



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

May 25, 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

May 25, 2025

Reflection

“This is the mystery of the divine government of history, whether on a national, domestic, or individual level: the great and loving God is in control, and because he is truly sovereign he works out his purposes in his way, not ours (Isa 55:8). He offers no explanations, but grants his people a sufficient insight into his ways, his character, his intentions and his changeless faithfulness so that, however dark the day, they can live by faith and be sustained by hope.” – *Alec Moyter*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – from Psalm 73:25-28

Elder Wayne Blanding

*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

Immortal, Invisible

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise, in light in - ac -
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light, nor want - ing, nor
 3. To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small; In all life Thou
 4. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light, Thine an - gels a -

6 C Dm F/C C F Dm C/E F Dm

-ces - si - ble hid from our eyes, most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the
 wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might; Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high
 liv - est, the true life of all; We blos - som and flour - ish as
 -dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight; All praise we would ren - der: O

11 Am F/A C (C^{sus})(C) F B \flat Gm C Dm F/C C F

An - cient of Days, al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
 soar - ing a - bove, Thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 leaves on the tree, and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth Thee.
 help us to see 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee.

He Will Hold Me Fast

Verse 1

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 2

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 3

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last

Chorus 2x

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

"He Will Hold Me Fast" words and music by Ada Ruth
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Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer 1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Scripture Reading – Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Marlene Spark

Minister: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

**God, be merciful to me;
On Thy grace I rest my plea;
In Thy vast, abounding grace,
My transgressions all erase.
Wash me wholly from my sin;
Cleanse from every ill within.**

Assurance of Forgiveness – 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus



1. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus. Vast, un -
 2. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus; spread His
 3. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus, love of

6 B/D# Em Am B⁷ Em Em/G B C Am B



-mea - sured, bound - less, free. Roll - ing as a might - y
 praise - from shore - to shore! How He lov - eth, ev - er
 ev - 'ry love the best. 'Tis an o - cean vast of

12 Em G D/F# (C/D B/D# Em Am B⁷ Em G G/B



o - cean in its full - ness o - ver me. Un - der -
 lov - eth, chang - eth nev - er, nev - er - more. How He
 bless - ing; 'tis a ha - ven sweet of rest. O the

18 D^{sus} D Em Em/G B^{sus} B Em Em/D C D Em C



-neath me, all a - round me, is the cur - rent of Thy
 watch - es o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His
 deep, deep love of Je - sus; 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to

24 B Em Em/G B C Am B Em



love. Lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward,
 own. How for them He in - ter - ced - eth,
 me. And it lifts me up to glo - ry,



to my glo - rious rest a - bove.
 watch - es o'er them from the throne.
 for it lifts me up to Thee.

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 18:18-30*

¹⁸ And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" ²¹ And he said, "All these I have kept from my youth." ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²³ But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. ²⁴ Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." ²⁸ And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." ²⁹ And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life."

Sermon: *Entering the Kingdom of God*

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 I Corinthians 11*

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith.

All: Christ has died.

Christ is 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

Mighty to Save

Verse 1

Ev'ryone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Savior
The hope of nations

Chorus

Savior He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

Verse 2

So take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender

Chorus

Savior He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

Bridge

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King

Chorus 2x

Savior He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

Bridge 2x

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King

"Mighty To Save" words and music by Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan
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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. 5/25	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 5/25	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 5/25	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Grim Home
W. 5/28	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
W. 5/28	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 5/28	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 5/29	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
Sun. 6/1	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Classrooms
Sun. 6/1	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 6/1	11:30 am	Giant cards for sale	Foyer
Sun. 6/1	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$165,384.60	\$183,670.55
Week of 5/18/25	\$8,269.23	\$6,647.00

Announcements

- ❖ **Reminder for Parents:** It is a joy to watch the children of New Life playing after church every Sunday morning! However, please remind your children not to play or run at the sound desk, on the stage, or around the musical instruments at the front of the sanctuary. Those locations make fun and interesting hiding places, but also hold a lot of sensitive and expensive equipment. Thank you!
- ❖ **Draft Spring Directory:** Please note there is a draft spring directory in the foyer. Please add or update your information as necessary. The final directory will include any new pictures that have been taken/submitted. If you'd like to submit a photo, please do so to kelly@newlifeyorkpca.com.
- ❖ **Servants Work Week: June 2-6, 2025:** Servants summer work camps are week-long mission opportunities in York County that focus on residential home repair for people in need. We spend the week *serving Christ* through serving others – *building relationships* with our homeowners and each other; *transforming lives* through meeting physical, spiritual, and emotional needs; and *providing hope* to their community. Projects range from painting, yard work, bathroom modifications, and wheelchair ramps. Sign-up sheets are available in the foyer to:
 - + Help serve **dinner** to the workers on Thurs. June 5 at 5pm at Chapel Church, and/or
 - + Provide **dessert** for the meal on Thurs. June 5, and/or
 - + New Life will work together as a group(s), but individual registration is necessary. Half and full-day work available. Register at servants.org/events – **Sat. May 10** is the deadline for registration.
- ❖ **Save the Date:** Women, please mark your calendars for the "Women in the Word" workshop in Philadelphia, **Fri. Oct. 17 – Sat. Oct. 18** (womeninthewordworkshop.org/workshop-2025/). More details TBA.

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: Please contact Marlene Spark with any questions about our next Bible study, which will begin in the fall.

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

Moms+: Moms+ is celebrating summer vacation. After a brief break, we will start meet-ups in June - from pool to pickleball, feel free to share your ideas. Contact Joy Swanson to be added to the GroupMe messages.

Men's Breakfast: 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. The daytime group meets every **Thursday** (except the Thursday that follows the Wednesday evening prayer group) at 11am. Contact Sue Rothermel.

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.

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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