



# NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

August 17, 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

August 17, 2025

## Reflection

“Never futile is the work of the church, for it is a product not of the mind of man but of the sovereign grace of God.” —*William Hendriksen*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Erik Swanson*

## Call to Worship – adapted from Ephesians 1:3-14

*Minister:* Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**People:** Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

*Minister:* In You we have redemption through your blood,

**People:** The forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of Your grace.

*Minister:* In you we have obtained an inheritance,

**People:** So that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of Your glory.

*Minister:* In Him, we also, when we heard the word of truth, the gospel of Your salvation

**People:** Were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of Your Glory.

## Prayer of Praise

# King of Kings

## Verse 1

In the darkness we were waiting  
Without hope without light  
Till from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

## Chorus

Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings

## Verse 2

To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died

## Chorus

Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings

## Verse 3

And the morning that You rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored

## Verse 4

And the Church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint

By His blood and in His Name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me

## Chorus

Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings  
Praise forever to the King of kings

"King of Kings" words and music by Brooke Ligertwood, Jason  
Ingram, Scott Ligertwood  
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Music, So Essential Tunes  
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# Crown Him with Many Crowns

1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,  
 3. Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scep - ter sways  
 4. Crown him the Lord of years, the Po - ten - tate of time;

hark! how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own:  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:  
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise:  
 Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime:

a - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 his reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet  
 all hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me:

and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 fair flow'rs of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.  
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

## **Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism Question and Answer 1**

*Q: What is your only comfort in life and in death?*

**A: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

## **Scripture Reading – Isaiah 43:1-11**

*Connie Kay*

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **Prayer of Confession – from Psalm 51**

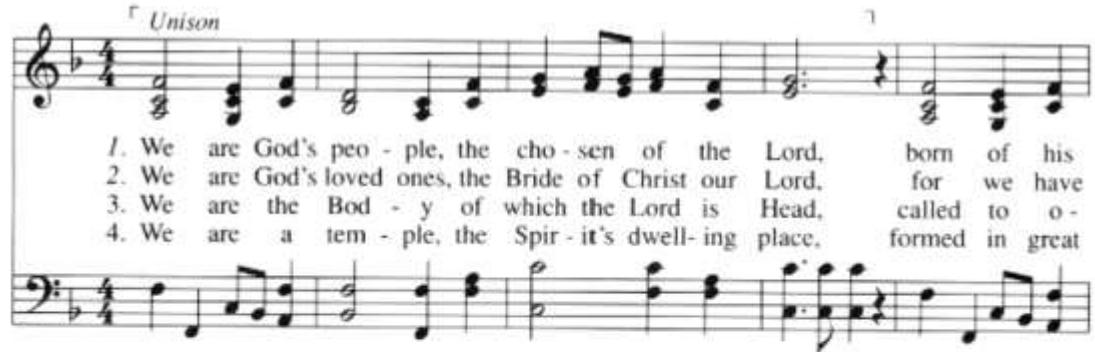
**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation. In Jesus Name, Amen.**

## **Assurance of Forgiveness – Psalm 103:10-13**

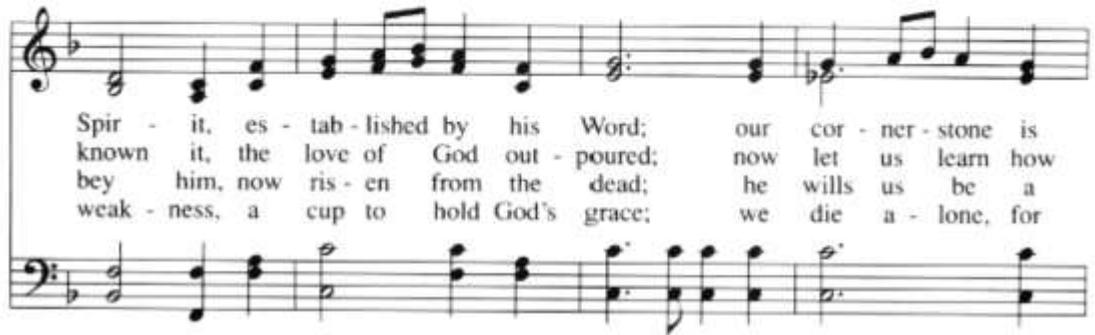
*He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.*

# We Are God's People

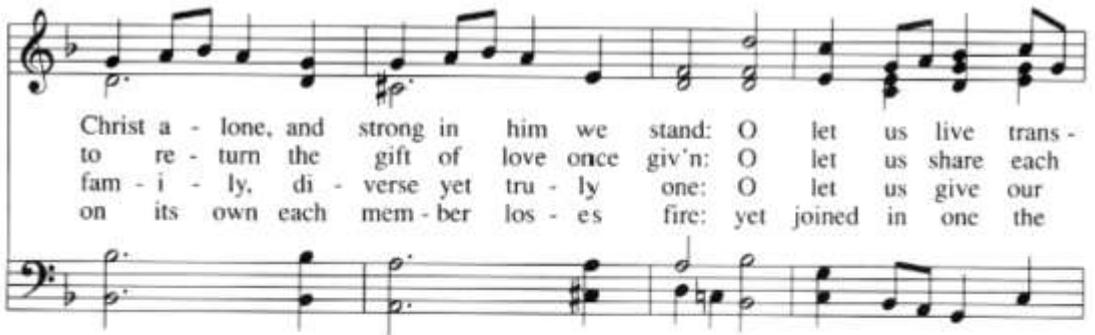
*Unison*



1. We are God's peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord, born of his  
2. We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have  
3. We are the Bod - y of which the Lord is Head, called to o -  
4. We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it's dwell - ing place, formed in great



Spir - it, es - tab - lished by his Word; our cor - ner - stone is  
known it, the love of God out - poured; now let us learn how  
bey him, now ris - en from the dead; he wills us be a  
weak - ness, a cup to hold God's grace; we die a - lone, for



Christ a - lone, and strong in him we stand: O let us live trans -  
to re - turn the gift of love once giv'n: O let us share each  
fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly one: O let us give our  
on its own each mem - ber los - es fire: yet joined in one the



par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.  
joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es heav'n.  
gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.  
flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire.

# Prayers of the People

## Missions Moment

Holly Wirt

## 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 – 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain. <sup>2</sup> But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict. <sup>3</sup> For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, <sup>4</sup> but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts. <sup>5</sup> For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. <sup>6</sup> Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ. <sup>7</sup> But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. <sup>8</sup> So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

<sup>9</sup> For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. <sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers. <sup>11</sup> For you know how, like a father with his children, <sup>12</sup> we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

**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**

# Yet Not I but through Christ in Me

## Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer  
There is no more for heaven now to give  
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom  
My steadfast love  
my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
For my life is wholly bound to his  
Oh how strange and divine  
I can sing all is mine  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken  
For by my side the Saviour he will stay  
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing  
For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me  
Through the deepest valley he will lead  
Oh the night has been won  
and I shall overcome  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Verse 3

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven  
The future sure the price it has been paid  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon  
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated  
Jesus now and ever is my plea  
Oh the chains are released  
I can sing I am free  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
For he has said that he will bring me home  
And day by day I know he will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
All the glory evermore to him  
When the race is complete  
still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

## Ending

When the race is complete  
still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

“Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me” words and music by Jonny  
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## Benediction – John 14:27

*Christ says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*

## 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. 8/17	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 8/17	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 8/17	12:00 pm	Q&A	Sanctuary
Sun. 8/17	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes
W. 8/20	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 8/20	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 8/21	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
Sat. 8/23	2:00 pm	Keystone Care Team Launch Meeting	Fellowship Hall
Sat. 8/23	4:00 pm	SILVERS Picnic	Lomax Home
Sun. 8/24	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 8/24	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 8/24	11:45 am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
Sun. 8/24	6:00 pm	Women's Book Discussion and Dinner	Kay Home
Sun. 8/24	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Grim Home

### Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
<b>Year to Date 2025</b>	\$256,346.13	\$273,119.88
<b>Week of 8/3/25</b>	\$8,269.23	\$9,422.30

## Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- ❖ **Associate Pastor Candidate:** Justin Kleiner is preaching today and the family will be around for fellowship after the service. At noon, Justin will be available in the sanctuary for a Q&A. **Next Sun. Aug. 24**, please stay after Sunday's service for a congregational meeting where we will deliberate and vote on Justin's candidacy.
- ❖ **SILVERS** will be having a picnic at Alice and Dave Lomax's house **this Sat. Aug. 23** starting at 4pm. Please bring a lawn chair if you have one. Please see sign-up sheet in the foyer.
- ❖ **Women's Summer Book Club:** Ladies, join us **next Sun. Aug. 24** at 6pm at the home of Connie Kay for dinner and a discussion of [\*Joni & Ken: An Untold Love Story\*](#). Please bring a dish to share and thoughts or questions for the group. You can contact Connie or the office with any questions.
- ❖ **Youth Group Event:** Come to a pool party on **Fri. Aug. 29** from 4-7pm at the Spark home. Bring something to share (dessert, side, or drink), sunscreen, towel, and a change of clothes.
- ❖ **Women's Bible Study:** This fall we will be surveying the prophets for passages concerning the coming Messiah using the book [\*The Word of the Lord: Seeing Jesus in the Prophets \(A 10-Week Study\)\*](#), by Nancy Guthrie. Both a morning and evening group are available: TUESDAYS (in-person 9:30 -11am in the Aquarium room or at home on Zoom 7-8:15 pm) beginning **September 9**. For more information, please contact Marlene Spark or the office. If you would like to pre-order the book for the reduced price of \$8 (quantity discount), please let Marlene know by **Wed. Aug. 20**.
- ❖ **Save the Dates!**
  - + **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."
  - + **Women**, please mark your calendars for the "Women in the Word" workshop in Philadelphia, **Fri. Oct. 17 – Sat. Oct. 18**. See Sue Rothermel or the office for more information. ([womeninthewordworkshop.org/workshop-2025/](http://womeninthewordworkshop.org/workshop-2025/))
  - + **Men's Retreat:** Held at Camp Hebron **Fri. Jan. 23 through Sun. Jan. 25, 2026**.

(Announcements continue on next page)

## Announcements (page 2 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.

## 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:** A 10-week begins Tues. Sept. 9, mornings at church 9:30-11am or evenings on Zoom 7-8:15pm using the book [\*The Word of the Lord: Seeing Jesus in the Prophets \(A 10-Week Study\) by Nancy Guthrie\*](#). 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+:** 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 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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