



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

July 20, 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

July 20, 2025

Reflection

“I wish it need not have happened in my time, said Frodo. So do I, said Gandalf, and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.” – *J.R.R. Tolkien, Lord of the Rings*

“If you can trust God to save you for eternity, you can trust him to lead you for a lifetime.” - *David Platt*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – *Exodus 15:1-2, 11 (after the crossing of the Red Sea)*

Minister: I will sing to the LORD; for he has triumphed gloriously;

People: the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.

Minister: The LORD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation;

People: this is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt Him.

All: Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

Prayer of Praise

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y; Hold me
stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar Lead me
fears sub - side; Bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent, Land me

with Thy pow'r - ful hand; Bread of Heav - en, Bread of Heav - en,
all my jour - ney through; Strong De - liv - 'rer, strong De - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side; Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.
Be Thou still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to Thee, I will ev - er give to Thee.

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef staff for each system. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with three numbered verses. The first system includes the first three verses. The second system includes the continuation of the first verse and the second and third verses. The third system includes the continuation of the second and third verses. The score concludes with a final cadence in the bass staff.

This Is Amazing Grace

Verse 1

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Verse 2

Who shakes the whole earth
with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for
all that You've done for me

Verse 3

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Verse 4

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for
all that You've done for me

Bridge

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy

Chorus

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for
all that You've done for me

"This Is Amazing Grace" words and music by Jeremy Riddle, Josh Farro, Phil Wickham
© 2012 Phil Wickham Music; Seems Like Music; Sing My Songs;
Bethel Music Publishing; WC Music Corp.
Used by Permission. CCLI License #2410623

Affirmation of Faith – Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Scripture Reading – Luke 2:41-52

Ethan Waldrop

Minister: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession – from Martin Luther

Lord God, I have indeed transgressed your commandments. I have been impatient in reverses and trials. I can be unsympathetic and unmerciful. I do not always seek to help my neighbor. I am unable to resist sin. I do not tire of doing wrong. Dear Lord, pour out your grace to me and give me your Holy Spirit so that I may be obedient and keep each of your commandments. Help me to be at odds with the world and to give my heart and soul to you. In the name of Christ, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Christ Is Mine Forevermore

Verse 1

Mine are days that God has numbered
I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings

Chorus 1

But mine is hope in my Redeemer
Though I fall His love is sure
For Christ has paid for every failing
I am His forevermore

Verse 2

Mine are tears in times of sorrow
Darkness not yet understood
Through the valley I must travel
Where I see no earthly good

Chorus 2

But mine is peace that flows from heaven
And the strength in times of need
I know my pain will not be wasted
Christ completes His work in me

Verse 3

Mine are days here as a stranger
Pilgrim on a narrow way
One with Christ I will encounter
Harm and hatred for His name

Chorus 3

But mine is armour for this battle
Strong enough to last the war
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore

Chorus 4

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore

Bridge

Come rejoice now O my soul
For His love is my reward
Fear is gone and hope is sure
Christ is mine forevermore
(REPEAT)

Chorus 4

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore
Christ is mine forevermore

"Christ Is Mine Forevermore" words and music by Jonny
Robinson and Rich Thompson
© 2016 CityAlight Music
Used by Permission. CCLI License #2410623

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 – *Psalm 134 (A Song of Ascents)*

- ¹ Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,
who stand by night in the house of the LORD!
- ² Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the LORD!
- ³ May the LORD bless you from Zion,
he who made heaven and earth!

Sermon: Psalm of Ascents

Pastor Erik Swanson

Series: Travel Songs

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 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

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



done great things, we will say to - geth - er. We will feast and weep no more.

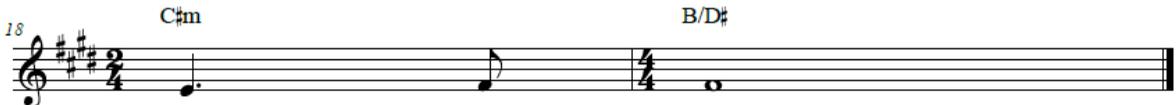
VERSE



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



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,



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
 © 2015 Integrity Worship Music; Paper News Publishing; joshmooreownsthismusic
 Used by Permission. CCLI License #2410623

Benediction – Ephesians 3:20-22

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus, throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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. 7/20	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 7/20	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 7/20	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes
W. 7/23	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
W. 7/23	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
Th. 7/24	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
Sun. 7/27	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 7/27	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 7/27	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Swanson Home

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$231,538.44	\$242,823.65
Week of 7/6/25	\$8,269.23	\$3,571.60

Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- ❖ **Refreshments:** Thanks to all the volunteers who helped last quarter! You'll notice there is a new volunteer schedule posted in the foyer. Please consider signing up to provide refreshments one Sunday. You can ask a friend or your discipleship group to sign up with you and please feel free to keep it very simple.
- ❖ **Vacation Bible School:** It's time to sign up your kids for VBS **July 28 – August 1**. Inviting friends? Welcome them to sign up through [EventBrite](#). **In order to keep the limited number of EventBrite spaces available for community members, we are asking New Life families to sign up by emailing admin@newlifeyorkpca.com.** See Kelly's recent email for required registration info.
- ❖ **Thank you for supplies!** Thanks to the many who brought in paper towel and toilet paper rolls for Vacation Bible School! We now have an abundant supply!
- ❖ **Vacation Bible School snacks:** Want to help with snacks for VBS? Please see the sign-up sheet in the lobby. Non-perishables can be brought in **Sun. July 27** and placed in the kitchen with a note stating "for VBS."
- ❖ **Upcoming Youth Group Event: Sat. Aug. 2** from 1-3pm. Pool party at the McGahan's. Bring a camp chair, a food to share (dessert, side, or drink), sunscreen, towel, and change of clothes.
- ❖ **Disaster relief opportunity in Asheville, NC:** The overarching work of Servants in North Carolina is partnered with Baptist on Mission for the next 5 years. There is an upcoming trip from Aug. 17-25. If any congregant feels independently led to participate; please reach out to Kiel Reese, Barbara Henry, or Sue Grim and we will connect you with the point-of-contact at Servants. Note that **we plan to have a meeting on Sun. Aug. 10** after the Sunday service to assess interest in sending a short-term mission in late 2025 (November?) or spring 2026.
- ❖ **Special Service:** The New Life Congregation is invited to the Henry's home on **Sun. Aug. 10** at 5pm for an outdoor evening service and baptism.
- ❖ **Women's Summer Book Club:** Ladies, join us in reading a memoir of Joni Eareckson Tada's marriage. Read [Joni & Ken: An Untold Love Story](#) at your own pace this summer and join us for dinner and discussion in late August (exact date TBD.) You can contact Connie Kay with any questions.

(Announcements continue on next page.)

Announcements (page 2 of 2)

❖ Save the Dates!

- + **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.”
- + **Women,** please mark your calendars for the "Women in the Word" workshop in Philadelphia, **Fri. Oct. 17 – Sat. Oct. 18**. See Sue Rothermel for more information. (womeninthewordworkshop.org/workshop-2025/)
- + **Men’s Retreat:** Held at Camp Hebron **Fri. Jan. 23 through Sun. Jan. 25, 2026**.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: Youth and Children's classes are on break for the summer. The adult class meets in the Aquarium.

Women's Bible Study: Please contact Marlene Spark or the office 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 – from pool to pickleball, feel free to share your ideas. Contact Joy Swanson or the office 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 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.

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>

New Life Presbyterian Church, (717) 855-2360
970 Cape Horn Rd, York PA 17402
admin@newlifeyorkpca.com