



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

October 29, 2023

Reflections:

I fled Him, down the nights and down the days;
I fled Him, down the arches of the years;
I fled Him, down the labyrinthine ways
Of my own mind; and in the midst of tears
I hid from Him...

- Francis Thompson, from "The Hound of Heaven"

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

– the Apostle Paul

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – *Psalm 31:23-24*

Will Pope

*Love the LORD, all you his saints!
The LORD preserves the faithful
but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD!*

Prayer of Praise

Salvation Belongs to Our God

Verse 1

Salvation belongs to our God
Who sits upon the throne
And unto the Lamb
Praise and glory wisdom and thanks
Honour and power and strength

Chorus

Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever
Amen

Verse 2

And we the redeemed shall be strong
In purpose and unity
Declaring aloud
Praise and glory wisdom and thanks
Honour and power and strength

Bridge

Praise and glory wisdom and thanks
Honour and power and strength

“Salvation Belongs To Our God” words and music by Adrian Howard and Pat Turner

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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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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 – Psalm 85

Barry Francisco

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

All: O Lord, what evil have we not done? Or if there is evil that we have not done, what evil is there that we have not spoken? If there is any that we have not spoken, what evil is there that we have not thought to do? But you, O Lord, are good. You are merciful. You saw how deep we were sunk in death, and it was your power that drained dry the well of corruption in the depths of our hearts. All that You have asked of us was to deny our own wills and accept yours. Forgive us for every failure to do so and help us to follow You in every way and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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.*

Be Unto Your Name

Verse 1

We are a moment You are forever
Lord of the ages God before time
We are a vapor You are eternal
Love everlasting reigning on high

Chorus

Holy holy Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Highest praises honor and glory
Be unto Your name
Be unto Your name

Verse 2

We are the broken You are the healer
Jesus Redeemer mighty to save
You are the love song we'll sing forever
Bowing before You blessing Your name

Ending

Be unto Your name
(REPEAT)

"Be Unto Your Name" words and music by Gary Sadler and Lynn DeShazo
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Prayers of the People

Ministry Moment: 4th Quarter Financial Update

Wayne Blanding

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 8:28-30*

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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

In Christ Alone

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and
storm
What heights of love what depths of
peace
When fears are stilled when strivings
cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

"In Christ Alone" words and music by Keith Getty, Stuart Townend
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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

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 10/29	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun. 10/29	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/29	11:45 am	LEAP 2024 Discussion	Aquarium
W. 11/1	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2
W. 11/1	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 11/1	5:30 pm	Pageant Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 11/1	6:00 pm	SILVERS Committee Meeting	Classroom 4
W. 11/1	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 11/1	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship Meeting	Classrooms 1 & 2
W. 11/1	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3
Th. 11/2	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Th. 11/2	7:00 pm	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
F. 11/3	6:00 pm	Men's Game Night	Fellowship Hall
Sat. 11/4	12:30 pm	Youth Group Yard Clean-Up	Meet at New Life
Sat. 11/4	5:00 pm	Young Adults Friendsgiving Dinner	Johns Home
Sun. 11/5	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun. 11/5	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 11/5	12:00 pm	Parents' Day Out/Kids' Christmas Party Meeting	Aquarium
Sun. 11/5	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Kay & Loht Homes

**New Life Presbyterian Church Financial Report
January to September 2023**

Fund Description	Balance as of 1/1/23	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Balance as of 9/30/23
General Fund	105,296.91	230,305.01	198,603.04	-	136,998.88
Deacon's Fund	5,260.67	3,250.84	4,795.01	-	3,716.50
Building Improvement	18,052.57	9,060.43	26,561.49	-	1,001.51
Capital Reserve	99,327.05	3,007.27	40,157.53	-	62,176.79
Short Term Missions	3,377.99	16,541.17	11,772.83	-	8,146.33
Totals	231,765.19	262,164.72	281,889.90	-	212,040.01

Fund Descriptions:

- General Fund is used for church operating expenses (e.g., utilities, ministry costs, salaries).
- Deacon's Fund is used to provide financial aid to those within and outside of the church.
- Building Improvement Fund is used to fund projects that add new features to the building.
- Capital Reserve Fund is used to fund projects that replace worn out building infrastructure (e.g., roof, HVAC units, parking lot).
- Short Term Missions Fund is used to fund short term missions trips.

Notes:

- The church has a building mortgage with an outstanding balance of \$190,623.51 at a 4.5% interest rate that resets on 10/31/25. Without principal prepayments, the mortgage will be fully paid off in early 2029.
- Short Term Missions balance of gift cards on hand but not yet sold is \$900.

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- **Volunteer Schedule:** The 4th quarter volunteer schedule is up in the foyer. Please consider signing up to provide Sunday fellowship refreshments. Remember you can keep it simple!
- **LEAP 2024?** Please prayerfully consider whether you are interested in potentially participating in a short-term mission trip to London in the summer of 2024. The trip is titled; "London Evangelism and Prayer," and it will occur from July 1 through July 8. The mission organization New Life may partner with, Serge, is ministering to the East Asian community (Indians, Pakistanis, etc.) who reside in London. Approximately 1/3 of the time is spent learning about other religions and how to share the gospel, 1/3 of the time is spent in direct evangelism - street evangelism and door-to-door evangelism, and 1/3 of the time is spent in prayer. Meet in the aquarium room at 11:45am **TODAY** for more information, or contact Pastor Erik. We have not made any decision regarding participation; we are simply seeking to see whether there is interest.
- **Lost & Found:** PLEASE check the lost-&-found table by the coat racks. Any items not claimed by **Tues. Oct. 31** will be donated.
- **Men's Game Night:** Men (and age appropriate sons) who like strategy games, come out for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun on **Fri. Nov. 3** at 6pm at New Life. Bring a donation for the pizza dinner provided. Contact John Kloetzli for more info.
- **Parents' Day Out/Kids Christmas Party Planning Meeting:** Volunteers for the kids' Christmas party, please join the planning meeting in the aquarium on **Sun. Nov. 5** at 12pm.
- **Prayer for the Chile Mission Trip:** Please continue to be in prayer for the team that will be traveling to Santiago, Chile from **Nov. 7-14**. New Life is sending 7 people: Ethan and Abby Waldrop, Sue Rothermel, Carol and Isaiah Feeney, Bontivea Myles, and Erik Swanson. The team will provide the teaching and support for the local church to be able to be strengthened through a spiritual retreat.

(continued on next page)

Announcements, page 2 of 2

- **Operation Christmas Child:** Please consider filling a Christmas gift shoebox with appropriate gifts and toys for a child in another country. Boxes come with packing ideas and can be picked up from the foyer. Printing your labels and paying online is strongly recommended especially since you can track your box that way. Otherwise, brochures are available with labels and envelopes attached in order to send your shipping donation of \$10 per box by mail. (Do not place checks inside boxes or affix to the outside). Boxes are due back to New Life no later than **Sun. Nov. 12**. See Connie Kay with questions.
- **Game Night and Ice Cream Social:** The whole church is invited to a game night and ice cream social hosted by the SILVERS on **Sat. Nov. 18** from 6-8 pm. Please bring along your favorite game and favorite ice cream topping to share!
- **S.I.L.V.E.R.S.** group will be attending a Valentine mystery dinner on **Sat. Feb. 10**. "Death by chocolate" will be at the Bethlehem Life Church in Dallastown from 5:30-9pm. Tickets are \$44.50 per person and money is due by **Sun. Nov. 19**. For more information contact Shyrl Tompkins. If you need a ride, please let Mel King know. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/valentines-murder-mystery-tickets-703455072057>
- **Save the Date for Parents' Day Out/Kids' Christmas Party:** Mark your calendars for **Sat. Dec. 2** from 9am-1pm, for our annual Parents' Day Out/Kids' Christmas Party. Parents can experience the opportunity to chip away at the holiday to-do list while kids experience a Christmas-themed day of VBS. Contact Pastor Erik to volunteer.

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 2nd and 4th 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 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 6-7:30pm. See Pastor Erik if you would like to join a group.