



NEW LIFE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

September 7, 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

September 7, 2025

Reflection

“If we truly know why we trust God – and that crucial *if* must be answered with full intellectual and spiritual assurance – *if* we truly know why we trust God, then God is greater than all, and God may be trusted in all situations, despite everyone and everything. At an obvious level, the logic in that trust fuels the soaring dynamism of the visionary and history-changing faith that we find in Hebrews 11, the inaugural roll call of Faith’s Great Hall of Fame. Such men and women of faith defied their circumstances and their times because they knew God. They knew why they trusted God is there and God is good.” – Os Guinness, (*Fool’s Talk*)

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship – adapted from Psalm 147:1, 3-5,7

Elder Wayne Blanding

Minister: Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God.

People: For it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

Minister: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

People: He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Minister: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, His understanding is beyond measure.

People: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving. Praise the LORD!

Prayer of Praise

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed
 3 Let ev - ery tongue and ev - ery tribe re - spon - sive
 4 Oh, that with all the sa - cred throng we at his

pros - trate fall. Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem,
 from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace,
 to his call, to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe,
 feet may fall! We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song

and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the roy - al
 and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you
 and crown him Lord of all. To him all maj - es -
 and crown him Lord of all. We'll join the ev - er -

di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!
 last - ing song and crown him Lord of all.

Completely Known, Completely Loved

Verse 1

Completely known completely loved
My heart is seen by God above
Should I now run dare hide my face
When in His eyes there is only grace

Verse 2

Completely free the shame is gone
The highest Judge took all my wrongs
And set them on His only Son
He bore my sin I bear His love

Chorus

Completely known completely loved
I'm covered by my Savior's blood
I'm robed in white and God is pleased
To see His Son when He looks on me

Verse 3

Completely His how can it be
That God would set His heart on me
Loved not for works that I have done
But long before time had begun

Chorus

Completely known completely loved
I'm covered by my Savior's blood
I'm robed in white and God is pleased
To see His Son when He looks on me

Verse 4

Completely saved the work is done
The curse the grave is overcome
For with that dawn there rose a King
Now heaven's smile shines over me

Chorus

Completely known completely loved
I'm covered by my Savior's blood
I'm robed in white and God is pleased
To see His Son when He looks on me
(REPEAT)

"Completely Known, Completely Loved" words and music Matt Boswell, Matt Papa
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Affirmation of Faith – Ephesians 1:3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses according to the riches of his grace.

Scripture Reading – 1 Peter 1:3-10

Mark Flaharty

Minister: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession – based on 1 Peter 1:6-7

Our God, we ask your forgiveness for when we walk through the difficult times of life and the genuineness of our faith does not pass the test, appearing as rubbish, not pointing to the glory and honor of Christ in us, but to our fallen natures. Forgive us, and, Holy Spirit, refine us through our trials that we may truly reflect being in Christ and be your image bearers to those who are around us.

Assurance of Forgiveness – Romans 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts)

Verse 1

O come behold the works of God
The nations at His feet
He breaks the bow and bends the spear
And tells the wars to cease
O Mighty One of Israel You are on our side
We walk by faith
In God who burns the chariots with fire

Chorus

Lord of hosts You're with us
with us in the fire
With us as a Shelter
With us in the storm
You will lead us
Through the fiercest battle
Oh where else would we go
But with the Lord of hosts

Verse 2

O God of Jacob fierce and great
You lift Your voice to speak
The earth it bows
And all the mountains move into the sea
O Lord You know the hearts of men
And still You let them live
O God who makes the mountains melt
Come wrestle us and win

Chorus

Lord of hosts You're with us
with us in the fire
With us as a Shelter
With us in the storm
You will lead us
Through the fiercest battle
Oh where else would we go
But with the Lord of hosts

Bridge 2x

Though oceans roar You are the Lord of all
The One who calms the wind and waves
And makes my heart be still
Though the earth gives way
The mountains move into the sea
The nations rage
I know my God is in control

Chorus 2x

Lord of hosts You're with us
with us in the fire
With us as a Shelter
With us in the storm
You will lead us
Through the fiercest battle
Oh where else would we go
But with the Lord of hosts

"Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts)" words and music by Jennie Lee Riddle,
Josh Miller, Josiah Warneking, Shane Barnard
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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 – *Psalm 124*

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side—
let Israel now say—

² if it had not been the LORD who was on our side
when people rose up against us,

³ then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;

⁴ then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;

⁵ then over us would have gone
the raging waters.

⁶ Blessed be the LORD,
who has not given us
as prey to their teeth!

⁷ We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the fowlers;

the snare is broken,
and we have escaped!

⁸ Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Sermon: A Song Celebrating Deliverance

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

Christus Victor (Amen)

Verse 1

O Most High King of the ages
Great I AM God of wonders
By the blood You have redeemed us
Led us through mighty waters
Our strength our song our sure salvation

Chorus 1

Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won
Hallelujah Amen

Verse 2

O Most High dwelling among us
Son of man sent for sinners
By Your blood You have redeemed us
Spotless Lamb mighty Savior
Who lived who died who rose victorious

Chorus 2

Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won
Hallelujah
With every tribe and every tongue
We join the anthem of the angels
In the triumph of the Son
Hallelujah Amen

Verse 3

O Most High King of the nations
Robed in praise crowned with splendor
On that day who will not tremble
When You stand Christ the Victor
Who was and is and is forever

Chorus 2

Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won
Hallelujah
With every tribe and every tongue
We join the anthem of the angels
In the triumph of the Son
Hallelujah Amen

Bridge

Amen amen amen
Amen amen amen

Chorus 2

Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won
Hallelujah
With every tribe and every tongue
We join the anthem of the angels
In the triumph of the Son
Hallelujah Amen

Tag

Sing the victory of the Lamb
Hallelujah Amen
Amen

"Christus Victor (Amen)" words and music by Bryan Fowler,
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa
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Benediction – Romans 16:25, 27

Now to Him who is able to strengthen you according to the gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! 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. 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
Tues. 9/9	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study	Aquarium
Tues. 9/9	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Zoom
W. 9/10	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
W. 9/10	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 9/10	7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3
W. 9/10	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 9/10	7:00 pm	Missions Meeting	Aquarium
Sun. 9/14	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 9/14	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/14	11:30 am	2 nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2025	\$289,423.05	\$303,768.18
Week of 8/31/25	\$8,269.23	\$11,243.00

Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- ❖ **Stay Connected:** Do you know all the ways to keep up with New Life? We have a facebook page that you can like, a facebook group you can join, congregational emails from Pastor Erik and the office, and a weekly e-newsletter. Email admin@newlifeyorkpca.com if you'd like to be added to any of these.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Fall Adult Sunday School Classes:**
 - + A Bible study on **2 Corinthians** began today **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.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Movie Night Help Requested:** We need people to help with setup/cleanup and to help with snacks and yard games. If you are willing to help please contact March Deckard or use the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

(Announcements continue on next page.)

Announcements, page 2 of 2

❖ **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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