



# 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

January 21, 2024

## Reflection

“Man is the measure of all things” – *Protagoras*

“All was vanity and a striving after wind” - *Qoheleth*

“Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom” - *Moses*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Erik Swanson*

## Prelude

### Call to Worship – from *Psalm 33*

*Minister:* Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous.

**People:** It is fitting for the upright to praise him.

*Minister:* By the word of the Lord were the heavens made.

**People:** The stars were made by the breath of his mouth.

*Minister:* He gathers the waters of the sea into jars.

**People:** He puts the deep into storehouses.

*Minister:* May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord.

**People:** Even as we put our hope in you.

## Prayer of Praise

# Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this  
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing  
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y; Hold me  
stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar Lead me  
fears sub - side; Bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent, Land me

with Thy pow'r - ful hand; Bread of Heav - en, Bread of Heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through; Strong De - liv - 'rer, strong De - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side; Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.  
Be Thou still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.  
I will ev - er give to Thee, I will ev - er give to Thee.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are arranged in three columns corresponding to the three verses. The first system contains the first line of lyrics for all three verses. The second system contains the second line. The third system contains the third line. The fourth system contains the final line of lyrics, which is repeated for both verses 1 and 2.

# Hymn of Heaven

## Verse 1

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven  
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the  
streets  
To look upon the one who bled to save  
me  
And walk with Him for all eternity

## Chorus 1

There will be a day  
When all will bow before Him  
There will be a day  
When death will be no more  
Standing face to face  
With He who died and rose again  
Holy holy is the Lord

## Verse 2

And ev'ry prayer we prayed in  
desperation  
The songs of faith  
We sang through doubt and fear  
In the end we'll see that it was worth it  
When He returns to wipe away our tears

## Chorus 1

## Verse 3

And on that day we join the resurrection  
And stand beside the heroes of the faith  
With one voice a thousand generations  
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Forever He shall reign

## Chorus 1

## Chorus 2

So let it be today  
We shout the hymn of Heaven  
With angels and the Saints  
We raise a mighty roar  
Glory to our God  
Who gave us life beyond the grave  
Holy holy is the Lord  
Holy holy is the Lord  
Holy holy is the Lord

"Hymn of Heaven" words and music by Bill Johnson, Brian Johnson, Chris Davenport, Phil Wickham  
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## **Affirmation of Faith – *The Apostles' Creed***

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

\* that is, universal

## **Scripture Reading – *Psalm 73***

*Connie Kay*

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Lord God,**

**You are faithful and loving. You have shown us your faithfulness in keeping your promises, and you have shown us your sacrificial love in sending your Son. We confess that at times we are faithless and selfish. We fail, often, to reflect your character. Forgive us, we pray, for we trust in Jesus Christ. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may serve you in newness of life. We ask this through the name of Jesus, Amen!**

## **Assurance of Forgiveness – *1 John 1:9***

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

# Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me

## Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer  
There is no more for heaven now to give  
He is my joy my righteousness and  
freedom  
My steadfast love my deep and  
boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
For my life is wholly bound to his  
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is  
mine  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken  
For by my side the Saviour he will stay  
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing  
For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend  
me  
Through the deepest valley he will lead  
Oh the night has been won and I shall  
overcome  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Verse 3

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven  
The future sure the price it has been paid  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my  
pardon  
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated  
Jesus now and ever is my plea  
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am  
free  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
For he has said that he will bring me  
home  
And day by day I know he will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
All the glory evermore to him  
When the race is complete still my lips  
shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Ending

When the race is complete still my lips  
shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

“Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me” words and music by Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson  
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# Prayers of the People

## Missions Moment

Holly Wirt

### 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 – Ecclesiastes 2

I said in my heart, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself." But behold, this also was vanity. <sup>2</sup>I said of laughter, "It is mad," and of pleasure, "What use is it?" <sup>3</sup>I searched with my heart how to cheer my body with wine—my heart still guiding me with wisdom—and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the children of man to do under heaven during the few days of their life. <sup>4</sup>I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. <sup>5</sup>I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. <sup>6</sup>I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. <sup>7</sup>I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. <sup>8</sup>I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the sons of man.

<sup>9</sup>So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. <sup>10</sup>And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. <sup>11</sup>Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

<sup>12</sup>So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly. For what can the man do who comes after the king? Only what has already been done. <sup>13</sup>Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. <sup>14</sup>The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. <sup>15</sup>Then I said in my heart, "What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why



then have I been so very wise?" And I said in my heart that this also is vanity. <sup>16</sup> For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! <sup>17</sup> So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind.

<sup>18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

<sup>24</sup> There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, <sup>25</sup> for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? <sup>26</sup> For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

**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**

# Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

## Chorus

Glory, glory, hallelujah  
Since I laid my burdens down  
Glory, glory, hallelujah  
Since I laid my burdens down

## Chorus

### Verse 1

I feel better, so much better  
Since I laid my burdens down  
I feel better, so much better  
Since I laid my burdens down

### Verse 2

I won't treat you like I used to  
Since I laid my burdens down  
I won't treat you like I used to  
Since I laid my burdens down

## Chorus

### Verse 3

I'm going home to be with Jesus  
Since I laid my burdens down  
I'm going home to be with Jesus  
Since I laid my burdens down.

## Chorus 2x

## Benediction – Numbers 6:24-26

*The LORD bless you and keep you;*

*<sup>25</sup> the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;*

*<sup>26</sup> 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. 1/21	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 1/21	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 1/21	11:30 am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
W. 1/24	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
W. 1/24	9:00 am	Mom's +	Classroom 2
W. 1/24	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 1/24	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 1/25	11:15 am	Prayer Meeting	Resource Room
Th. 1/25	7:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Swanson Home
Sun. 1/28	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 1/28	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary

## Church Financial Summary 2023

Category	Budget	Actual
Year End 2023	\$270,095.95	\$346,923.14

## Announcements

- **Refreshments:** The volunteer sign-up for 2024's first quarter has been posted in the lobby. Thank you to all our volunteers! You'll notice there is a need for refreshment providers. Remember, please keep it simple!
- **New Life Communications:** Make sure you are receiving all the communication from New Life! We periodically send out congregational emails with dedicated information that does not show up in the bulletin announcements. In addition, we put out a weekly e-newsletter (New Life News) which sometimes includes information about the community at large. Thirdly, we have a private Facebook group where you can view pictures of events, etc. If you would like to be added to any of these three mediums, please contact the office via [kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com](mailto:kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com).
- **Congregational Meeting TODAY:** Please join us today for a congregational meeting at 11:30am. The agenda includes: 1. Giving thanks for the highlights of 2023; 2. Discussion of ministry plans for 2024, including the plan for searching for/hiring a second pastor by mid-year; 3. A presentation of the 2024 budget, which also will include a congregational vote on the proposed cost living increase for the pastor's salary. Regular attenders are encouraged to attend; for any matters that require voting only members may vote.
- **Souper Bowl Sunday:** In celebration of the Super Bowl, February's Second Sunday Lunch will consist of soup and sandwiches. See the sign-up sheet in the lobby.
- **Women's Book Club:** This winter we will be reading *All My Knotted-Up Life* by Beth Moore. Read at your own pace, then join us for a dinner and discussion on **Sun. Feb. 25**. Exact time and place to be determined. Contact Connie Kay with any questions.

## Groups for Fellowship and Growth

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

**Women's Bible Study:** We will resume again in the spring. Please contact Marlene Spark with questions.

**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 11:15am. Contact Sue Rothermel.

**Bible Study Fellowship (BSF):** 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.

# 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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