



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

February 1, 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 be with their children who need to wiggle while still being able to watch the livestream.

Please be aware that we livestream our services.

Worshiping God

February 1, 2026

Reflection

When once you've said a thing, that fixes it, and you must take the consequences.

- Through the Looking Glass, the Red Queen

I felt that wistful desire to retrieve words that had fallen from my mouth and now lay like a shattered glass on the floor. - Dan Doriani

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

- Proverbs 18:21

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – Psalm 96:1-4

Elder Will Pope

*Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song:
sing to the LORD, all the earth!*

**All: Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day**

*Leader: Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!*

**All: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.**

Prayer of Praise

Come, Thou Almighty King

F F
Gm F C F
C F
C⁷ F C⁷

1. Come, thou Al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing,
 2. Come, thou In - car - nate Word, gird on thy might - y sword,
 3. Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
 4. To the great One in Three e - ter - nal prais - es be,

F
C
C F C⁷
F
C F C⁷

help us to praise. Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
 our prayer at - tend. Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
 in this glad hour. Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in
 hence ev - er - more, His sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in

F
F
Gm F C⁷
F⁷

to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days,
 Word suc - cess; Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend,
 ev - ery heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r,
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Jesus Lifted Me

Chorus

I'm so glad to testify
About the One who saved my life
The power of the blood
Is the reason I'm alive
I thank God day and night
I'm not where I used to be
Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me

Verse 1

When I was a sinner
Jesus lifted me
I was a sinner
So blind I could not see
Before He ever crossed my mind
He took the cross for me
Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me

Chorus

I'm so glad to testify
About the One who saved my life
The power of the blood
Is the reason I'm alive
I thank God day and night
I'm not where I used to be
Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me

Verse 2

When I was in trouble
Jesus lifted me
I was in trouble
Was sinking down so deep
Before I'd ever called His name
He was calling out to me

Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me

Chorus

I'm so glad to testify
About the One who saved my life
The power of the blood
Is the reason I'm alive
I thank God day and night
I'm not where I used to be
Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me

Bridge

How could I not lift my hands
How could I not lift You high
How could I not lift my voice to sing
Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me
(REPEAT)

Verse 3

I am forgiven
Jesus You lifted me
I am forgiven
All my sins washed clean
Because You gave Your life for me
I will give You everything
Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me
Glory hallelujah
Jesus lifted me

"Jesus Lifted Me" words and music by Brooke Ligertwood,
Jason Ingram, Logan Cain, Madison Cain Johnson, Taylor Cain
Matz

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Affirmation of Faith – Romans 8:38-39

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Scripture Reading – Psalm 34:11-14

Mark Deckard

Minister: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession – from *The Book of Common Prayer*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

He Will Hold Me Fast

Verse 1

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 2

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 3

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last

Chorus 2x

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

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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 – James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

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

Battle Belongs

Verse 1

When all I see is the battle
You see my victory
When all I see is a mountain
You see a mountain moved
And as I walk through the shadow
Your love surrounds me
There's nothing to fear now
For I am safe with You

Chorus

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You

Verse 2

And if You are for me
Who can be against me
For Jesus there's nothing
Impossible for You
When all I see are the ashes
You see the beauty
When all I see is a cross
God You see the empty tomb

Chorus

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You

Bridge 3X

(An) Almighty Fortress You go before us
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God
You shine in the shadows
You win every battle
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God

Chorus

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You

Tag

O God the battle belongs to You

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Benediction – Philippians 4:7

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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 platform. ****

This Week at New Life

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun. 2/1	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 2/1	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 2/1	11:30 am	Giant cards for sale	Foyer
Sun. 2/1	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes
Tues. 2/3	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 1
W. 2/4	9:00 am	Moms +	Classroom 2
W. 2/4	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 2/4	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
W. 2/4	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
F. 2/6 – Sun. 2/8		Men's Retreat	Camp Hebron
Sun. 2/8	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 2/8	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 2/8	11:30 am	2 nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship area

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2026	\$35,000.00	\$27,724.10
Week of 1/24/26	\$8,750.00	\$3,708.10

Announcements

- ❖ **Lancaster YMCA Homeless Shelter:** Connie Kay is collecting new (or very gently used) hats, gloves, socks, and scarves for the YMCA homeless shelter in Lancaster. This shelter houses up to 80 men and 20 women each night and is in critical need of these winter items. Donations may be given to Connie for the next 2 Sundays ending **Feb. 8**.
- ❖ Our **2nd Sunday Lunch next week** 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.
- ❖ **Hosting Presbytery:** On **Sat. Feb. 21**, it is New Life's turn to host presbytery. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for ways in which you can help.
- ❖ **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. Questions? See Connie Kay or the office.
- ❖ **Mark Your Calendars Now:** On **Sat. March 7** from 3-5pm, New Life will be going to the York County Astronomical Society Planetarium (located in the York Learning Center, 301 East 6th Ave, York). We will view two filmed shows (Cosmic Castaways and Chasing the Ghost Particle) and have a live presentation of what can be seen in the March night skies. This event is for ages 12 years old and upwards. We will have 60 seats available so a signup sheet will be put out in February. For more information contact Mark Deckard or the office.
- ❖ **Women's Bible Study:** Our spring study of the book of *James* starts March 10. Please join us for in-depth study, sharing insights, lively discussion, and opportunities to share how to apply God's wisdom. We will be using the guide by Lydia Brownback, *James: Walking in Wisdom*. All women of the church are invited, and your friends! **When: Tuesdays March 10 through May 12**, mornings 9:30-11:00 am at the church, or evenings 7:00-8:15 pm on Zoom. For more information or to sign up, please contact Marlene Spark or the office. If we have more than 10 ladies, we will pre-order the book at a reduced price so please sign up by **Sun. Feb. 22**. The price will be no more than \$9. Scholarships are available if price is a concern.

Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: Youth and Children's classes: Pre-K through 1st meets in classroom 5, 2nd-4th meets in classroom 4, 5-8th meets in classroom 3, and 9-12th 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: All women of the church and their friends are welcome to attend a 10-week study, *James: Walking in Wisdom*, by Lydia Brownback, beginning **Tues. March 10**. Group meetings occur in the church Aquarium Room on Tuesdays 9:30–11:00 am, or on Zoom in the evenings from 7:00p– 8:15pm. 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+: 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 **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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