



# NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love**

March 23, 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. Jesus welcomed children in worship, and so do we! Having said that, here are some additional options for parents:

- + There is a staffed nursery, off the fellowship hall, for children ages 0-4.
- + A private “nursing moms” alcove is available in the nursery.
- + Classroom 1 is a “Wiggle Room” for parents who desire a place to temporarily be with their young ones while still being able to watch the livestream.

*Please be aware that we livestream our services.*

# Worshiping God

March 23, 2025

## Reflection

God has assuredly promised his grace to the humble, that is, to those who lament and despair of themselves. But no man can be thoroughly humbled until he knows that his salvation is utterly beyond his own powers, devices, endeavors, will, and works, and depends entirely on the choice, will, and work of another, namely, of God alone. For as long as he is persuaded that he himself can do even the least thing toward his salvation, he retains some self-confidence and does not altogether despair of himself, and therefore he is not humbled before God, but presumes that there is – or at least hopes or desires that there may be – some place, time, and work for him, by which he may at length attain to salvation. But when a man has no doubt that everything depends on the will of God, then he completely despairs of himself and chooses nothing for himself, but waits for God to work; then he has come close to grace.

- Luther

## Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Erik Swanson*

## Prelude – *Nearer, My God, to Thee*

Nearer, my God, to Thee  
Nearer to Thee  
Even though it be a cross  
That raises me  
Still all my song shall be  
Nearer, my God, to Thee  
Nearer, my God, to Thee  
Nearer to Thee

## Call to Worship – *1 Timothy 1:17*

*To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.*

## Prayer of Praise

# O Worship the King

1 O wor - ship the King all - glo - rious a - bove,  
 2 O tell of his might and sing of his grace,  
 3 Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?  
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,  
 5 O mea - sure - less Might, un - change - a - ble Love,

G D G C C D7 G

O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love:  
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.  
 ▶ It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
 in whom you do we trust, nor find you to fail!  
 whom an - gels de - light to wor - ship a - bove!

D D7 G D G D7

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,  
 ▶ it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,  
 Your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,  
 Your ran - somed cre - a - tion, with glo - ry a - blaze,

G D G C G D7 G

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.  
 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.  
 ▶ and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!  
 in true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise!

# Behold Our God

## Verse 1

Who has held the oceans in His hands  
Who has numbered every grain of sand  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice  
All creation rises to rejoice

## Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne  
Come let us adore Him  
Behold our King nothing can compare  
Come let us adore Him

## Verse 2

Who has given counsel to the Lord  
Who can question any of His words  
Who can teach the One  
    who knows all things  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

## Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne  
Come let us adore Him  
Behold our King nothing can compare  
Come let us adore Him

## Verse 3

Who has felt the nails upon His hand  
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man  
God eternal humbled to the grave  
Jesus Savior risen now to reign

## Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne  
Come let us adore Him  
Behold our King nothing can compare  
Come let us adore Him

## Bridge

You will reign forever  
(Let Your glory fill the earth)  
(REPEAT 6X)  
You will reign forever  
(Let Your glory fill)

## Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne  
Come let us adore Him  
Behold our King nothing can compare  
Come let us adore Him

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**Affirmation of Faith – *The Nicene Creed***

**We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God,  
Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same  
essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our  
salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit  
and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under  
Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again,  
according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right  
hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the  
dead. His kingdom will never end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with  
the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the  
prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the  
world to come. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading – *Psalm 110***

*Mark Flaharty*

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, gracious Father, we confess that we are not worthy of your presence, but we look now to the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin. Through him we would now come near to you, listening to your voice, trusting in your love, delighting in your Word, and leaning on your arm. We joyfully beg to see your face! Now cleanse our minds of all error and our hearts of all idols, that we may shine in the world with the radiant light of your Spirit and your character. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness – *Colossians 1:13*

*He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son...*

# Be Unto Your Name

## Verse 1

We are a moment You are forever  
Lord of the ages God before time  
We are a vapor You are eternal  
Love everlasting reigning on high

## Chorus

Holy holy Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain  
Highest praises honor and glory  
Be unto Your name  
Be unto Your name

## Verse 2

We are the broken You are the healer  
Jesus Redeemer mighty to save  
You are the love song we'll sing forever  
Bowling before You blessing Your name

## Chorus

Holy holy Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain  
Highest praises honor and glory  
Be unto Your name  
Be unto Your name  
(REPEAT)

## Ending

Be unto Your name

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## Prayers of the People

**Ministry Moment – *Men's Retreat Report***

*Nathan Raine*

## 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 – Psalms 1-2

**1** Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the  
wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
**2** but his delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law he meditates day and  
night.  
**3** He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that he does, he prospers.  
**4** The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives  
away.  
**5** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the  
judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the  
righteous;  
**6** for the LORD knows the way of the  
righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

**2** Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
**2** The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the LORD and against  
his Anointed, saying,  
**3** "Let us burst their bonds apart  
and cast away their cords from us."  
**4** He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the Lord holds them in derision.  
**5** Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
and terrify them in his fury, saying,  
**6** "As for me, I have set my King  
on Zion, my holy hill."  
**7** I will tell of the decree:  
The LORD said to me, "You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you.  
**8** Ask of me, and I will make the nations your  
heritage,  
and the ends of the earth your possession.  
**9** You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter's  
vessel."  
**10** Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
**11** Serve the LORD with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling.  
**12** Kiss the Son,  
lest he be angry, and you perish in the  
way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

**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**

# Only a Holy God

## Verse 1

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven  
Who else could make every king bow down  
Who else can whisper  
    and darkness trembles  
Only a Holy God

## Verse 2

What other beauty demands such praises  
What other splendor outshines the sun  
What other majesty rules with justice  
Only a Holy God

## Chorus

Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God

## Verse 3

What other glory consumes like fire  
What other power can raise the dead  
What other name remains undefeated  
Only a Holy God

## Chorus

Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God  
(REPEAT)

## Verse 4

Who else could rescue me from my failing  
Who else would offer His only Son  
Who else invites me to call Him Father  
Only a Holy God  
Only a Holy God

## Chorus

Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God  
(REPEAT)

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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. 3/23	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 3/23	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/23	11:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/23	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Grim Home
Tu. 3/25	7:00 pm	Zoom Women's Bible Study	Zoom
W. 3/26	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
W. 3/26	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 3/26	9:45 am	Moms +	Classroom 2
W. 3/26	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 3/27	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Th. 3/27	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
F. 3/28 – Sun. 3/30		Youth Retreat	Camp Hebron
Sun. 3/30	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 3/30	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/30	11:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/30	6:00 pm	Hymn Sing	Sanctuary

## Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$82,692.30	\$89,987.90
Week of 3/9/25	\$8,269.23	\$7,594.27

## Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- **Introducing the "Wiggle Room!"** New Life is now live streaming the weekly worship service in classroom 1. The purpose of this is to create a "wiggle room," a place where any parent can choose to be with their young children as needed during the service.
- **Palm Sunday Children's Choir:** Rehearsal will begin about 15 minutes after the end of worship each Sunday between now and Palm Sunday. Happy singing!
- **Hymn Sing:** On **Sun. March 30** all are invited to gather in the sanctuary at 6pm for an hour of selecting and singing hymns. Please consider bringing a snack to share for afterwards.

(announcements continue on next page)

## Announcements (page 2 of 2)

- **Refuge Ministries** is focused on providing a space for women who are in/or have been in difficult or abusive relationships to come together for support with a focus on healing. Our time together is focused both on Scripture and our identity as daughters of God and also the practical steps that are necessary to create physical and emotional safety to move towards healing. Refuge Ministries is currently looking for qualified women to serve as mentors. In the foyer, you will find flyers with information about an upcoming training in **April and May**. Anyone considering becoming a mentor is asked to participate in this training on domestic violence even if they have mentored or participated in the training before. Please register by **Sat. Apr. 5**. Please contact Amy Miller, Carolyn Reclusado, or the Providence office ([ppc@yorkpca.org](mailto:ppc@yorkpca.org)) with any interest or curiosity!
- **Service for Barbara Marsh:** We will gather to remember our dear sister in Christ at 4pm on **Sat. Apr. 12**. New Life will provide sandwiches after the service, but if you wish to help, you can contribute chips or a dessert. Please see sign-up sheet in the foyer.
- **Easter at New Life:**
  - **Easter Egg Hunt:** Come as early as 10am on **Sat. Apr. 12**. Egg hunts will begin at 10:30am. Community members welcome! Invite neighbors, friends and family!
  - **Palm Sunday Processional:** We will begin at 9:55am on **Sun. Apr. 13**.
  - **Good Friday Service:** Join us on **Fri. Apr. 19**. Time TBA.
  - **Sunrise Service:** At New Life at 6am on Easter **Sun. Apr. 20**. Join us afterward for a potluck breakfast at the home of Ray and Renee Henry.
  - **NO Sunday School** for any classes on Easter **Sun. Apr. 20**.
  - **Easter Worship:** We will meet at our regular time of 10am on Easter **Sun. Apr. 20**.
- **Save the Dates!**
  - **Vacation Bible School:** The mornings of **July 28-Aug. 1**. More details TBA.
  - **Camping Trip:** Our 6<sup>th</sup> annual church-wide camping trip will be **Fri. Sept. 5 through Sun. Sept. 7** at Codorus State Park. Please make your camping reservation online, as close to site 88 as you can book. Go to [codorusfriends.org/codorus-park-info.html](http://codorusfriends.org/codorus-park-info.html) and scroll down until you see the link to "Camping Reservations."
  - **Men's Retreat:** Held at Camp Hebron **Jan. 23-25**.

## Groups for Fellowship and Growth

**Christian Education: Youth and Children's classes:** Pre-K through 1<sup>st</sup> meets in classroom 5, 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> meets in classroom 4, 5-8<sup>th</sup> meets in classroom 3, and 9-12<sup>th</sup> 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 are 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 9:30-11am at church beginning March 13, or Tuesdays 7-8:15pm 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Elder 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 **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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