

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

March 3, 2024

Reflections

"The maid who sweeps her kitchen is doing the will of God just as much as the monk who prays – not because she may sing a Christian hymn as she sweeps but because God loves clean floors. The Christian shoemaker does his Christian duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes, because God is interested in good craftsmanship." ~ attributed to Martin Luther

"I simply argue that the cross should be raised at the center of the marketplace as well as on the steeple of the church. I am recovering the claim that Jesus was not crucified in a cathedral between two candles, but on a cross between two thieves on the town's garbage heap; at a crossroad so cosmopolitan they had to write His title in Hebrew and Latin and Greek...at the kind of place where cynics talk smut and thieves curse, and soldiers gamble. Because that is where He died and that is what He died about." ~ George MacLeod

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – from Psalm 121

Minister: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

People: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Minister: He will not let your foot be moved. He who keeps you will not

slumber.

People: Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Minister: The LORD is your keeper. The LORD is your shade on your right hand.

People: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

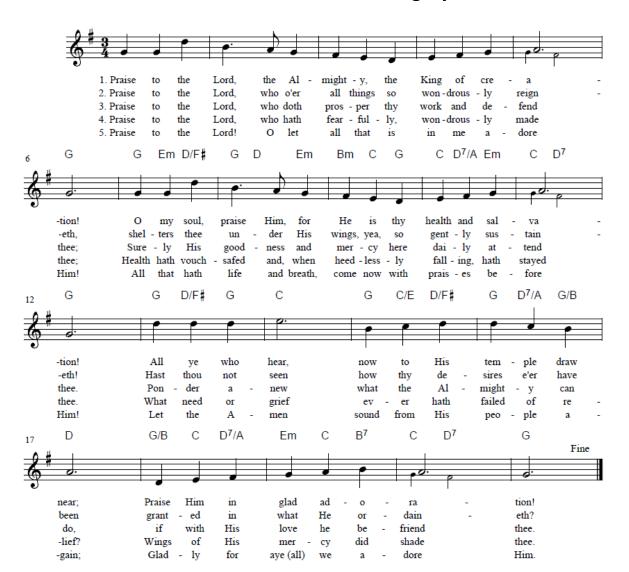
Minister: The LORD will keep you from all evil. He will keep your life.

People: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this

time forth and forevermore.

Prayer of Praise

Praise to the Lord the Almighty



As It Is in Heaven

Verse 1

Our Father Who art in Heaven
Hallowed be Thy name
Come and let Your glory come
And let Your glory fall
Our Father Who art in Heaven
The rocks cry out Your fame
Come and let Your glory come
And let Your glory fall

Pre-Chorus

I will sing sing a new song
I will sing sing a new song
I will sing sing a new song
To the Lord

Chorus

Let Your Kingdom come
Let Your will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven
Ev'ry heart proclaim
The mercy of Your name
On earth as it is in Heaven

Verse 2

God give us new ev'ry morning
Mercy as daily bread
In the name of Jesus
In the name of Jesus we pray
And lead us not to temptation
But deliver us with Your hand
In the name of Jesus
In the name of Jesus we pray
Father we pray

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge

For the Kingdom is Yours
And the power is Yours
And the glory forever amen
And the Kingdom is Yours
And the power is Yours
And the glory forever amen

Chorus

EndingAs it is in Heaven

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Affirmation of Faith - Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God,

begotten of the Father before all worlds;

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God;

begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men* and for our salvation,

came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures;

and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father;

and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life;

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

and I look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Scripture Reading – *Romans 12:9-21*

Sue Ann Randall

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

^{*} that is, humans

^{* &}quot;Catholic" means universal; that is, there is one church across all times, places, and peoples

Prayer of Confession

Father of all mercies,

Your son, our Lord, died to bring us to You. We confess that in our public and private worship we fail to glorify your name. We have damaged our witness to the world and dishonored your name by our apathy and selfishness. We repent, and ask your forgiveness.

Your son, our Lord, told us that the world would know we are your disciples by our love. We confess that we have hurt one another and robbed you of your glory. We have failed to love and forgive one another as you command. We have failed to reach out sacrificially and compassionately to those in need. We repent, and beg your forgiveness.

Your son, our Lord, calls us to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him. We confess that we have selfish ambition, dishonesty and covetousness. We have failed to live in simplicity, contentment, and generosity. We repent, and seek your forgiveness.

Have mercy we pray. Do not treat us as our sins deserve, but have mercy according to your steadfast love. May your Spirit enable us to walk in your ways. All this we ask in Jesus' name, amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – *Isaiah 53:4-5*

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Chorus

Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

Verse 1

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies
before me
Let me be singing when the evening
comes

Chorus

Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus

Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Chorus

Ending

Worship Your holy name Lord I'll worship Your holy name

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" words and music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, worshiptogether.com songs Used by Permission. CCLI License #2410623

Prayers of the People

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Ministry Moment: Story of New Life Brian Fitz

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 2:24-26; 3:12-13; 5:18-20; 8:15; 9:7-10; 11:5-12:1

^{5:18} Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. ¹⁹ Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. ²⁰ For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

^{8:15} And I commend joy, for man has nothing better under the sun but to eat and drink and be joyful, for this will go with him in his toil through the days of his life that God has given him under the sun.

^{9:7} Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do.

⁸ Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head.

⁹ Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. ¹⁰ Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going.

Sermon: The Greatest Gift and the Good Life Pastor Erik Swanson

Series: Ecclesiastes

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

All Creatures of Our God and King

Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him, alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam

Chorus

O praise Him O praise Him Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Verse 2

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along
O praise Him alleluia
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice

Verse 3

Thou flowing water pure and clear
Make music for thy Lord to hear
O praise Him, alleluia
Thou fire so masterful and bright
Thou givest man both warmth and light

Verse 4

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him, alleluia
Praise praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit Three in One

Benediction – Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

The Sending

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

All: Thanks be to God!

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This Week at New Life

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 3/3	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 3/3	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/3	After	Photo-Taking for Directory	Classroom 4
	service		
Sun. 3/3	11:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/3	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Kay & Loht Homes
W. 3/6	9:00 am	Mom's +	Classroom 2
W. 3/6	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 3/6	6:00 pm	SILVERS Committee Meeting	Classroom 4
W. 3/6	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 3/6	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship Meeting	Classrooms 1 & 2
W. 3/6	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3
Th. 3/7	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Th. 3/7	7:00 pm	Women's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
Sun. 3/10	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 3/10	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/10	After	Photo-Taking for Directory	Classroom 4
	service		
Sun. 3/10	11:30 am	Second Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 3/10	11:45 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/10	12:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Classroom 2
Sun. 3/10	6:30 pm	Easter Egg Stuffing Party	New Life

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2024	\$53,630.72	\$54,059.86
Week of 2/25/24	\$6,703.84	\$7,063.17

Announcements

- NLPC Spring Picture Directory: It's almost time for a new NLPC directory! If you would like to add or update your picture for the next edition, you can either submit a photo to kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com, or have your picture taken in Classroom 4 after church on March 3 or 10 (TODAY and NEXT Sunday). An old draft of the directory is in the lobby through March 10 so you can make your additions or updates to your information.
- Easter Flowers: Help the church look beautiful on Easter by purchasing a 6-inch tulip or daffodil! You can sign up in the lobby and give payment (\$11 per flower) to Steve Harman or Kelly Steenstra. Last day to place an order is **NEXT Sun. March 10**. Take home after the service on Easter day.
- **Easter Egg Stuffing Party:** To prepare for the March 23rd community-wide egg hunt, please join the egg stuffing party on **NEXT Sun. March 10** at 6:30pm. The whole church is invited as we fill approximately 2,500 eggs.
- **SILVERS:** Save the date! Join us for lunch at Lion's Pride Restaurant (20 Dairyland Square, Red Lion) on **Sat. March 16** at 1:30pm. Please sign up in the lobby if you plan to join us. Questions? Contact Mel King or Alice Lomax.
- Youth & Young Adult Game Night: The Young Adults would like to invite the youth group to join them at 5pm on Sat. March 16 for an evening of games and fellowship. Snacks will be provided by the young adults; all are invited to bring a favorite board game. Pick up for the youth is at 8:30pm.
- Easter Egg Hunt: Our annual Easter Egg hunt will be Sat. March 23 (Rain Date March 30). Doors open at 10am, with the hunt beginning at 10:30. Ages 0-10 are invited! Please invite your community, and please consider signing up to help (erik@newlifeyorkpca.com).
- Save the Date: Save the date of Sat. May 4 at 5:30pm for a Fundraiser Dinner for the mission trip to London, LEAP (London Evangelism and Prayer). A very brief program, sharing the details of the trip and closing in prayer, will conclude the dinner.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

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

Women's Bible Study: This spring we are studying the gospel of Luke using the guide *Luke: Knowing For Sure, Volume 2 (Chapters 11-24), A 13-Lesson Study.* Dates and Times: Thursdays 9:30-11am at church, or 7-8:30pm 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 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^{st} and 3^{rd} 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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