



NEW LIFE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

January 5, 2025

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.

Please be aware that we livestream our services.

Worshipping God

January 5, 2025

Reflection:

Outstanding people have one thing in common: an absolute sense of mission.

- *Zig Ziglar*

In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted,

but you have given me an open ear.

Burnt offering and sin offering

you have not required.

Then I said, "Behold, I have come;

in the scroll of the book it is written of me:

I delight to do your will, O my God;

your law is within my heart."

- *Psalm 40:6-8*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – from Isaiah 60:1

*Minister: Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.*

Prayer of Praise

Better Is One Day

Verse 1

How lovely is Your dwelling place
O Lord almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere
(Than thousands elsewhere)

Verse 2

One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place
Your glory dwells
(REPEAT)

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere

Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out
For You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You to You

Bridge

Better is one day
better is one day
Better is one day
than thousands elsewhere
Better is one day
better is one day
Better is one day
than thousands elsewhere

Bridge and Chorus sung together:

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere
(thousands elsewhere)

Bridge

Better is one day
Better is one day
Better is one day
Than thousands elsewhere
(thousands elsewhere)

"Better Is One Day" words and music by Matt Redman
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Take My Life and Let It Be



1. Take my life ___ and ___ let it be con - se - crat - ed, ___
 2. Take my hands _ and _ let them move at the im - pulse ___
 3. Take my voice _ and _ let me sing al - ways, on - ly ___
 4. Take my sil - ver ___ and my gold— Not a mite _ would _
 5. Take my will ___ and ___ make it Thine— It shall be no ___
 6. Take my love— _ my ___ Lord, I pour at Thy feet _ its ___

4 F/C C F C F F/A B♭ F/A



Lord, to ___ Thee; Take my mo - ments _ and my days— Let them flow in
 of Thy _ love; Take my feet and ___ let them be ___ swift and beau - ti -
 for my _ King; Take my lips and ___ let them be ___ filled with mes - sag -
 I with - hold; Take my in - tel - lect and use ___ ev - 'ry pow'r as
 long - er ___ mine; Take my heart— It ___ is Thine own; ___ It shall be Thy
 treas - ure _ store; Take my - self, and ___ I will be ___ ev - er, on - ly

8 C/G F F/C C Dm B♭ F/C C F



cease - less ___ praise, ___ let them flow in ___ cease - less praise.
 -ful ___ for ___ Thee, ___ swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
 -es ___ from ___ Thee, ___ filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
 Thou _ shalt _ choose, _ ev - 'ry pow'r as ___ Thou shalt choose.
 roy - al ___ throne, _ it shall be Thy ___ roy - al throne.
 all ___ for ___ Thee, ___ ev - er, on - ly, ___ all for Thee.

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.

* “Catholic” means universal; that is, there is one church across all times, places, and peoples

Scripture Reading – *Isaiah 50:4-11*

Jared Fitz

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

Minister: Holy Lord, we are guilty—of pride and unbelief, of failure to find your mind in your Word, of neglect to seek you in our daily lives.

All: Our violations and shortcomings present our consciences with a long list of accusations, but they shall not stand! For we lay them all now on Christ, our sacrifice and advocate.

Minister: Lord, subdue our weaknesses and selfishness, granting us grace to live above them. Let us not be mastered by them, but have you rule over us in liberty and power.

All: We praise and thank you for your wisdom and love, for sometimes putting us into the furnace to refine our gold and remove our dross. Deliver us from every evil habit, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in us, everything that prevents us from taking our deepest delight in you. Amen.

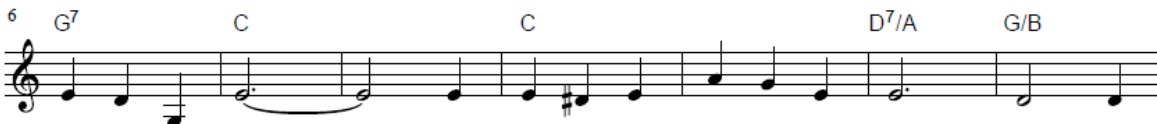
Assurance of Forgiveness – *Ephesians 2:8-10*

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

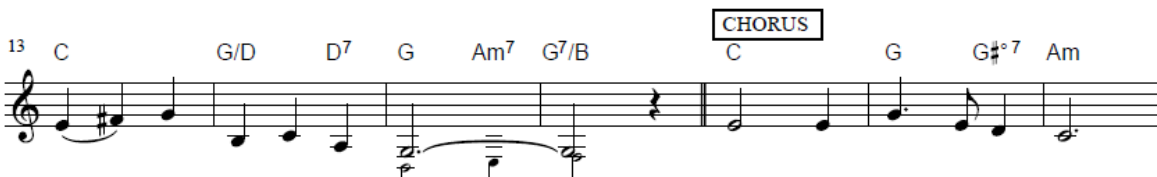
Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus



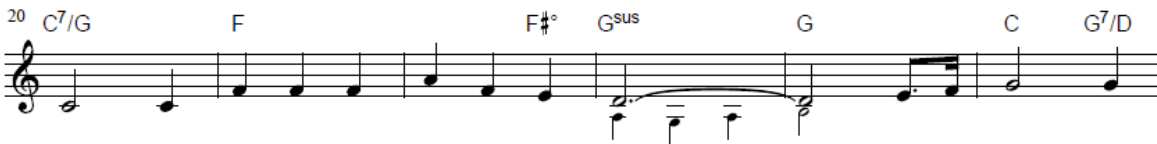
1. O soul, are you wea - ry and trou - bled? No light in the
 2. Thru death in - to life ev - er - last - ing He passed, and we
 3. His Word shall not fail you- He prom - ised; Be - lieve Him, and



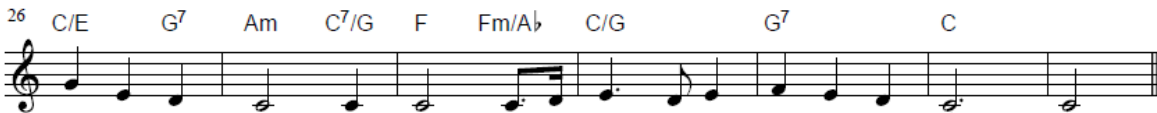
dark - ness you see? _____ There's light for a look at the Sav - ior, and
 fol - low Him there; _____ O'er us sin no more hath do - min - ion- for
 all will be well: _____ Then go to a world that is dy - ing, His



life more a - bun - dant and free! _____ Turn your eyes up - on Je -
 more _ than con - q'rors we are! _____
 per - fect sal - va - tion to tell! _____



-sus, look full in His won - der - ful face; _____ And the things of



earth will grow strange - ly dim in the light of His glo - ry and grace. _____

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 – *Luke 9:51-62*

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. ⁵³ But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ And they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹ To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶² Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Sermon: On a Mission

Pastor Erik Swanson

Series: Jesus' Journey to Jerusalem

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

Hear the Call of the Kingdom

Verse 1

Hear the call of the kingdom
Lift your eyes to the King
Let His song rise within you
As a fragrant offering
Of how God rich in mercy
 came in Christ to redeem
All who trust in His unfailing grace

Verse 2

Hear the call of the kingdom
To be children of light
With the mercy of heaven
 the humility of Christ
Walking justly before Him
Loving all that is right
That the life of Christ
 may shine through us

Chorus

King of heaven we will answer the call
We will follow bringing hope to the world
Filled with passion
 filled with power to proclaim
Salvation in Jesus' name

Verse 3

Hear the call of the kingdom
To reach out to the lost
With the Father's compassion
In the wonder of the cross
Bringing peace and forgiveness
And a hope yet to come
Let the nations put their trust in Him

Chorus

King of heaven we will answer the call
We will follow bringing hope to the world
Filled with passion
 filled with power to proclaim
Salvation in Jesus' name
(REPEAT)

"Hear The Call Of The Kingdom" words and music by Keith
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Benediction – 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Sending

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

This Week at New Life

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 1/5	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 1/5	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 1/5	11:30 am	Giant Cards for Sale	Foyer
Sun. 1/5	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes
W. 1/8	7:00 am	Men's Group	Fellowship Hall
W. 1/8	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 1/8	9:45 am	Moms +	Classroom 2
W. 1/8	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 1/9	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
Sun. 1/12	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 1/12	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 1/12	11:30 am	2 nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 1/12	12:00 pm	Young Adult Bible Study	Classroom 2

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2024	\$341,895.84	\$391,646.06
Week of 12/22/24	\$6,703.84	\$8,168.14

Announcements

- **Congregational Meeting on Sun. Jan. 19:** Please mark your calendars for a congregational meeting on **Sun. Jan. 19**. The meeting will be at 11:30am in the sanctuary. This annual meeting will cover three matters: a look back at 2024, a look ahead to 2025, and a presentation of the 2025 budget. As part of the budget, the congregation will deliberate and vote on a proposed change in the pastor's terms of call. All are invited to attend; only members may deliberate and vote.
- **Men's Retreat:** Men (and older sons), mark your calendars for a men's retreat the weekend of **Fri. Jan. 31 – Sun. Feb. 2**. After work, travel to Camp Hebron near Halifax for a weekend of teaching, worship, fellowship, and activities. Final cost will depend on the number of attendees; approximate cost is \$80 per person. Contact Pastor Erik for more information and to sign up.
- **Women's Winter Book Club:** This winter we will be reading *Captive in Iran: A Remarkable True Story of Hope and Triumph amid the Horror of Tehran's Brutal Evin Prison* by Maryam Rostampour and Marziyeh Amirizadeh. Read at your own pace, then join us for dinner and a discussion in **late February or early March** (exact date TBD). Contact Connie Kay or the office with any questions.
- **Refreshments:** Thank you to all who provided post-service refreshments this quarter! A new sign-up sheet for January through March is hanging on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: Youth and Children's classes: Pre-K through 1st meets in classroom 5, 2nd-4th meets in classroom 4, 5-8th meets in classroom 3, and 9-12th meets in classroom 1. **Two adult classes this fall:** one studying 1 Samuel and meeting in the Aquarium room and the other studying the book *Biblical Critical Theory* and meeting in Classroom 2.

Women's Bible Study: Please contact Marlene Spark or the office for details on our upcoming spring study.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: Interested in discussing the upcoming sermon text? Join us at New Life in Classroom 1 at 9am.

Moms+: We are resuming **this Wed. Jan. 8**. Contact Joy Swanson or the office with any questions.

Men's Group: Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 7-8am in the fellowship hall.

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 or the office. The daytime group meets every **Thursday** (except the Thursday that follows the Wednesday evening prayer group) at 11am. Contact Sue Rothermel or the office.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): Contact Will Pope or the office 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>

New Life Presbyterian Church, (717) 855-2360
970 Cape Horn Rd, York PA 17402
kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com