



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

August 2, 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

August 2, 2026

Reflection

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

— Fanny Crosby

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – Psalm 63:1-7

Elder Joe Heidler

*Leader: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;*

**All: my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.**

*Leader: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.*

**All: Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.**

*Leader: So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.*

**All: My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,**

*Leader: when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;*

**All: for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.**

Prayer of Praise

Build My Life

Verse 1

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could
ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could
ever breathe
We live for You

Verse 2

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could
ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me
who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those
around me

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken (REPEAT)

Chorus

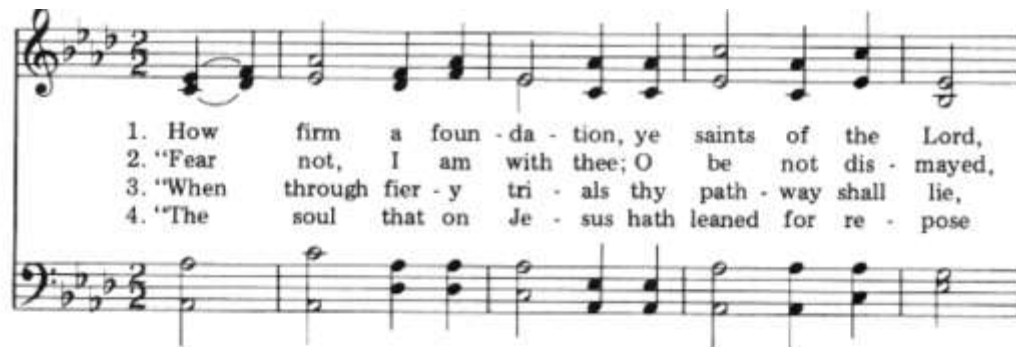
Holy there is no one like You
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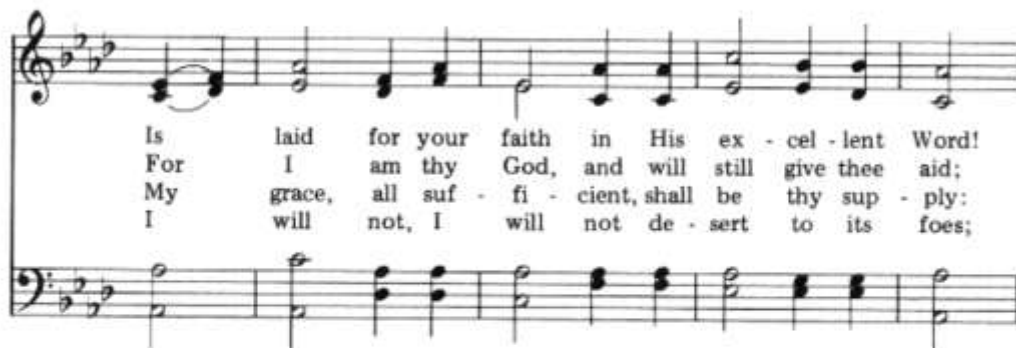
Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save

"Build My Life" words and music by Brett Younker, Karl Martin,
Kirby Kaple, Matt Redman, Pat Barrett
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Said and Done Music, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, Vamos
Publishing, worshiptogether.com songs, Martin, Karl Andrew,
Bethel Music Publishing
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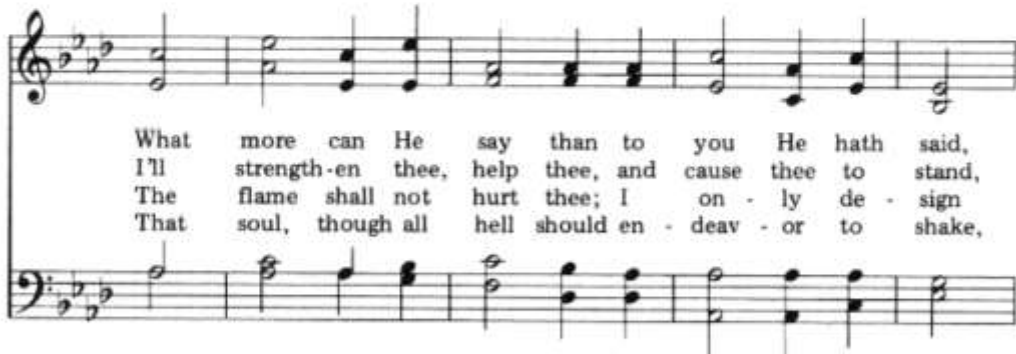
How Firm a Foundation



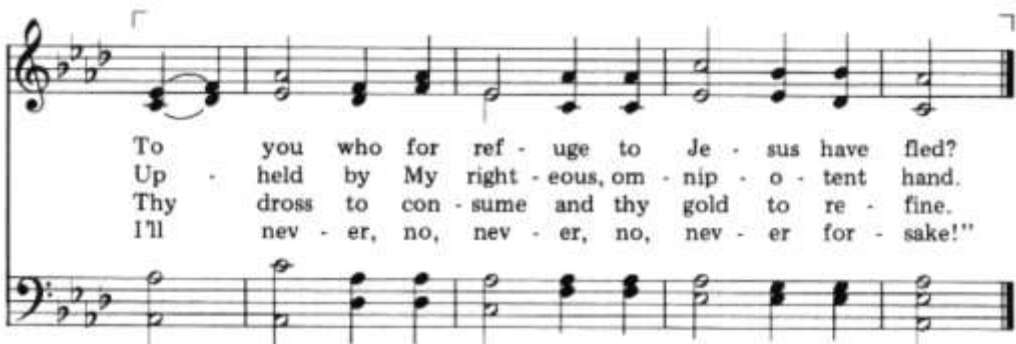
1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2. 'Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed,
 3. 'When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 4. 'The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 My grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply:
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



What more can He say than to you He hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 The flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



To you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 Up - held by My right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 Thy dross to con - sume and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!"

Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer 26

Question: What do you believe when you say: I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Answer: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and all that is in them, and who still upholds and governs them by His eternal counsel and providence, is, for the sake of Christ His Son, my God and my Father. In Him I trust so completely as to have no doubt that He will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul, and will also turn to my good whatever adversity He sends me in this life of sorrow. He is able to do so as almighty God, and willing also as a faithful Father.

Scripture Reading – Proverbs 3:1-8

Connie Kay

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession – Adapted from Harold Senkbeil

The Lord is our God, He gives us the gift of himself. Our God sent his Son, Jesus, to be born a child like us. Jesus grew up to take our sin away and rescue us from death. His word declares his great love for us and gives us life. But we often neglect his word. We fail to read it or believe it, and we look to false gods to give us the life only Jesus can give. A god is what we fear, love, and trust to give us good things, to protect and save us in times of danger. There are many false gods in this world. Father, please forgive us for worshiping these false gods, when only you are worthy of our worship and service. Only you, the one true God, gives us what is truly good—forgiveness, life, and salvation. O Lord, our God, you take away our sin and give us life in Jesus. Help us to love and trust you, and to listen to your Son and obey his word! Help us to worship and serve you only, to have no other gods before you! We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – 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. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

In Christ Alone

1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
 2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, ful - ness of
 3 There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

3 G D/F# Em7 G/A D G D G

light, my strength, my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -
 world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 pow'r of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal

6 A D/F# G D/F# Em7 G/A D D/F#

Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of
 ness, scorned by the ones He came to save. Till on that
 Day, up from the grave He rose a - gain! And as He
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

9 G D/F# Asus A D/F# G Bm7

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
 cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His

12 Asus A G D G A D/F# G D/F# Em7 G/A

cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I
 fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I
 me; For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of
 hand; Till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll

16 D Am7 Em7 D Dsus D

stand.
 live.
 Christ.
 stand!

"In Christ Alone" words and music by Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

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Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

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: 1 Kings 18:1-16

After many days the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, “Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth.” ² So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria. ³ And Ahab called Obadiah, who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly, ⁴ and when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water.) ⁵ And Ahab said to Obadiah, “Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the valleys. Perhaps we may find grass and save the horses and mules alive, and not lose some of the animals.” ⁶ So they divided the land between them to pass through it. Ahab went in one direction by himself, and Obadiah went in another direction by himself. ⁷ And as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him. And Obadiah recognized him and fell on his face and said, “Is it you, my lord Elijah?” ⁸ And he answered him, “It is I. Go, tell your lord, ‘Behold, Elijah is here.’” ⁹ And he said, “How have I sinned, that you would give your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?” ¹⁰ As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my lord has not sent to seek you. And when they would say, ‘He is not here,’ he would take an oath of the kingdom or nation, that they had not found you. ¹¹ And now you say, ‘Go, tell your lord, “Behold, Elijah is here.”’ ¹² And as soon as I have gone from you, the Spirit of the LORD will carry you I know not where. And so, when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although I your servant have feared the LORD from my youth. ¹³ Has it not been told my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the LORD, how I hid a hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water? ¹⁴ And now you say, ‘Go, tell your lord, “Behold, Elijah is here”’; and he will kill me.” ¹⁵ And Elijah said, “As the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today.” ¹⁶ So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him. And Ahab went to meet Elijah.

Sermon: A Word of Assurance

Pastor Erik Swanson

Series: Elijah and Elisha: Prophets Par Excellence

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

The Lion and the Lamb

Verse 1

He's coming on the clouds
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break
As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion
and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

Verse 2

So open up the gates
Make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battle
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion
and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

Bridge

Who can stop the Lord Almighty? (7x)
Who can stop the Lord?

Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion
and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

"The Lion And The Lamb" words and music by Brenton Brown,
Brian Johnson, and Leeland Mooring
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Benediction – 1 Peter 1:2

According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

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. 8/2	9:00 am	Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 8/2	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 8/2	11:30 am	Giant cards for sale	Foyer
Sun. 8/2	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members’ Homes
Tues. 8/4	11:00 am	Prayer Meeting	Rishel Home
Wed. 8/5	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
Wed. 8/5	10:00 am	Moms+	Contact Joy Swanson
Wed. 8/5	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
Wed. 8/5	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Thurs. 8/6	10:30 am	SILVERS Planning Meeting	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 8/9	9:00 am	Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 8/9	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 8/9	11:30 am	2 nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 8/9	12:00 pm	Young Adult Bible Study	Classroom 1

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2026	\$262,500.00	\$293,944.83
Week of 7/26/26	\$8,750.00	\$5,652.00

Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- ❖ **SILVERS Picnic:** SILVERS, come enjoy a picnic at the Lomax home on **Sat. Aug. 22** beginning at 4pm. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided; please bring a dish to share. See the sign-up sheet in the foyer.
- ❖ **Camping Trip at Codorus State Park: August 28-30:** We typically book campsites in Loop C, as close to site 88 as you can get. Please go here to reserve your family's site: <https://pennsylvaniastateparks.reserveamerica.com/camping/codorus-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=PA&parkId=880316>. Everyone from New Life is invited to a potluck meal on Saturday.
- ❖ **Ladies Summer Book Club:** We'll be reading *How To Stay Married: The Most Insane Love Story Ever Told* by Harrison Scott Key. This pick is a raw and edgier read than our past selections as the author discusses, with his own brand of humor, what the journey of faith and forgiveness can look like in a messy world. Read at your own pace and then join us late summer (date TBD) for a potluck and discussion.
- ❖ **Women's Bible Study:** Please join the women of New Life for a 10-week, in-depth study of Revelation. We will be using the guide by Jen Wilkin, *Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom*, which includes thoughtful homework and video teaching to watch on your own and then getting together to share understanding and application for life. **When:** Tuesdays Sept. 15 through Nov. 24, mornings 9:30-11:00am at the church, and evenings 7:00-8:15pm on Zoom. For more information or to sign up, please contact Marlene Spark or the office. A bulk order for a reduced price of \$21.25 will be made on August 24th. Don't let the price hold you back – scholarships are available!

Announcements (page 2 of 2)

❖ Save the Date for a Winter Marriage Retreat:

- **Conference Title/Theme:** Heart to Heart – Improving Communication
- **Location:** Gettysburg Hotel, hotelgettysburg.com
- **Dates:** January 22-24, 2027
- **Speaker:** William P. Smith, a pastor, counselor, author, and retreat speaker.
crossway.org/authors/william-p-smith
- **Cost per couple:** \$480 early bird registration. After Oct. 31 \$550. All reservations must be in by December 15. The cost covers two nights at the hotel and four meals (breakfasts/lunches). Not included in the cost is Saturday dinner, a "date night" for you and your spouse, and the daily (discounted) parking fee of \$6.
- **Travel times:** Arrive when you can anytime after 4pm on Friday (bring a bag dinner or buy it on the way), with the first event beginning at 7:30. Departure will be no later than 1pm, after lunch, on Sunday.
- **Kids?** While nursing moms are welcome to bring the nursing child, this retreat is for married couples and not for families with children.
- **Registration:** For more information and to register, please use this QR code. Registration closes on December 15.



Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: From June 7 through August 23, the summer Sunday school class is studying 1 John. Youth are invited to attend with their parents.

Women's Bible Study: All women of the church, and their friends, are welcome to attend a 10-week study, *Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom*, by Jen Wilkin, beginning **Sept. 15**. Group meetings occur in the church Aquarium Room on Tuesdays 9:30-11am, and also at home 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+: We are currently on our summer schedule of 10am. All women and their children are welcome. Because location varies due to weather, please contact Joy Swanson or the office to be added to the GroupMeet messages.

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

Youth Group: Please contact the church office for information.

Prayer Small Group: Please note that our bi-monthly Tuesday mid-day prayer meeting will take place at the Rishel home during the summer, still at the same time of 11am-12pm. The bi-monthly Wednesday evening group will continue to meet at the church from 7-8pm. Keep a close eye on “This Week at New Life” to follow the exact schedule. Contact Sherry Rishel or the office with any questions.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): Contact Elder Will Pope or the office 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.