



NEW LIFE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

March 9, 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 9, 2025

Reflection:

"He who would correctly and profitably read Scripture should see to it that he finds Christ in it; then he finds life eternal without fail. On the other hand, if I do not so study and understand Moses and the prophets as to find that Christ came from heaven for the sake of my salvation, became man, suffered, died, was buried, rose, and ascended into heaven so that through him I enjoy reconciliation with God, forgiveness of all my sins, grace, righteousness, and life eternal, then my reading in Scripture is of no help whatsoever to my salvation. I may, of course, become a learned man by reading and studying Scripture and preach what I have acquired; yet all this would do me no good whatever." - *Martin Luther*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – *Psalm 100*

Minister: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**People: Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.**

Minister: Know that the LORD is God.

*It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.*

**People: Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.**

**All: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

Prayer of Praise

What a Beautiful Name

Verse 1

You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

Chorus 1

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Verse 2

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now

Chorus 2

What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Bridge 1

Death could not hold You
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

Bridge 2

You have no rival
You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

Chorus 3

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Ending

What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

"What a Beautiful Name" words and music by Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood

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Fairest Lord Jesus



1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus; Rul - er of all na - ture,
 2. Fair are the mead - ows; Fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3. Fair is the sun - shine; Fair - er still the moon - light
 4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

5 D G D A/C# D A/E D A D/F#



O Thou of God and man the Son. Thee will I
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring. Je - sus is
 and all the twin - kling star - ry host. Je - sus shines
 Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and

10 B Em A7 D



cher - ish; Thee will I hon - or, Thou
 fair - er; Je - sus is pur - er, who
 bright - er; Je - sus shines pur - er than
 hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now

13 D/F# G D/A A7 D



my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 makes the woe - ful heart to sing
 all the an - gels heav'n can boast.
 and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

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 – *Isaiah 25:6-9*

Sue Ann Randall

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

**Lord Jesus Christ, you came in order to serve, not to be served. We confess how
unlike you we are in both our attitudes and actions. We serve when it is convenient
for us or when it furthers our own purposes and agenda. We are reluctant to do so
when it would be costly to us. Forgive us for our failure to love you and be your
imitators. Forgive us for our failure to love others. How grateful we are that you have
given your life as a ransom for many. Now give us your strength in order that we
might pour our lives out for you and for those you have placed in our lives. We ask
this for your sake and the sake of your kingdom. 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...

Speak, O Lord

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your
2. Teach us Lord full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence, true hu -
3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your

4 Am G/B F/A G/B C² F C

ho - ly word. Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and
- mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the
plans for us. Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, that will

7 F C/E F G C C/E G G/F C/E

fash - ion us in Your like - ness, that the light of Christ might be
ra - di - ance of Your pu - ri - ty. Cause our faith to rise, cause our
e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on Your

10 G^{SUS}/F G⁹/F C²/E G G/F C/E Am G^{SUS} G F/A G/B C²

seen to-day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
prom - is - es; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your

14 F C F C/E F G^{SUS} G C

- fill in us all Your pur - pos - es, for Your glo - ry.
nev - er fail; Let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
church is built and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

17 F² C²/E F² G^{SUS} G C

“Speak O Lord” words and music by Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

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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 14:1-24

14 One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ² And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³ And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” ⁴ But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵ And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” ⁶ And they could not reply to these things.

⁷ Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹ and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹ For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

¹⁵ When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” ¹⁶ But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. ¹⁷ And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ ¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ ¹⁹ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ ²⁰ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ ²¹ So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ ²² And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ ²³ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

Sermon: "Banquet Conversations"
Series: *Jesus' Journey to Jerusalem*

Pastor Erik Swanson

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

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our hearts re - stored. He has
 E C#m7 A E C#m B A B E
 done great things, we will say to - geth - er. We will feast and weep no more.

VERSE

A C#m A B
 We will not be burned by the fire; He is the Lord, our
 In the dark of night, be - fore the dawn, my soul, be not a -
 Ev - ry vow we've bro - ken and be - trayed, You are the faith - ful

C#m A C#m A B
 God. We are not con - sumed by the flood, up - held, pro - tect - ed,
 afraid. For the prom - ised morn - ing, oh, how long? Oh, God of Ja - cob,
 one. And from the gar - den to the grave, bind us to - geth - er,

C#m B/D#
 gath - - - ered up,
 be my strength.
 bring sha - - - lom.

"We Will Feast In The House Of Zion" words and music by Joshua Moore, Sandra McCracken

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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. 3/9	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 3/9	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/9	11:30 am	2 nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 3/9	11:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/9	12:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Classroom 1
W. 3/12	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
W. 3/12	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 3/12	9:45 am	Moms +	Classroom 2
W. 3/12	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 3/13	9:30 am	Women's In-Person Bible Study	Aquarium
Th. 3/13	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
Sun. 3/16	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 3/16	10:00 am	Corporate Worship Service	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/16	11:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 3/16	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$74,423.07	\$82,393.63
Week of 2/23/25	\$8,269.23	\$12,567.00

Announcements (pages 13 and 14)

- **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.
- **New Playlist Added:** A playlist of songs we will be singing in worship in March has been started on New Life's YouTube channel. To find it, go to:
https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLndqR8SmwaXQHi_emkh6LYiytIQsouUc&si=2iMTrYIDWsl4FASV
- **Palm Sunday Children's Choir:** Once again this year we are inviting students from age 4 to 6th grade to be part of a children's choir that will participate in worship on **Palm Sunday April 13**. Ellen Metzger, who has led children's choirs at a previous church, will

be our director this year. She will be assisted by Elissa Ryan and Jami Paules will be the accompanist. Rehearsals will be on **Sundays March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6**. We will begin about 15 minutes after the end of worship--close to 11:30am--and practice for 30-45 minutes. We hope to see your children there! Questions? Please contact Jenn Ryan (jenn@newlifeyorkpca.com).

- **Women's Bible Study:** The study of *Acts* **begins this week**. It is not too late to sign up. For more information and to get information about the book and materials please contact Marlene Spark or the office. For more information, please visit: nancyguthrie.com/saved.
 - **Thursday mornings:** Begins **March 13** (in-person in the Aquarium room 9:30-11am)
 - **Tuesday evenings:** Begins **March 18** (on Zoom 7-8:15pm)
- **Decorating the Church for Easter:** Help the church look beautiful on Easter by purchasing tulips or daffodils! You can sign up for these 6-inch flowers (\$11.50 each) via the forms/envelopes in the foyer. You will notice a section to indicate **if you'd like to** dedicate the flowers in memory or honor of someone, but you may leave it blank if you wish. If dedicating, please also indicate which names (honoree and/or giver) you would like printed in the Easter bulletin; **(you may choose to be anonymous.)** Envelopes/forms can be placed on the desk in the office or given to a deacon. Last Sunday to sign up is **NEXT Sun. March 16** as Kelly needs to place the order with the florist the following Thursday. Payment is preferred then as well, but **we will still accept payment** after that date. Take the flowers home after the Easter service to brighten your own home!
- **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.
- **Save the Date for VBS:** Please mark your calendars for VBS, the mornings of **July 28-Aug. 1**. More details TBA.
- **Save the Date:** Save the date for our 6th annual church-wide camping trip: **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."

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 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>

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