



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

August 31, 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 31, 2025

Reflection

“Master, they say that when I seem to be in speech with you, since you make no replies, it’s all a dream – one talker aping two. They are half right, but not as they imagine; rather I seek in myself the things I meant to say, and lo? The words are dry. Then, seeing me empty, you forsake the Listener’s role, and through my dead lips breathe and into utterance wake the thoughts I never knew.” – C. S. Lewis

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – from Revelation 5

Elder Joe Heidler

Minister: Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered.

People: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.

Minister: To receive power and wealth and wisdom and might

People: And honor and glory and blessing!

Minister: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb

People: Be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! Amen.

Prayer of Praise

Come People of the Risen King

Verse 1

Come people of the Risen King
Who delight to bring Him praise
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in

Chorus

Rejoice rejoice let ev'ry tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O Church of Christ rejoice

Verse 2

Come those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night
Come those who tell of battles won
And those struggling in the fight
For His perfect love will never change
And His mercies never cease
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace

Chorus

Rejoice rejoice let ev'ry tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O Church of Christ rejoice

Verse 3

Come young and old from ev'ry land
Men and women of the faith
Come those with full or empty hands
Find the riches of His grace
Over all the world His people sing
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through ev'ry age
Our God is all in all

Chorus

Rejoice rejoice let ev'ry tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O Church of Christ rejoice
(REPEAT)

"Come People Of The Risen King" words and music by Keith
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Blessed Be the Lord

Chorus

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting.
Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting.
And let all the people say Amen—AMEN!
And let all the people say Amen—AMEN!
And let all the people say Amen,
O praise the Lord!

Verse 1

Gather us, O Lord our God,
from among the nations.
(echo)
Deliver us and save us, O God,
God of our salvation.
(echo)
That we may give thanks to your holy name
And show forth all your praise...Alleluia!

Chorus

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting.
Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting.
And let all the people say Amen—AMEN!
And let all the people say Amen—AMEN!
And let all the people say Amen,
O praise the Lord!

Verse 2

Praise the Lord give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
(echo)
For His steadfast love endures forever
and He is good.
(echo)
We will tell the mighty deeds of the Lord
And show forth all His praise—Alleluia!

Chorus

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting.
Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting.
And let all the people say Amen—AMEN!
And let all the people say Amen—AMEN!
And let all the people say Amen,
O praise the Lord!

“Blessed Be The Lord” words and music by Dave Moody
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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 – Revelation 21:1-7

Sue Ann Randall

Minister: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession – adapted from Isaiah 6

Father God, we hear the seraphim proclaiming in heaven, Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of his glory. We rejoice at your holiness, but with Isaiah of old we cry out -Woe is me! In the light of your Glory, we are lost, we see that we are not a holy people but instead an unclean people, and we dwell in the midst of a sinful world. In Christ you have touched us, saying that our guilt is taken away and our sin atoned for. Help us to live in the forgiveness and righteousness of Christ and not the sinful natures of our old selves. 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.

Here I Am to Worship

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me
(REPEAT)

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Prayers of the People

Missions Moment

Elder Wayne Blanding

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 122*

- ¹ I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”
- ² Our feet have been standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!
- ³ Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together,
⁴ to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
- ⁵ There thrones for judgment were set,
the thrones of the house of David.
- ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
“May they be secure who love you!
- ⁷ Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers!”
- ⁸ For my brothers and companions' sake
I will say, “Peace be within you!”
- ⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.

Sermon: Glad to Worship

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

Hymn of Heaven

Verse 1

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven
Where pain is gone
and mercy fills the streets
To look upon the one who bled to save me
And walk with Him for all eternity

Chorus 1

There will be a day
When all will bow before Him
There will be a day
When death will be no more
Standing face to face
With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

Verse 2

And ev'ry prayer we prayed in desperation
The songs of faith
We sang through doubt and fear
In the end we'll see that it was worth it
When He returns to wipe away our tears

Chorus 1

There will be a day
When all will bow before Him
There will be a day
When death will be no more
Standing face to face
With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

Verse 3

And on that day we join the resurrection
And stand beside the heroes of the faith
With one voice a thousand generations
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Forever He shall reign

Chorus 1

There will be a day
When all will bow before Him
There will be a day
When death will be no more
Standing face to face
With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

Chorus 2

So let it be today
We shout the hymn of Heaven
With angels and the Saints
We raise a mighty roar
Glory to our God
Who gave us life beyond the grave
Holy holy is the Lord
Holy holy is the Lord
Holy holy is the Lord

"Hymn of Heaven" words and music by Bill Johnson, Brian Johnson,
Chris Davenport, Phil Wickham
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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. 8/31	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 8/31	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 8/31	6:00 pm	Hymn Sing	Sanctuary
Tues. 9/2	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
W. 9/3	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 9/3	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
W. 9/3	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Th. 9/4	10:00 am	SILVERS Committee Meeting	Aquarium
F. 9/5- Sun. 9/7		6 th Annual NLPC Camping Trip	Codorus State Park
Sat. 9/6	5:00 pm	Church-Wide Potluck	Codorus, Site 88
Sun. 9/7	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 9/7	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/7	11:30 am	Giant cards for sale	Foyer
Sun. 9/7	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$281,153.82	\$292,525.18
Week of 8/24/25	\$8,269.23	\$4,820.00

Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- ❖ **5th Sunday Hymn Sing:** Join us **tonight** for a hymn sing beginning at 6pm. Please bring a snack to share.
- ❖ **Prayer Ministry Time Changes:** NLPC has two ongoing opportunities dedicated to prayer, and both of them have updated dates/times. In the midday, prayer will meet on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays** from 11am-12pm in classroom 1. In the evenings, prayer will meet on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** from 7-8pm in classroom 3. Sherry Rishel is the point of contact.
- ❖ **Camping Trip:** Our 6th annual church-wide camping trip is **this weekend 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.”
- ❖ **Church-Wide Potluck:** Even if you don’t join us for camping, the whole church is invited to a potluck at Codorus **this Sat. Sept. 6** beginning at 5pm at site 88.
- ❖ **Fall Adult Sunday School Classes:**
 - + A Bible study on **2 Corinthians** will begin **next Sun. Sept. 7**. Meet in the aquarium classroom, the room off of the fellowship hall.
 - + An **Inquirer’s Class**, discussing New Life’s history, doctrine, and membership, will begin on **Sun. Sept. 21**. Meet in classroom 2.
- ❖ **Women’s Bible Study:** Please consider joining us 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 meeting on **TUESDAYS** (in-person at church 9:30 -11am; at home on Zoom 7-8:15 pm) **beginning Sept. 9**. For more information, please contact Marlene Spark.
- ❖ **New Attendees’ Gathering:** Whether you've been worshipping at New Life for one week or up to one year, you're invited to a New Attendees gathering on **Sat. Sept. 20** from 1:30-3:30pm. The primary purpose of this gathering is social: it provides a smaller context in which people can get to know each other. After a time of mingling, the gathering will close with a brief group discussion of New Life's vision and mission. Meet at Andy and Sherry Rishel's home.

(Announcements continue on next page.)

Announcements (page 2 of 2)

- ❖ **Movie Night!** Invite your family and friends to our movie night on **Sat. Sept. 27**. We will be viewing *Paddington in Peru* on the New Life lawn. Doors open at 6:30pm and movie will begin at 7. Snacks and drinks will be provided, but don't forget your lawn chair or blanket to sit on.
- ❖ **Save the Dates!**
 - + **Women**, please mark your calendars for the "Women in the Word" workshop in Philadelphia, **Fri. Oct. 17 – Sat. Oct. 18**. For more information, visit womeninthewordworkshop.org/workshop-2025/.
 - + **Men's Retreat**: Held at Camp Hebron **Fri. Jan. 23 through Sun. Jan. 25, 2026**.
- ❖ **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: The fall session begins **Tues. Sept. 9** mornings at church 9:30-11 or evenings on Zoom 7-8:15 using the book [*The Word of the Lord: Seeing Jesus in the Prophets*](#) (A 10-Week Study), by Nancy Guthrie. Please contact Marlene Spark 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 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: NLPC has two ongoing opportunities dedicated to prayer. In the midday, prayer meets on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays** from 11am-12pm in classroom 1. In the evenings, prayer meets on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** from 7-8pm in the classroom 3. Sherry Rishel is the point of contact.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): Contact Elder Will Pope 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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