



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

November 26, 2023

Reflections:

“Let us with a gladsome mind
praise the Lord for he is kind.”

– John Milton

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – from Psalm 100

Minister: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

People: Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

Minister: Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

People: Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

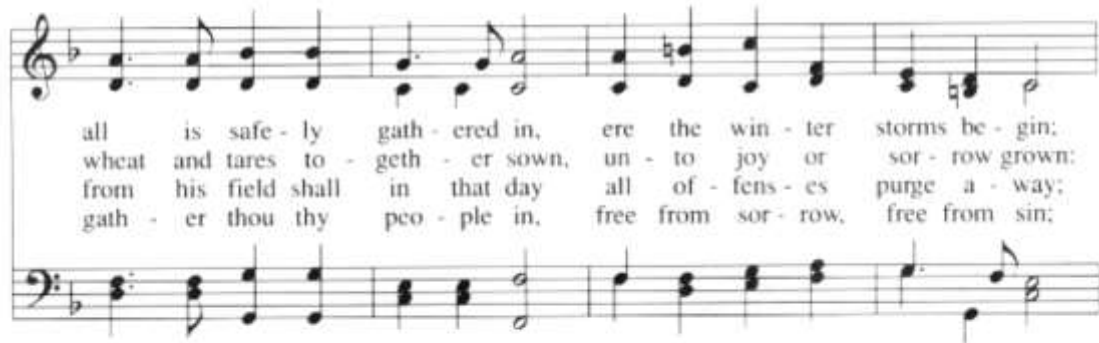
All: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Prayer of Praise

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



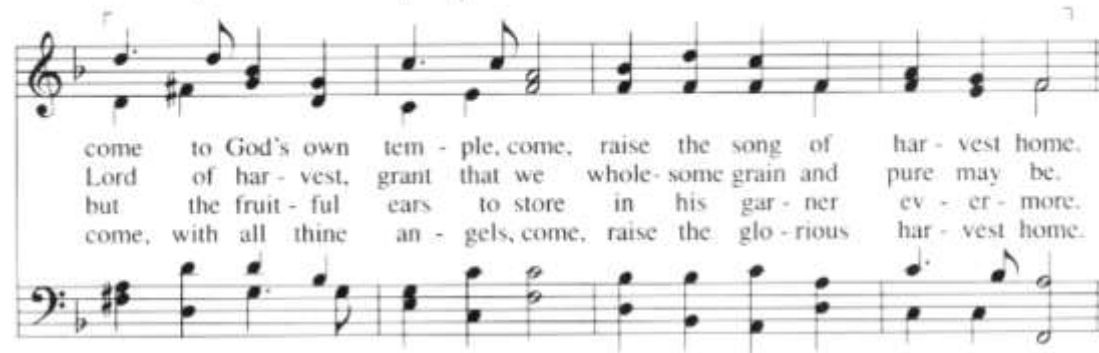
1. Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;
2. All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3. For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his har-vest home;
4. E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home;



all is safe-ly gath-ered in, ere the win-ter storms be-gin;
wheat and tares to- geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown;
from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
gath-er thou thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin;



God, our Mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied:
first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear:
give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy pres-ence to a-bide:



come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home.

Forever

Verse 1

Give thanks to the Lord
Our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

Verse 2

With a mighty hand
And an outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

Pre-Chorus

Sing praise sing praise

Chorus

Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever forever

Verse 3

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God
We will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

"Forever" words and music by Chris Tomlin
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Affirmation of Faith – Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Scripture Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:14-22

Bryan McGahan

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

God of love, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that we have sinned. Our affections at times turn away from you: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. We ask that you would order our lives by your holy Word, make your commandments the joy of our hearts, and enable us to walk according to the Spirit. Conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, so that we may shine before the world to your glory. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – Psalm 32:1-2, 5

*Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.*

*² Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

*⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;*

*I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

Give Thanks

Chorus

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son

Verse

And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us

Ending

Give thanks

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Prayers of the People

Ministry Moment

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 – Psalm 136

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

² Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

³ Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁴ to him who alone does great wonders,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁵ to him who by understanding made the
heavens,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁶ to him who spread out the earth above
the waters,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁷ to him who made the great lights,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁸ the sun to rule over the day,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁹ the moon and stars to rule over the
night,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹⁰ to him who struck down the firstborn
of Egypt,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹¹ and brought Israel out from among
them,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹² with a strong hand and an outstretched
arm,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹³ to him who divided the Red Sea in two,

for his steadfast love endures forever;
¹⁴ and made Israel pass through the midst
of it,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹⁵ but overthrew Pharaoh and his host in
the Red Sea,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹⁶ to him who led his people through the
wilderness,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹⁷ to him who struck down great kings,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹⁸ and killed mighty kings,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

¹⁹ Sihon, king of the Amorites,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

²⁰ and Og, king of Bashan,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

²¹ and gave their land as a heritage,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

²² a heritage to Israel his servant,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

²³ It is he who remembered us in our low
estate,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

²⁴ and rescued us from our foes,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

²⁵ he who gives food to all flesh,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

²⁶ Give thanks to the God of heaven,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

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

Blessed Be the Lord

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—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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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

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This Week at New Life

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 11/26	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun. 11/26	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 11/26	6:30 pm	Advent Party	Fellowship Hall
Tu. 11/28	7:00 pm	SILVERS Event	Union Lutheran Church
Tu. 11/28	7:00 pm	Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 11/29	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2
W. 11/29	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 11/29	5:30 pm	Pageant Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 11/29	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 11/30	8:30 am	Prayer Meeting	Resource Room
Th. 11/30	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Th. 11/30	7:00 pm	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
Sat. 12/2	9:00 am	Parents Day Out/Kids Christmas Party	New Life
Sun. 12/3	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	New Life
Sun. 12/3	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 12/3	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Kay & Loht Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2023	\$239,519.05	\$289,513.63
Week of 11/19/23	\$5,096.15	\$3,635.00

Announcements (continues on next page)

- **Deacon's Offering:** The Deacons Fund allows the deacons to support people in need, whether people from New Life or people who come to the church for help. Please consider giving to this fund through a special offering on Dec. 10.
- **Christmas Pageant Props Needed to Borrow:** We are in need of 2 counter height or shorter rustic style stools as well as several shepherd's crooks for this December's Christmas pageant. If you have anything in your house that might fit these needs please email, text, or call Jenn Ryan. Thank you!
- **Diaconate Help:** The deacons are hoping to create a "minuteman" list, a list of women or men who are willing, assuming availability, to help at a moment's notice with practical needs that arise. Examples are helping drive others to a doctor's appointment or to run errands. Please contact Steve Harman if you're willing to have your name on the contact list for diaconate help.
- **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!
- **Cleaner Openings:** We are in big need of some more cleaners for the church. Over the winter, we only have two teams volunteering and we don't want someone to have to clean more than once a month. Would you consider volunteering? Kelly is happy to answer any questions you may have.
- **New Adult Sunday School Class: "What is the Church?"** Have you ever heard a Christian say, "I believe in Jesus but I don't need the church"? Starting **Nov. 26**, a second adult Sunday school will consider the topic: "What is the Church? Understanding our Call as God's People." Meet in Classroom 2.
- **S.I.L.V.E.R.S** are invited to a free comedy mystery show "Mystery at Senior Manor" this **Tues. Nov. 28** at Union Lutheran Church. This is a show for seniors by seniors and one of our own (Mark Deckard) is part of the cast! Show starts at 7pm and runs about an hour. The church is located at 700 East Market Street. Park in the back of the building and come through the back door. No reservations needed.
- **Young Adult and Youth Group Game and Snack Night:** The young adults and youth group are invited to mingle together at New Life on **Sat. Dec. 16** at 7pm for a fun night of games and snacks. Attenders are asked to bring a game and snack to share. Come along to socialize even if you won't be playing a game!

- **Refreshments for the 12/17 Christmas Pageant:** Thirteen people are needed to donate 2 dozen cookies each. Please sign up on the sheet in the foyer. The cookies should be delivered the morning of Sun. Dec. 17. Thank you! Questions: call Mel King or Alice Lomax.
- **Advent and Christmas at New Life**
 - An order sheet for **Christmas Poinsettias** is on the table in the foyer. Orders must be placed by **Sun. Nov. 26**.
 - Pick up an **Advent Devotional**, written by members and regular attenders of New Life.
 - **Sun. Nov. 26:** Join the **Advent Party** at New Life from 6:30-8:00 pm. Make an advent wreath (\$5 per wreath), participate in singing Christmas carols, and enjoy festive foods.
 - **Sat. Dec. 2:** Drop your child off (**must register through EventBrite**) or participate as a volunteer in our **Kids' Christmas Party/Parents' Day Out**. NLPC will host a VBS-at-Christmas kids' program from 9am-1pm. Please invite your community to participate.
 - **Fri. Dec. 8:** Come anytime between 5-8 pm to the **Swanson's Open House Christmas Party**. The only thing requested is your presence; appetizers, snacks, and treats will be provided.
 - **Sat. Dec. 9:** The **Youth Group Christmas Party** will meet at 6 pm for Christmas Caroling in the community, followed by a gift exchange game (\$5-10 gift, please) at New Life.
 - **Sun. Dec. 10:** In lieu of second Sunday lunch, NLPC will be coordinating a **Christmas luncheon**. Turkey will be provided. Please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer for sides, salads, and desserts. Please bring hot dishes in crockpots, as the oven will not be available. Dishes should be enough for 10-12 people.
 - **Sun. Dec. 17:** The **Kids' Christmas Pageant** will be at 4 pm at New Life, followed by refreshments.
 - **Sun. Dec. 24:** Worship will occur as normal at 10 am. There will be no children's Sunday school that morning. The **Lessons and Carols** service will be at 6:30 pm.

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.

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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