



NEW LIFE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

March 30, 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 30, 2025

Reflection

From Christ as from a fountain sanctification flows into the souls of the saints: their sanctification comes not so much from their struggling, and endeavors, and vows, and resolutions, as it comes flowing to them from their union with him.

– *Jeremiah Burroughs*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – *Psalm 73:25-28*

Elder Will Pope

*Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
For behold, those who are far from you shall perish;
you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
But for me it is good to be near God;
I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.*

Prayer of Praise

All Creatures of Our God and King

Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia 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
Alleluia alleluia
Thou fire so masterful and bright
Thou givest man both warmth and light

Verse 4

And all ye men of tender heart
Forgiving others take your part
O sing ye alleluia
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear
Praise God and on Him cast your care

Verse 5

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

Indescribable

Verse 1

From the highest of heights
to the depths of the sea
Creation's revealing Your majesty
From the colors of Fall
to the fragrance of Spring
Ev'ry creature unique
in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Chorus 1

Indescribable uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing God
All powerful untamable
Awestruck we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim
You are amazing God

Verse 2

Who has told ev'ry lightning bolt
where it should go
Or seen heavenly storehouses
laden with snow
Who imagined the sun
and gives source to its light
Yet conceals it
to bring us the coolness of night
None can fathom

Chorus 1

Indescribable uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing God
All powerful untamable
Awestruck we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim
You are amazing God

Chorus 2

Indescribable uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing God
Incomparable unchangeable
You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same
You are amazing God
You are amazing God
You are amazing God

"Indescribable" words and music by Jesse Reeves, Laura Story
© 2004 Laura Stories; sixsteps Music; worshiptogether.com
songs
Used by Permission. CCLI License #2410623

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 104*

Connie Kay

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, though being in very nature God, when you came to redeem us you humbled yourself and made yourself nothing. Though you were rich, for our sakes you became poor, so that through your poverty we might become rich. We confess how unlike you we are in our attitudes and actions. We strive for recognition from others, and we sulk and become bitter if we do not get it. We attend to our own needs and concerns, yet fail to care for others except when it serves our purposes. Forgive us our sin and renew our hearts. Grant us to realize that we only achieve greatness and gain our lives by giving them away. Work in us by the power of your Spirit so that we become more like you and so bring glory to our Father in heaven. 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...

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

1. Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
 2. Breathe on me, breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
 3. Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am whol - ly Thine,
 4. Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

7 F F/A B♭

that I may love what Thou dost
 un - til with Thee I will one
 till all this earth - ly part of
 but live with Thee the per - fect

10 Gm⁷ F/C C⁷ F

love, and do what Thou wouldst do.
 will, to do and to en - dure.
 me to glows with Thy fire di - vine.
 life of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Prayers of the People

Missions Moment

Marlene Spark

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 – *Genesis 2:4-17*

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— ⁷then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. ¹¹The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹²And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

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

How Great Thou Art

Verse 1

O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made
I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thru'out
The universe displayed

Chorus

Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

Verse 2

And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin

Chorus

Verse 3

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

Chorus

"How Great Thou Art" words and music by Stuart Wesley
Keene Hine
© 1949 and 1953 Stuart Hine Trust CIO Stuart K. Hine Trust
Used by Permission. CCLI License #2410623

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. 3/30	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
M. 3/31	6:00 pm	Mercy/Keystone Dinner	Fellowship Hall
Tu. 4/1	7:00 pm	Zoom Women's Bible Study	Zoom
W. 4/2	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 4/2	9:45 am	Moms +	Classroom 2
W. 4/2	6:00 pm	SILVERS Committee Meeting	Classroom 4
W. 4/2	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
W. 4/2	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 4/2	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3
Th. 4/3	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Sun. 4/6	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 4/6	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 4/6	11:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 4/6	11:30 am	Giant cards for sale	Foyer
Sun. 4/6	11:45 am	Egg-Stuffing Party	Aquarium
Sun. 4/6	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$99,230.76	\$102,077.90
Week of 3/23/25	\$8,269.23	\$5,333.00

Announcements

- **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:** All are invited **TONIGHT** to gather in the sanctuary at 6pm for an hour of selecting and singing hymns. Please consider bringing a snack to share for afterwards.
- **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 **this Sat. Apr. 5**. Please contact the office of Providence (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:**
 - **Egg-Stuffing Party:** You are invited to the Aquarium **next Sun. Apr. 6** following the worship service to help stuff Easter eggs! Our young friends at the Easter Egg Hunt the following Saturday will delight in the surprises you've packed for them!
 - **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 at 6:30pm on **Fri. Apr. 19**.
 - **Correction from last Sunday! Sunrise Service:** Greet Easter morning **Sun. Apr. 20** with a sunrise service at **6am at the home of Ray & Renee Henry**. We will follow with a potluck breakfast.
 - **NO Sunday School** for any classes on Easter **Sun. Apr. 20**.
 - **Easter Worship:** We'll meet at our regular time of 10am on Easter **Sun. Apr. 20**.

Announcements

- **Save the Dates!**
 - **Vacation Bible School:** The mornings of **July 28-Aug. 1**. More details TBA.
 - **Camping Trip:** Our 6th 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 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 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 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 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 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 **1st and 3rd Sundays** of the month from 6-7:30pm. See Pastor Erik if you would like to join a group.