



# NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

**April 12, 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

April 12, 2026

## Reflections

*[Love] begets a likeness between the mind loving and the object beloved... a mind filled with the love of Christ as crucified... will be changed into his image and likeness.*

- John Owen

## Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

## Prelude

## Call to Worship – adapted from Psalm 97

Elder Wayne Blanding

*Leader: The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad;*

**All: let the distant shores rejoice.**

*Leader: Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.*

**All: Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side.**

*Leader: His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles.*

**All: The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.**

*Leader: The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.*

**All: All who worship images are put to shame, those who boast in idols - worship him, all you gods!**

*Leader: Zion hears and rejoices and the villages of Judah are glad because of your judgements, O LORD.*

**All: For you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.**

*Leader: Let those who love the LORD hate evil.*

**All: for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**

*Leader: Light is shed upon the righteous and joy on the upright in heart.*

**All: Rejoice in the LORD, you who are righteous, and praise his holy name.**

## 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

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Ingram, Scott Ligertwood  
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# Better Is One Day

## Verse 1

How lovely is Your dwelling place  
O Lord almighty  
For my soul longs and even faints for You  
For here my heart is satisfied  
Within Your presence  
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

## Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts  
Better is one day in Your house  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere  
(Than thousands elsewhere)

## Verse 2

One thing I ask and I would seek  
To see Your beauty  
To find You in the place  
Your glory dwells  
(REPEAT)

## Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts  
Better is one day in Your house  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere

## Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out  
For You the living God  
Your Spirit's water to my soul  
I've tasted and I've seen  
Come once again to me  
I will draw near to You  
I will draw near to You to You

## Bridge

Better is one day better is one day  
Better is one day than thousands  
elsewhere  
Better is one day better is one day  
Better is one day than thousands  
elsewhere

## Bridge and Chorus sung together:

### Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts  
Better is one day in Your house  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere  
(thousands elsewhere)

### Bridge

Better is one day  
Better is one day  
Better is one day  
Than thousands elsewhere  
(thousands elsewhere)

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**Affirmation of Faith – Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 38**

Q: *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?*

A: **At the resurrection, believers being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.**

**Scripture Reading – Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

*Brian Fitz*

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

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**Prayer of Confession – adapted from Augustine**

**O Lord my God, light of the blind, and strength of the weak; yes, also light of those that see, and strength of the strong - hearken unto my soul, and hear it crying out of the depths. Woe is me!...Lord, help us to turn and seek you; for not as we have forsaken our Creator have you forsaken your creation. Let us turn and seek you, for we know you are here in our heart, when we confess to you, when we cast ourselves upon you, and weep in your bosom, after all our rugged ways; and you gently wipe away our tears, and we weep the more for joy; because you, Lord - not man of flesh and blood - but you, Lord, who made us, remake and comfort us. Amen.**

**Assurance of Forgiveness – 2 Chronicles 30:9**

*For if you return to the LORD, your brothers and your children will find compassion with their captors and return to this land. For the LORD your God is gracious and merciful and will not turn away his face from you, if you return to him.*

# Breathe on Me, Breath of God

1. Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life a - new,  
 2. Breathe on me, breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,  
 3. Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am whol - ly Thine,  
 4. Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

7 F F/A B♭

that I may love what Thou dost  
 un - til with Thee I will one  
 till all this earth - ly part of  
 but live with Thee the per - fect

10 Gm<sup>7</sup> F/C C<sup>7</sup> F

love, and do what Thou wouldst do.  
 will, to do and to en - dure.  
 me glows with Thy fire di - vine.  
 life of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

## Prayers of the People

### Ministry Moment

*Prayer for the North Carolina Rebuild Team*

### 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 – Galatians 5:16-26

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

<sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

**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**

# Blessed Assurance



1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! — O what a fore - taste of glo - ry di -  
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! — Vi - sions of rap - ture now burst on my  
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion — all is at rest, — I in my Sav - ior am hap - py and

4 G C F/C C F<sup>6</sup> G<sup>7</sup>



-vine! — Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, — born of His Spir - it, washed in His  
 sight; — An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a - bove — ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of  
 blest; — Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, — filled with His good - ness, lost in His

## CHORUS

8 C C F C F C/E D



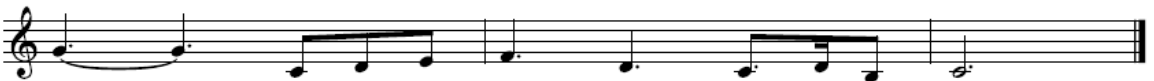
blood. — This is my sto - ry, this is my song, — prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day  
 love. —  
 love. —

12 G G<sup>7</sup> C F/C



long; — This is my sto - ry, this is my

14 C F<sup>6</sup> G<sup>7</sup> C



song. — prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

## **Benediction – 2 Corinthians 13:14**

*<sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, <sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.*

## **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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sun. 4/12	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 4/12	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 4/12	11:30 am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck	Fellowship Area
Tu. 4/14	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study	Aquarium
Tu. 4/14	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Zoom
W. 4/15	9:00 am	Moms +	Classroom 2
W. 4/15	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
W. 4/15	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
W. 4/15	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
W. 4/15	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Classroom 3
Sun. 4/19	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 4/19	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 4/19	11:30 am	Inquirers' Class	Classroom 1
Sun. 4/19	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

## Church Financial Summary

<b>Category</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Year to Date 2026</b>	\$122,500.00	\$109,177.21
<b>Week of 4/5/26</b>	\$8,750.00	\$11,387.30

## Announcements

- ❖ **Inquirers' Class:** On **Sundays April 19th, 26th, May 3rd, and 17th**, New Life will host an inquirers class for those interested in learning more about the church and who are possibly interested in membership. The class will meet from 11:30-12:15 in classroom 1. While an RSVP to the church office is not necessary, it would be helpful.
- ❖ **Servants Faith Beyond the Pews work week 2026:** Servants' annual Faith Beyond the Pews 2026 is happening **June 8-12**. Come help us practically serve our York neighbors through construction with opportunities to share the good news of Jesus! Online registration is available at <https://servants.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=104071> or by selecting RSVP at <https://www.servants.org/event-details/faith-beyond-the-pews>. Signups can be for the whole week or for individual days. Sign-ups are open now through early May. Servants work camps begin with an info session and ice cream social at the host site on Sunday evening. Monday through Friday are work days. Each morning begins at the host site with breakfast, a devotional, lunch packing, and tool/material pickup before heading to the assigned work sites. After serving for the day, teams return to the host site for dinner and a debrief where God-sightings from the day are shared. On Friday evening there is a celebration dinner and all volunteers and homeowners we worked with during the week are invited.  
Other ways to help: New Life's Mercy Team coordinates a taco dinner on **Thurs. June 11** to serve to all the hungry workers at 5pm. We need help serving dinner and also baking and providing desserts. Please see signup sheets in the church foyer or reach out to Kiel Reese, Susette Grim or Barbara Henry.
- ❖ **Vacation Bible School:** Mark your calendars for NLPC's Vacation Bible School the week of **July 20-24th**. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Catherine Kloetzli.

## 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 the theology of idolatry 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 9:30–11am, or on Zoom in the evenings from 7– 8:15pm. 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+:** Women, please join us at the church on Wednesday mornings from 9-11am. Childcare and Bible classes for your kids are also provided.

**Music and Sound:** Help out with worship on Sundays by joining the music and/or sound team. Contact Jenn Ryan at [jenn@newlifeyorkpca.com](mailto:jenn@newlifeyorkpca.com).

**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>

**New Life Presbyterian Church, (717) 855-2360**  
970 Cape Horn Rd, York PA 17402  
[admin@newlifeyorkpca.com](mailto:admin@newlifeyorkpca.com)