

**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**

October 1, 2023

### Reflections:

"I am carnal, sold under sin' is stated categorically and without qualification, not because this is the whole truth about Paul the Christian, but because it is the only part of the truth about himself that the law can tell him." - J. I. Packer

"Believers are perfect as to their justification, but their sanctification is only begun. It is a progressive work. When they believed in Christ, they knew but very little of the fountain of corruption that dwells in them. When Christ made Himself known to them as their Saviour, and the Beloved of their souls, the carnal mind seemed to be dead, but they found out afterwards that it was not dead. So some have experienced more soul trials after their conversion than when they were awakened to a sense of their lost condition. 'O wretched man that I am!...' is their cry till they are made perfect in holiness. But He that hath begun a good work in them will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." - D. MacFarlane

"The more seriously a Christian strives to live from grace and to submit to the discipline of the gospel, the more sensitive he becomes to the fact of his continuing sinfulness, the fact that even his very best acts and activities are disfigured by the egotism which is still powerfully within him — and no less evil because it is often more subtly disguised than formerly." - C.E.B Cranfield

"But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'" – the Apostle James

**Welcome and Announcements** 

Pastor Erik Swanson

**Prelude** 

Minister: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the

mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

Minister: Though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their

surging.

People: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy

place where the Most High dwells.

Minister: God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

People: Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth

melts.

All: The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

## **Prayer of Praise**

## **Come Thou Fount**



## **Christ Is Mine Forevermore**

#### Verse 1

Mine are days that God has numbered I was made to walk with Him Yet I look for worldly treasure And forsake the King of kings

### Chorus 1

But mine is hope in my Redeemer Though I fall His love is sure For Christ has paid for every failing I am His forevermore

### Verse 2

Mine are tears in times of sorrow Darkness not yet understood Through the valley I must travel Where I see no earthly good

### Chorus 2

But mine is peace that flows from heaven And the strength in times of need I know my pain will not be wasted Christ completes His work in me

### Verse 3

Mine are days here as a stranger Pilgrim on a narrow way One with Christ I will encounter Harm and hatred for His name

### Chorus 3

But mine is armour for this battle Strong enough to last the war And He has said He will deliver Safely to the golden shore

### Chorus 4

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore

## **Bridge**

Come rejoice now O my soul For His love is my reward Fear is gone and hope is sure Christ is mine forevermore

"Christ Is Mine Forevermore" words and music by Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson
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### Affirmation of Faith – Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 1&2

- Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?
- A. 1. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.
- Q. 2. What rule has God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?
- A. 2. The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

**Scripture Reading –** *Galatians 5:16-26* 

Sue Ann Randall

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

## **Prayer of Confession**

O Father,

I sin -

Grant that I may never cease grieving because of it, never be content with myself, never think I can reach a point of perfection.

Kill my envy, command my tongue, trample down self.

Give me grace to be holy, kind, gentle, pure, peaceable,

to live for you and not for self, to copy your words, acts, spirit,

to be transformed into Christ's likeness,

to be consecrated wholly to you,

to live entirely to your glory.

In Jesus' name, Amen!

## Assurance of Forgiveness – Isaiah 43:25

I, I am he

who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

## **Rock of Ages**

### Verse 1

Rock of Ages cleft for me
Let me hide myself in thee
Let the water and the blood
From thy wounded side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure
Cleanse me from its guilt and power

### Verse 2

Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfill thy law's demands
Could my zeal no respite know
Could my tears forever flow
All for sin could not atone
Thou must save and thou alone

### Verse 3

Nothing in my hand I bring Simply to the cross I cling Naked come to thee for dress Helpless look to thee for grace Foul I to the fountain fly Wash me Savior or I die

### Verse 4

While I draw this fleeting breath
When my eyelids close in death
When I soar to worlds unknown
See thee on thy judgment throne
Rock of ages cleft for me
Let me hide myself in thee

"Rock Of Ages (New City Fellowship)" words and music by Augustus Montague Toplady, James Ward

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## **Prayers of the People**

### **Ministry Moment**

### The Sacrament of Baptism

Audrey Renee Smith

## 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:

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons,
Blessed Trinity!

## Scripture - Romans 7:14-25

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup> For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. <sup>17</sup> So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

# **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**

# You've Already Won

#### Verse 1

There's peace that outlasts darkness
Hope that's in the blood
There's future grace that's mine today
That Jesus Christ has won

### Verse 2

So I can face tomorrow For tomorrow's in Your hands All I need You will provide Just like You always have

### Chorus

I'm fighting a battle
You've already won
No matter what comes my way
I will overcome
Don't know what You're doing
But I know what You've done
I'm fighting a battle
You've already won

### Verse 3

There's mercy in the waiting

Manna for today

And when it's gone I know You're not

You are my hope and stay

### Verse 4

When the sea is raging
Your Spirit is my help
He'll fix my eyes on Jesus Christ
I'll say that it is well
Oh I know that it is well

## **Bridge**

I know how the story ends We will be with You again You're my Savior my defense No more fear in life or death

### Tag

I know how this story ends

### Tag

I'm fighting a battle You've already won

"You've Already Won" words and music by Brian Fowler, Shane Barnard © 2022 Be Essential Songs, bryanfowlersongs, Songs from Wellhouse Used by Permission. CCLI License #2410623

### Benediction - 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

## The Sending:

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

All: Thanks be to God!

### **Postlude**

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## This Week at New Life

This week at New Life				
Date	Time	Event	Location	
Sun. 10/1	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life	
Sun. 10/1	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary	
Sun. 10/1	11:30 am	Photo-taking for Directory	Classroom 4	
Sun. 10/1	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Kay and Loht Homes	
W. 10/4	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2	
W. 10/4	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1	
W. 10/4	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary	
W. 10/4	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classrooms 1 & 2	
W. 10/4	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3	
W. 10/4	7:00 pm	SILVERS Committee Meeting	Classroom 4	
Th. 10/5	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium	
Th. 10/5	7:00 pm	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom	
Sun. 10/8	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life	
Sun. 10/8	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary	
Sun. 10/8	11:30 am	Second Sunday Pancake Lunch	Fellowship Hall	
Sun. 10/8	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Swanson Home	

# **Church Financial Summary**

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2023	\$198,749.85	\$229,709.68
Week of 9/24/23	\$5,096.15	\$2,634.00

### **Announcements**

- Elder Candidate Nominations Requested: The Session of New Life would ask the
  congregation to consider prayerfully nominating candidates for the office of elder. The
  nominations window will run from September 10-October 15. Please pick up the flyer
  in the foyer explaining both the qualifications and the process.
- **Volunteer Schedule:** The quarter 4 volunteer schedule is up in the foyer. Please consider signing up to provide Sunday fellowship refreshments. Remember you can keep it simple!
- **Photo Directory:** Our updated fall edition of our photo directory will be out in a few weeks. If you need to add/update an entry, please either email your information (kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com) or correct the sample copy in the foyer. If you want to add/update a photo, you can either send your picture to Kelly or have your photo taken by Charles Fox. He will be available today after church in Classroom 4.
- Community Groups Re-launching Tonight: These are intended to be a microcosm of the church, an intergenerational gathering for fellowship, food, bible study, (singing), and prayer. They will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month from 6-7:30pm. Stop in at the Kays or the Lohts and join us as we study the Beatitudes.
- **1**<sup>st</sup> **Wednesday Prayer Meeting:** Join us for prayer on the **1**<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month in Classroom 3 from 7-8pm.
- Missionary Visit: Please come to hear and welcome our most recently added
  International Missionaries next Sun. Oct. 8, during the Sunday School hour, when they
  will share their testimony and their ministry to closed countries in the 10-40 window.
  To hear the conversion story is a treat. For more information on their names and
  location please see Ethan Waldrop or any other Mission Team member.
- **Second Sunday Pancake Lunch:** Join us next Sun. Oct. 8 for a special Pancake Second Sunday Lunch. The SILVERS will be providing the pancakes. Come along with toppings or a breakfast side dish to share.

- Christmas Pageant Signups Are Open! Signups for NLPC's Christmas Pageant are open. If you have a child between the ages of 4 and 14 who would like to be a part of this event, please either sign up at the information table or email Jenn Ryan at jenn@newlifeyorkpca.com. There are both speaking and non-speaking roles available. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 beginning Oct. 11. The pageant will be held in the NLPC sanctuary on Sun. Dec. 17 at 4pm. Questions? Please see Sarah Fox, Catherine Kloetzli, or Jenn Ryan.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Presbytery Women's Retreat: New Life has the pleasure of hosting the PCA Women's Retreat this year on Sat. Oct. 14 from 9 am until 3 pm. Cost is \$20 which includes lunch, coffee, and breakfast goodies. Sharon Wolcott will be speaking on the theme of "Growing Together in Christ." Sign up by Sun. Oct. 8 via the QR code on the flyers in the foyer. Alternatively, you can also type the following into your browser: https://forms.gle/GSyqZ23dLbgSkWJS9. If digital sign-ups are not your forte, ask a younger generation New Life friend for help.
- Youth Group Game Night: Youth Group, come on out to the church Sat. Oct. 14 from 6:30-9pm for a variety of games and activities.
- Women's Event: Games and Dips Night: On Sat. Oct. 21 at 6:30pm, Peggy Johns and Sarah Fox are hosting games and dips night at their house. Please bring your favorite dip with chips or crackers to share and maybe a favorite game. We have plenty of games and will be providing some dips as well. We would love to see you there! If you have any questions, please reach out to Peggy Johns.
- Young Adults Outing: Young Adults, on Sat. Oct. 28, meet at the church at 9am and we
  will carpool to Ricketts Glen State Park. Pack your own lunch and bring some money for
  a dinner stop on the way home.

## **Groups for Fellowship and Growth**

Christian Education: Sunday School for all ages is offered during the 9:00 hour.

**Women's Bible Study:** We are studying the gospel of Luke using the guide Luke: Knowing For Sure, Volume 1 (Chapters 1-10), A 13-Lesson Study. Dates and Times: Thursdays, 9:30-11 am, at church, or 7-8:30 pm on Zoom. Please contact Marlene Spark for details.

**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+:** This is a group of women dedicated to living life together. Children are welcome to attend concurrent classes. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Joy Swanson.

*Men's Group:* Meets at New Life every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 am. For planning purposes, please call ahead to Rob Rothermel each week that you plan to attend.

Youth Group: Please contact the church office for information.

**Prayer Small Group:** We have two opportunities: The evening group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Contact Sherry Rishel. The daytime group meets every Thursday (except the Thursday that follows the Wednesday evening prayer group) at 8:30am. Contact Sue Rothermel.

**Bible Study Fellowship (BSF):** BSF is studying the book of John. 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.

**Community Groups:** Designed to be a microcosm of the church, this is an intergenerational home-gathering for fellowship, food, bible study, (singing), and prayer. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month from 6-7:30pm. See Pastor Erik if you would like to join a group.