav'n.
 gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.
 flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire,

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:

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

*All songs are either public domain or licensed under CCLI #2410623.

This Week at New Life

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 4/16	9:00 am	Sunday School	Classrooms
Sun. 4/16	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 4/16	6:00 pm	Young Adults Gathering	Swanson Home
Tues. 4/18	7:00 pm	Bible Study Fellowship	Classroom 1
W. 4/19	9:00 am	Moms' Group	Classroom 2
W. 4/19	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 4/19	9:15 am	Prayer Meeting	New Life Library
W. 4/19	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 4/20	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Th. 4/20	7:00 pm	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
Sat. 4/22	7:30 am	Birdwatching Hike	Lake Redman Boardwalk
Sun. 4/23	9:00 am	Sunday School	Classrooms
Sun. 4/23	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 4/23	11:30 am	Potluck Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 4/23	11:30 am	Servants Informational Meeting	Aquarium
Sun. 4/23	7:00 pm	Missionary Meet & Greet	Sanctuary

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2023	\$76,442.25	\$94,452.43
Week of 4/9/23	\$5,096.15	\$6,545.22
Building-Improvement Fund	\$27,000	\$24,968.57

Announcements

- **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 **today** support this short-term trip. Please prayerfully consider partnering in the trip, both through regular prayer and through giving.
- **Prayer Meeting:** We are changing our prayer group days from Wednesdays to Thursdays. Our last Wednesday meeting will be April 19 at 9:15 am. Thereafter we will be meeting on alternate Thursdays at 11:00 am beginning April 27. Any interested are welcome to join us in the New Life library.
- **Birdwatching Hike:** The NLPC community is invited to go on a birdwatching hike on Sat. April 22 at 7:30 am. Whether you are a birding enthusiast or a novice, please join in! Frank Blum will be leading the hike. **Meet at Lake Redman Boardwalk on Iron Stone Hill Rd.** Directions: Take 83 to South Queen Street. Follow South Queen Street until you reach the third red light and there will be a slight right hand turn onto Iron Stone Hill Road (Nell's grocery store). Follow Iron Stone Hill Road to a stop sign. Continue past the stop sign on Iron Stone Hill Road and there will be a parking lot on the right.
- **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 *servicing 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.

(continued on next page)

- **Potluck lunch:** Since second Sunday fell on Easter this month, our April potluck lunch will be held this coming Sunday the 23rd.
- **Missionary Meet & Greet:** Join us on Sun. Apr. 23 at 7pm to hear one of our missionary couples, Mel and Martha Pike, update us about their ministry in Ukraine. Light desserts will follow.
- **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.
- **Upcoming Men’s Event: Sat. May 6:** Meet at the church at 9am to carpool to the Lancaster Bible History museum. Those who wish can also join us for lunch at Dienners. Contact Mark Flaharty with questions.
- **Mother-Daughter Tea:** On Sat. May 20, the women’s group will be hosting a mother-daughter tea starting at 4 pm. All women are invited; bring your mother, daughter, sister, neighbor, friend, or come by yourself. Please see the sign-up sheet in the lobby.
- **Spring Festival:** In lieu of May’s second Sunday lunch, NLPC will be hosting a Spring Festival on Sun. May 21 beginning at 4:00 pm. Roast pork, hotdogs, and drink will be provided. Volunteers are needed to provide side dishes – please see the sign-up sheet in the lobby. Please note there will be no post-church refreshments this day.

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 Wednesday 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 Thursdays, beginning at 11 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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