



# NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

**January 11, 2026**

# 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

January 11, 2026

## Reflections

It is disgraceful that, when no Jew ever has to beg, and the impious Galileans support not only their own poor but ours as well, everyone can see that our people do not receive aid from us. - Julian the Apostate, Emperor of Rome

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. – James 1:22

## Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Erik Swanson*

## Prelude

## Call to Worship – from Deuteronomy 6 and Psalm 34

*Elder Wayne Blanding*

*Minister: Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.*

**People: I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.**

*Minister: My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.*

**People: Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.**

## Prayer of Praise

# A Mighty Fortress



1. A might - y for - tress is \_\_\_\_\_ our God, a bul - wark nev - er  
 2. Did we in our \_\_\_\_\_ own strength - con - fide, our striv - ing would be  
 3. And tho' this world, \_\_\_\_\_ with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -  
 4. That word a - bove \_\_\_\_\_ all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

4 Dm G C C/E C G Em Am D G Am Em F C Am



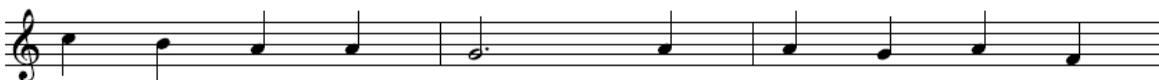
fail - ing; Our help - er He \_\_\_\_\_ a - mid \_\_\_\_\_ the flood of mor - tal ills pre -  
 los - ing, were not the right - man on \_\_\_\_\_ our side, the man of God's own  
 -do \_\_\_\_\_ us, we will not fear, \_\_\_\_\_ for God \_\_\_\_\_ hath willed His truth to tri - umph  
 -bid - eth; The Spir - it and \_\_\_\_\_ the gifts \_\_\_\_\_ are ours through Him who with us

8 Dm G C Am G/B D G C G/B C F G7/D Am E/G#



-vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe - His  
 choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He - Lord  
 thru \_\_\_\_\_ us. The prince of dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him - His  
 sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so. The

13 Am E/B Am/C D G F F/A C A/C# Dm



craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cru - el  
 Sab - a - oth His name, from age to age the  
 rage we can en - dure, for lo, his doom is  
 bod - y they may kill; God's truth a - bid - eth

16 E Am Em F C Am Dm G C



hate, on earth is not his e - qual.  
 same, and He must win the bat - tle.  
 sure: One lit - tle word shall fell \_\_\_\_\_ him.  
 still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

# 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  
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## **Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\* “Catholic” means universal; that is, there is one church across all times, places, and peoples

## **Scripture Reading – Psalm 1**

*Elder Brian Fitz*

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **Prayer of Confession**

**There are many times we think we love you well, O God.**

**But upon hearing your call to love you with all our heart,**

**And all our mind, and all our strength,**

**We confess that our love for you is a diluted love,**

**Made insipid and flat by lesser loyalties and a divided heart.**

**Forgive us, we pray, for Jesus’s sake.**

**Enable us, by the power of your Spirit, to love you as we ought. Amen!**

## **Assurance of Forgiveness – Zechariah 3:3-4**

*Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. And the angel said to those who were standing before him, “Remove the filthy garments from him.”*

*And to him he said, “Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments.”*

# Take Time to Be Holy

1. Take time to be ho - ly, speak oft with thy Lord; A - bide in Him  
 2. Take time to be ho - ly, the world rush - es on; Spend much time in  
 3. Take time to be ho - ly, let Him be thy Guide, and run not be -  
 4. Take time to be ho - ly, be calm in thy soul - each tho't and each

6

B $\flat$ /F F C/G G7 C C7 F

al - ways and feed on His Word. Make friends with God's chil - dren,  
 se - cret with Je - sus a - lone. By look - ing to Je - sus,  
 fore Him, what - ev - er be - tide. In joy or in sor - row  
 mo - tive be - neath His con - trol. Thus led by His Spir - it

11

C7 F B $\flat$  F/C C7 F

help those who are weak; For - get - ting in noth - ing His bless - ing to seek.  
 like Him thou shalt be; Thy friends in thy con - duct His like - ness shall see.  
 still fol - low thy Lord, and, look - ing to Je - sus, still trust in His Word.  
 to foun - tains of love, thou soon shall be fit - ted for ser - vice a - bove.

## **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 – James 1:19-27**

<sup>19</sup> Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. <sup>21</sup> Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

<sup>26</sup> If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

**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**



## **Benediction – 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

*Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.*

## **The Sending**

*Minister: Go in peace, to love and serve the LORD.*

*All: Thanks be to God!*

## **Postlude**

**\*\* Would you like to pray with someone today about a need? Following the service a PRAYER TEAM member is available to pray with you. Find them up front to the right of the stage.\*\***

## This Week at New Life

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sun. 1/11	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 1/11	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 1/11	11:30 am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall
W. 1/14	9:00 am	Moms +	Classroom 2
W. 1/14	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 1/14	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3
W. 1/14	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 1/18	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 1/18	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 1/18	11:30 am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
Sun. 1/18	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

## Church Financial Summary

<b>Category</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Year End 2025</b>	\$429,999.96	\$440,144.48

## Announcements

- ❖ **Inclement Weather:** In the event of Sunday service cancellation due to inclement weather, elders will contact their flock list. You may also check the website to see if Sunday services have been cancelled. If you do not have internet, please call a friend to find out.
- ❖ **New Adult Sunday School classes at 9am:**
  - + A study on **Ezra and Nehemiah** meets in the aquarium classroom.
  - + A study on the book ***A Praying Church*** by Paul Miller meets in classroom 2.
- ❖ Our **annual congregational meeting** will be held **next Sun. Jan. 18** following the worship service. Please join us to reflect on 2025, look ahead in 2026, discuss the 2026 budget, and deliberate/vote on a proposed change to the senior pastor's compensation in the pastor's terms of call.
- ❖ Our **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Lunch in February** will be hosted by the SILVERS committee. Please check the foyer for sign-up sheets for contribution of soup, meat, cheese, chicken salad, and desserts.
- ❖ **Winter Women's Book Club:** This winter, read at your own pace and then join us for a dinner and discussion in **late February or early March**. We will be discussing the book *Running to the Fire: Helping in Jesus' Name* by Ken Isaacs.
- ❖ **Short-Term Mission Opportunity:** New Life is partnering with Servants and Baptist on Mission for a short-term trip to assist with hurricane recovery efforts in western North Carolina from **Sun. Apr. 12 through Sat. Apr. 18**. See Nathan Raine for more information.

## Groups for Fellowship and Growth

**Christian Education: Youth and Children's classes:** Pre-K through 1<sup>st</sup> meets in classroom 5, 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> meets in classroom 4, 5-8<sup>th</sup> meets in classroom 3, and 9-12<sup>th</sup> meets in classroom 1.

**Two adult classes:** one studying *Ezra* and *Nehemiah* and meeting in the Aquarium room and the other studying *A Praying Church* and meeting in Classroom 2.

**Women's Bible Study:** Stay tuned for details on the spring study. Contact Marlene Spark with questions.

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

**Moms+:** Women, please join us at the church on Wednesday mornings from 9-11am. Childcare and Bible classes for your kids are also provided.

**Men's Breakfast** is in transition. Stay tuned for details.

**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 **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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