



NEW LIFE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

February 2, 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.

Worshiping God

February 2, 2025

Reflection:

For Paul, the Christian's ... weakness is not the point where he is failing, but the point where the deepest integration of his life and his message is possible ... Anyone who knows only his strength, not his weakness, has never given himself to a task which demands all he can give. — *Richard Bauckham*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – from Psalm 67 and Jude

Will Pope

Minister: May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.

**People: To the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!
Amen.**

Prayer of Praise

Come Christians Join to Sing



1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

5 G C G C D⁵ G G



Loud praise to Christ, our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Let all, with
 Let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! He is our
 Life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! On heav - en's

10 C/E D/F# G Am D



heart and voice, be - fore His throne re - joice;
 Guide and Friend; To us He'll con - de - scend;
 bliss - ful shore His good - ness we'll a - dore;

13 G C D G C D⁵ G



Praise is His gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 His love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

God So Loved

Verse 1

Come all you weary
Come all you thirsty
Come to the well that never runs dry
Drink of the water
Come and thirst no more

Verse 2

Come all you sinners
Come find His mercy
Come to the table He will satisfy
Taste of His goodness
Find what you're looking for

Chorus 1

For God so loved the world
that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us
Whoever believes in Him will live forever

Verse 3

Bring all your failures
Bring your addictions
Come lay them down
at the foot of the cross
Jesus is waiting there
With open arms

Chorus 2

For God so loved the world
that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us
Whoever believes in Him will live forever
The power of hell forever defeated
Now it is well I'm walking in freedom
For God so loved God so loved the world

Bridge

Praise God praise God
From whom all blessings flow
Praise Him praise Him
For the wonders of His love

Chorus 3

For God so loved the world
that He gave us
His one and only Son to save

Chorus 2

For God so loved the world
that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us
Whoever believes in Him will live forever
The power of hell forever defeated
Now it is well I'm walking in freedom
For God so loved God so loved the world

Verse 4

Bring all your failures
Bring your addictions
Come lay them down
at the foot of the cross
Jesus is waiting
God so loved the world

"God So Loved (Live At The Wheelhouse)" words and music by Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash
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Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism, Questions and Answers 27 and 28

27. Q. *What do you understand by the providence of God?*

A. **God’s providence is his almighty and ever present power, whereby, as with his hand, he still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

28. Q. *What does it benefit us to know that God has created all things and still upholds them by his providence?*

A. **We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and with a view to the future we can have a firm confidence in our faithful God and Father that no creature shall separate us from his love; for all creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they cannot so much as move.**

Scripture Reading – Jonah 3

Denise Fitz

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

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 live. We ask this through the name of Jesus, Amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness – Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Your Will Be Done

Verse 1

Your will be done my God and Father
As in heaven so on earth
My heart is drawn to self-exalting
Help me seek Your kingdom first
As Jesus walked so shall I walk
Held by Your same unchanging love
Be still my soul O lift your voice and pray
Father not my will but Yours be done

Verse 2

How in that garden he persisted
I may never fully know
The fearful weight of true obedience
It was held by him alone
What wondrous faith to bear that cross
To bear my sin what wondrous love
My hope was sure
 when there my Saviour prayed
Father not my will but Yours be done

Verse 3

When I am lost when I am broken
In the night of fear and doubt
Still I will trust in my good Father
Yes to the one great King I bow
As Jesus rose so I shall rise
In ransomed glory at the throne
My heart restored
 with all Your saints I sing
Father not my will but Yours be done

Verse 4

As we go forth our God and Father
Lead us daily in the fight
That all the world might see Your glory
And Your Name be lifted high
And in this Name we overcome
For You shall see us safely home
Now as Your church
 we lift our voice and pray
Father not my will but Yours be done

Ending

And in this Name we overcome
For You shall see us safely home
Now as Your church
 we lift our voice and pray
Father not my will but Yours be done
Father not my will but Yours be done
Father not my will but Yours be done

"Your Will Be Done" words and music by Jonny Robinson and
Rich Thompson
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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 – *Luke 11:14-12:3*

Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶ while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷ But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸ And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²² but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³ Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

²⁴ "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' ²⁵ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first."

²⁷ As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!" ²⁸ But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

²⁹ When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, "This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. ³¹ The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of

Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

³³ “No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. ³⁴ Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. ³⁵ Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. ³⁶ If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light.”

³⁷ While Jesus was speaking, a Pharisee asked him to dine with him, so he went in and reclined at table. ³⁸ The Pharisee was astonished to see that he did not first wash before dinner. ³⁹ And the Lord said to him, “Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. ⁴⁰ You fools! Did not he who made the outside make the inside also? ⁴¹ But give as alms those things that are within, and behold, everything is clean for you.

⁴² “But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every herb, and neglect justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. ⁴³ Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seat in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces. ⁴⁴ Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without knowing it.”

⁴⁵ One of the lawyers answered him, “Teacher, in saying these things you insult us also.” ⁴⁶ And he said, “Woe to you lawyers also! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers. ⁴⁷ Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your fathers killed. ⁴⁸ So you are witnesses and you consent to the deeds of your fathers, for they killed them, and you build their tombs. ⁴⁹ Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,’ ⁵⁰ so that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation, ⁵¹ from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be required of this generation. ⁵² Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering.”

⁵³ As he went away from there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to press him hard and to provoke him to speak about many things, ⁵⁴ lying in wait for him, to catch him in something he might say.

12 In the meantime, when so many thousands of the people had gathered together that they were trampling one another, he began to say to his disciples first, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. ² Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden

that will not be known. ³Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetops.

Sermon: Evidence, Rejection, and Acceptance

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

His Glory and My Good

Verse 1

I have seen my Father's glory
Revealed in Jesus Christ
And the more that I behold Him
The more He satisfies
When I gaze upon His beauty
When I see Him as I should
Then my eyes are lifted upward
For His glory and my good

Verse 2

There is hope in every trial
For I can trust the Lord
He will turn my heart towards Him
And help me bear the thorn
So in faith I follow Jesus
On the road not understood
For I know that He is working
For His glory and my good

Chorus 1

To our God be the glory
To our God be praise
He alone the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God
For I know His glory is my good

Verse 3

See the open arms of Jesus
Upon the cross that day
What they understood as weakness
Deserves my every praise
For the charge that was against me
It was nailed into the wood
Yes I know that He has saved me
For His glory and my good

Chorus 1

To our God be the glory
To our God be praise
He alone the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God
For I know His glory is my good

Verse 4

Would I gladly be made nothing
That Christ would be made more
Would I seek the only kingdom
That far outweighs them all
I will stand before my Father
Where the faithful saints have stood
And with joy my heart shall praise Him
For His glory and my good

Chorus 2

To our God be the glory
To our God be praise
He alone the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God
For I know His glory is my good
(REPEAT)

Tag

Yes I know His glory is my good

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Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson
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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

This Week at New Life

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 2/2	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 2/2	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 2/2	11:30 am	Giant Cards for Sale	Foyer
Sun. 2/2	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes
W. 2/5	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 2/5	9:45 am	Moms +	Classroom 5
W. 2/5	6:00 pm	SILVERS Committee Meeting	Classroom 4
W. 2/5	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 2/5	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
W. 2/5	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3
Sat. 2/8	5:30 pm	SILVERS Murder Mystery Dinner	Bethlehem Life Church
Sun. 2/9	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 2/9	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 2/9	11:30 am	Souper Bowl Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 2/9	12:00 pm	Young Adult Bible Study	Members' Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$33,076.92	\$40,748.94
Week of 1/26/25	\$8,269.23	\$19,681.94

Announcements

- **New Playlist Added:** A new playlist of all of the songs we will sing together in worship in February has been added to New Life's YouTube channel. It is there for us to use to familiarize ourselves and our families with the music we will sing to God each week and also for us to use in personal worship as we reflect on the preaching of God's Word. To access it, go to New Life's YouTube channel (@newlifepresbyterianchurch2087), click on the "Playlists" tab, and open "February 2025 Worship".
- **2024 Donation Receipts:** We hope to distribute 2024 donation receipts documenting tax deductible contributions to New Life within the next two weeks. These receipts will not include donations made through our online giving portal. The PCA Foundation will provide you with receipts for donations made to New Life through the online giving portal.
- The **S.I.L.V.E.R.S.** are invited to join in an evening of Valentines' dinner and mystery again this year! "Till Death Do Us Part" will be hosted at the Bethlehem Life Church in Dallastown **this Sat. Feb. 8** from 5:30-9pm. Tickets are \$44.52 each and can be purchased at <https://bit.ly/dtownlionsmurdermystery25>. More information is available on the flyers in the foyer. For questions or help with ticket-purchasing or transportation, please see Mel King, Alice Lomax, Dee Flaharty or Shyrl Tompkins.
- **Sun. Feb. 9 - Human Life Services - Baby Bottle Boomerang:** Baby bottles for this HLS event can be picked up from the foyer. You can support life by collecting your loose change! This fun activity is great for the entire family and raises funds that directly support HLS clients and their needs. Please note our last collection date is **Sun. March 9**. Contact Susette Grim or the office with any questions. Leona Raga will be sharing information about HLS during next Sun. Feb. 9 ministry moment. Please consider viewing the following video from HLS: https://youtu.be/x3J_7U8M0-E
- **Souper Bowl Sunday!** In celebration of the Super Bowl, February's Second Sunday Lunch (**next Sun. Feb. 9**) will consist of soup and sandwiches. See sign-up sheet in foyer.
- **Women's Winter Book Club:** This winter we are 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 Amirzadeh. Read at your own pace, then join us for a potluck dinner and discussion on **Sun. Feb. 23** beginning at 5:30pm at the home of Connie Kay. Contact Connie or the office with any questions.

- **Women's Bible Study:** We are resuming our study to see God at work in *Acts* beginning in March using Nancy Guthrie's study *Saved: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Acts*. There are two study groups to choose from: **Thursday mornings beginning March 13** (in-person in the Aquarium room 9:30-11am) or **Tuesday evenings beginning March 18** (on Zoom 7-8:15 pm). This study will last 10 weeks. Everyone is welcome. It is not a problem to jump right in, starting with Acts 11:19. For more information, to sign up, and/or get information about the book and materials please contact Marlene Spark or the office.
- **Free Comedy Show:** All adults of any age are cordially invited by the S.I.L.V.E.R.S. to join them for an afternoon of laughter and fellowship. York Theater Arts for Everyone will be presenting *Mystery at Senior Manor* featuring our very own Mark Deckard on **Sat. March 22** here at New Life. Show will begin at 3pm followed by light refreshments in the fellowship hall. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors. Questions see Mel King, Alice Lomax, Dee Flaharty, or Shyrl Tompkins.
- **Refreshments:** Thank you to all who have signed up to provide post-service refreshments this quarter! We still have 1 spot available. Feel free to pair up with one or two more people and keep it very simple. Sign-up sheet is 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:** 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: We will be studying *Acts* using Nancy Guthrie's *Saved: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Acts*. This is a 10-week study. Dates and times: **Thursdays 9:30-11 am at church beginning March 13 or Tuesdays 7-8:15 pm on Zoom beginning March 18.** Please contact Marlene Spark or the office for details.

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

Moms+: We meet every Wednesday from 9:45-11:45am. 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.