



**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

May 26, 2024

## Reflections:

“Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
Come into the daylight’s splendor, there with joy your praises render.  
Bless the One whose grace unbounded, this amazing banquet founded;  
He, though heav’nly, high, and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.”

- Catherine Winkworth

“A man can no more diminish God’s glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic  
can put out the sun by scribbling the word, ‘darkness’ on the walls of his cell.”

- C S Lewis

## Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Erik Swanson*

## Prelude

## Call to Worship – from Psalm 96:1-9

*Wayne Blanding*

*Minister:* Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

**People:** Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

*Minister:* Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

**People:** For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

*Minister:* For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

**People:** Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

*Minister:* Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

**People:** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

**All:** Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

## Prayer of Praise

# Battle Belongs

## Verse 1

When all I see is the battle  
You see my victory  
When all I see is a mountain  
You see a mountain moved  
And as I walk through the shadow  
Your love surrounds me  
There's nothing to fear now  
For I am safe with You

## Chorus

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees  
With my hands lifted high  
O God the battle belongs to You  
And every fear I lay at Your feet  
I'll sing through the night  
O God the battle belongs to You

## Verse 2

And if You are for me  
Who can be against me  
For Jesus there's nothing  
Impossible for You  
When all I see are the ashes  
You see the beauty  
When all I see is a cross  
God You see the empty tomb

## Chorus

## Bridge

(An) Almighty Fortress You go before us  
Nothing can stand against  
The power of our God  
You shine in the shadows  
You win every battle  
Nothing can stand against  
The power of our God (repeat)

## Chorus

## Tag

O God the battle belongs to You

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# Who You Say I Am

## Verse 1

Who am I that the highest King  
Would welcome me  
I was lost but He brought me in  
Oh His love for me  
Oh His love for me

## Chorus 1

Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I'm a child of God  
Yes I am

## Verse 2

Free at last  
He has ransomed me  
His grace runs deep  
While I was a slave to sin  
Jesus died for me  
Yes He died for me

## Chorus 1

Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I'm a child of God  
Yes I am

## Chorus 2

In my Father's house  
There's a place for me  
I'm a child of God  
Yes I am

## Bridge

I am chosen not forsaken  
I am who You say I am  
You are for me not against me  
I am who You say I am

## Chorus 1

Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I'm a child of God  
Yes I am

## Chorus 2

In my Father's house  
There's a place for me  
I'm a child of God  
Yes I am

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## Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism, Question & Answer 1

**Q:** *What is your only comfort in life and death?*

**A:** **That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

## Scripture Reading – 1 Kings 19:1-18

*Mark Deckard*

**Minister:** *This is the word of the Lord.*

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

## Prayer of Confession – from Psalm 25

**Minister:** *Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.*

**People:** **Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.**

**Minister:** *For the sake of your name, O LORD, forgive my iniquity, though it is great.*

**People:** **Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.**

**Minister:** *The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish.*

**People:** **Look upon my affliction and my distress and take away all my sins.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness – Ezekiel 36:25-27

*I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

# Goodness of God

## Verse 1

I love You Lord  
Oh Your mercy never fails me  
All my days  
I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head  
I will sing of the goodness of God

## Chorus

All my life You have been faithful  
All my life You have been so so good  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God

## Verse 2

I love Your voice  
You have led me through the fire  
In darkest night  
You are close like no other  
I've known You as a father  
I've known You as a friend  
I have lived in the goodness of God

## Chorus

## Bridge

Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
With my life laid down  
I'm surrendered now  
I give You everything  
Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me

## Chorus

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# Prayers of the People

## Stories of New Life

*Sue Vester*

### 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 – *Romans 11:1-10*

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? <sup>3</sup> "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life." <sup>4</sup> But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." <sup>5</sup> So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. <sup>6</sup> But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

<sup>7</sup> What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened, <sup>8</sup> as it is written,

"God gave them a spirit of stupor,  
eyes that would not see  
and ears that would not hear,  
down to this very day."

<sup>9</sup> And David says,

"Let their table become a snare and a trap,  
a stumbling block and a retribution for them;  
<sup>10</sup> let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see,  
and bend their backs forever."



**Sermon: Chosen by Grace**

*Pastor Erik Swanson*

**Series: The Gospel of God Concerning His Son**

**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**

# Amazing Grace

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound—  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me,  
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,

that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost  
 and grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did  
 his word my hope se - cures; he will my shield  
 I have al - read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought  
 bright shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days

but now am found, was blind but now I see.  
 that grace ap - pear, the hour - I first be - lieved!  
 and por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 to sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## **Benediction – John 14:27**

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*

## **The Sending**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **This Week at New Life**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sun. 5/26	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 5/26	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 5/26	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Grim Home
W. 5/29	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 5/29	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 5/29	7:00 pm	Missions Meeting	Classroom 2
Th. 5/30	11:15 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
Sun. 6/2	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 6/2	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 6/2	11:45 am	Keystone Care Community Meeting	Classroom 1
Sun. 6/2	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Kay & Loht Homes

## **Church Financial Summary**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Year to Date 2024</b>	\$134,076.80	\$160,943.01
<b>Week of 5/19/24</b>	\$6,703.84	\$14,487.63

## Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- **Meals Needed:** Many of you know that Rob Rothermel is recovering from a stroke. As Rob came home this last week and continues to recover through therapy, the family could use some help with meals. If you are able to help, dietary restrictions are noted on the Meal Train page: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/2zwz37>
- **Mowing/Weed-Whacking:** We have a great need for volunteers for mowing and weed-whacking. Please note that while weed-whacking need only be done every other week, the mowing is needed every week. Please consider this helpful way to spend some time outdoors, and sign up in the foyer. Questions? Contact one of the deacons or the office.
- **Refreshments:** We also have a need for volunteers to provide simple post-Sunday-service refreshments. Please consider signing up in the foyer. Thank you to all our volunteers!
- **Children's Sunday School on Summer Recess:** Starting in June, the children's Sunday school program will be on summer break. Thank you to all the teachers, assistants, and substitutes who make Sunday school possible. The children's Sunday school will resume the Sunday after the fall camping trip; September 15 will be the first day back for the fall.
- **Keystone Care Community Meeting:** Thank you for your interest in Keystone Family Alliance. Keystone provides us with a great opportunity to minister to vulnerable children and their foster family. For those interested in serving in this ministry, we will meet at 11:45 on **Sun. June 2**. At that time, we will confirm the number of people committed to being on a care community team and in what capacity they are willing to serve. We need a team leader that will be a liaison between the foster family and the team (- checking in once a week with the foster family, passing along family updates, needs, and prayer requests to the team). Please continue to pray for God's leading New Life partnering with Keystone Family Alliance.
- **Moms +:** Beginning **June 5**, Moms + will be meeting at the pool of Marlene Spark every Wednesday from 10am-noon. Bring along a snack or lunch for your kids. Questions? Contact Joy Swanson.
- **Deacons' Offering:** There is a deacons' offering that will be taken on **June 9**. The deacons' fund is used to assist members/attenders from New Life during times of need, and it is also used to help people from the community who come to the church during times of need.

(Continued on next page)

## Announcements (page 2 of 2)

- **Vacation Bible School Volunteer Meeting:** This year, our Olympics-themed Vacation Bible School will be taking place from **July 22-26**. To volunteer, use the sign-up sheet in the foyer and/or contact Megan Reese. A meeting will be held for volunteers on **June 9** following the worship service.
- **Adult Sunday School Class:** Starting **June 16**, a 12-week adult Sunday School class will examine the “I am” sayings in the gospel of John.
- **Nursery Renovation:** The use of our nursery is expanding! We are changing our layout to make the space more useable. The renovation is scheduled to take place from **mid-June through mid-August**, while Sunday School classes are on summer recess. Please note that the nursery will be temporarily relocated to Classroom 4.
- **Women’s Summer Book:** This summer we will be reading *Walking Through Fire: A Memoir of Loss and Redemption* by Vaneetha Rendall Risner. Read at your own pace, then join us for a dinner and discussion in August, exact date TBD. Questions? Contact Connie Kay.
- **New Life Communications:** In addition to the weekly announcements in the bulletin, New Life also communicates via:
  - **Emails:** Let both Pastor Erik AND Kelly know if you’d like to be added to their lists.
  - **New Life News:** This is a weekly e-newsletter that comes out on Thursdays at 2pm. Along with a sneak peek at the week’s announcements, occasionally there are reflections or information about community events or opportunities. Email Kelly at [kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com](mailto:kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com) if you’d like to be added.
  - **Facebook Group:** Contact Pastor Erik if you’d like to be added.

## Groups for Fellowship and Growth

**Christian Education:** Children's Sunday School will resume Sept. 15. Adult Sunday School will meet throughout the summer in the Aquarium room.

**Women's Bible Study:** Please contact Marlene Spark for questions on our next study, which will begin in the fall.

**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+:** Beginning June 5, Moms + will be meeting at the pool of Marlene Spark every Wednesday from 10am-noon. Bring along a snack or lunch for your kids. Questions? Contact Joy Swanson.

**Men's Group:** Currently on break. Stay tuned for the start-up date.

**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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