



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

September 13, 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.

Worshipping God

September 13, 2026

Reflection – Acts 17:26-27

And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us...

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – Psalm 46

Elder Wayne Blanding

Minister: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**People: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

*Minister: though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.*

**People: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

*Minister: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.*

**People: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

Minister: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**People: Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

*Minister: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.*

**People: “Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”**

**All: The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Prayer of Praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a -
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly reign -
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend
4. Praise to the Lord, who hath fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly made
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

6 G G Em D/F# G D Em Bm C G C D7/A Em C D7

-tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va -
-eth, shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain -
thee; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend
thee; Health hath vouch - safed and, when heed - less - ly fall - ing, hath stayed
Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore

12 G G D/F# G C G C/E D/F# G D7/A G/B

-tion! All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw
-eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have
thee. Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can
thee. What need or grief ev - er hath failed of re -
Him! Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a -

17 D G/B C D7/A Em C B7 C D7 G Fine

near; Praise Him in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
been grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?
do, if with His love he be - friend thee.
-lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade thee.
-gain; Glad - ly for aye (all) we a - dore Him.

Your Name

Verse 1

As morning dawns and evening fades
You inspire songs of praise
That rise from earth to touch Your heart
And glorify Your Name

Chorus

Your Name is a strong and mighty tower
Your Name is a shelter like no other
Your Name let the nations sing it louder
'Cause nothing has the power to save
But Your Name

Verse 2

Jesus in Your Name we pray
Come and fill our hearts today
Lord give us strength to live for You
And glorify Your Name

Chorus

Your Name is a strong and mighty tower
Your Name is a shelter like no other
Your Name let the nations sing it louder
'Cause nothing has the power to save
But Your Name is a strong and mighty tower
Your Name is a shelter like no other
Your Name let the nations sing it louder
'Cause nothing has the power to save
But Your Name

"Your Name" words and music by Glenn Packham, Paul Baloche
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Affirmation of Faith – 2 Timothy 2:11-13

The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he also will deny us;

if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

for he cannot deny himself.

Scripture Reading – Jeremiah 18:1-12

Brian Fitz

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

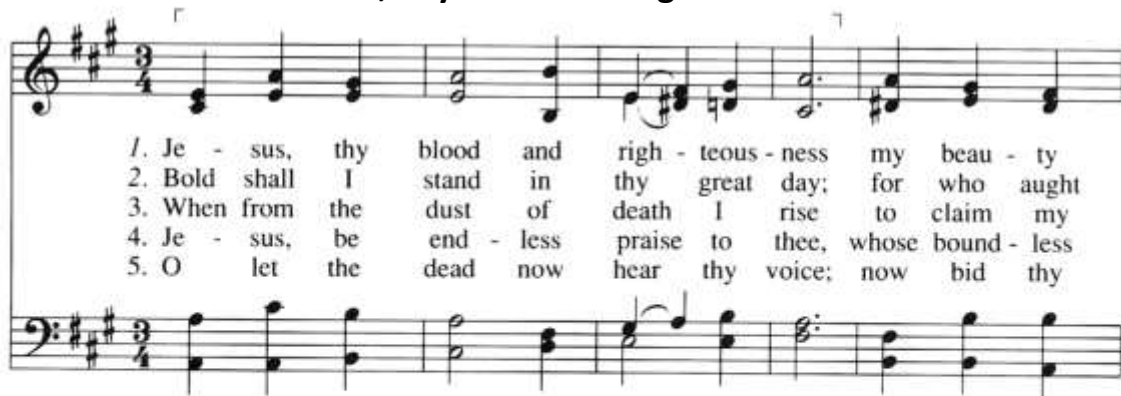
Prayer of Confession

Our Father, You tell us repeatedly in your word that the battle belongs to you. Our salvation was accomplished by your son. Our hope for daily strength comes from your Spirit. You are our hope, our righteousness, our refuge, and our rock. We praise you and thank you. We confess, Father, that our hearts are prone to wander. We often turn away from a posture of trusting you. We look at the challenges we face, and we feel overwhelmed. At times, we fail to rely on your promises and your grace. Sometimes that failure to trust leads to actions that dishonor you and wound ourselves and others. Forgive us, we ask, for our hope is in Christ alone. Help us, this week, to trustingly obey you in all things. We ask this in Jesus' name, amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness – 1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

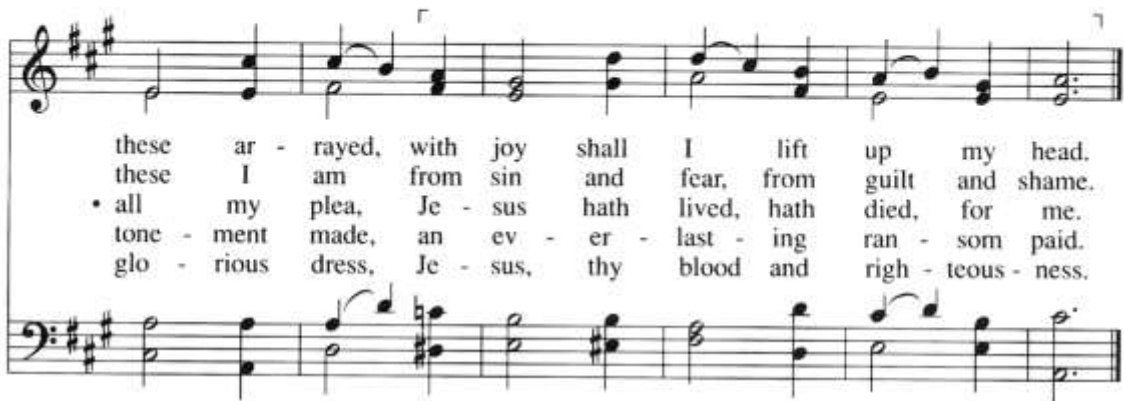
Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness



1. Je - sus, thy blood and righ - teous - ness my beau - ty
 2. Bold shall I stand in thy great day; for who aught
 3. When from the dust of death I rise to claim my
 4. Je - sus, be end - less praise to thee, whose bound - less
 5. O let the dead now hear thy voice; now bid thy



are, my glo - rious dress; 'midst flam - ing worlds, in
 to my charge shall lay? Ful - ly ab - solved through
 • man - sion in the skies, ev'n then this shall be
 mer - cy hath for me— for me a full a -
 ban - ished ones re - joice; their beau - ty this, their



these ar - rayed, with joy shall I lift up my head.
 these I am from sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 • all my plea, Je - sus hath lived, hath died, for me.
 tone - ment made, an ev - er - last - ing ran - som paid.
 glo - rious dress, Je - sus, thy blood and righ - teous - ness.

Prayers of the People

Missions Moment

Denise Fitz

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: 2 Kings 3

In the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria, and he reigned twelve years. ² He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, though not like his father and mother, for he put away the pillar of Baal that his father had made. ³ Nevertheless, he clung to the sin of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin; he did not depart from it.

⁴ Now Mesha king of Moab was a sheep breeder, and he had to deliver to the king of Israel 100,000 lambs and the wool of 100,000 rams. ⁵ But when Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. ⁶ So King Jehoram marched out of Samaria at that time and mustered all Israel. ⁷ And he went and sent word to Jehoshaphat king of Judah: "The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me to battle against Moab?" And he said, "I will go. I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses." ⁸ Then he said, "By which way shall we march?" Jehoram answered, "By the way of the wilderness of Edom."

⁹ So the king of Israel went with the king of Judah and the king of Edom. And when they had made a circuitous march of seven days, there was no water for the army or for the animals that followed them. ¹⁰ Then the king of Israel said, "Alas! The LORD has called these three kings to give them into the hand of Moab." ¹¹ And Jehoshaphat said, "Is there no prophet of the LORD here, through whom we may inquire of the LORD?" Then one of the king of Israel's servants answered, "Elisha the son of Shaphat is here, who poured water on the hands of Elijah." ¹² And Jehoshaphat said, "The word of the LORD is with him." So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.

¹³ And Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What have I to do with you? Go to the prophets of your father and to the prophets of your mother." But the king of Israel said to him, "No; it is the LORD who has called these three kings to give them into the hand of Moab." ¹⁴ And Elisha

said, "As the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, were it not that I have regard for Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would neither look at you nor see you. ¹⁵ But now bring me a musician." And when the musician played, the hand of the LORD came upon him. ¹⁶ And he said, "Thus says the LORD, 'I will make this dry streambed full of pools.' ¹⁷ For thus says the LORD, 'You shall not see wind or rain, but that streambed shall be filled with water, so that you shall drink, you, your livestock, and your animals.' ¹⁸ This is a light thing in the sight of the LORD. He will also give the Moabites into your hand, ¹⁹ and you shall attack every fortified city and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree and stop up all springs of water and ruin every good piece of land with stones." ²⁰ The next morning, about the time of offering the sacrifice, behold, water came from the direction of Edom, till the country was filled with water.

²¹ When all the Moabites heard that the kings had come up to fight against them, all who were able to put on armor, from the youngest to the oldest, were called out and were drawn up at the border. ²² And when they rose early in the morning and the sun shone on the water, the Moabites saw the water opposite them as red as blood. ²³ And they said, "This is blood; the kings have surely fought together and struck one another down. Now then, Moab, to the spoil!" ²⁴ But when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose and struck the Moabites, till they fled before them. And they went forward, striking the Moabites as they went. ²⁵ And they overthrew the cities, and on every good piece of land every man threw a stone until it was covered. They stopped every spring of water and felled all the good trees, till only its stones were left in Kir-hareseth, and the slingers surrounded and attacked it. ²⁶ When the king of Moab saw that the battle was going against him, he took with him 700 swordsmen to break through, opposite the king of Edom, but they could not. ²⁷ Then he took his oldest son who was to reign in his place and offered him for a burnt offering on the wall. And there came great wrath against Israel. And they withdrew from him and returned to their own land.

Sermon: The LORD, Sovereign over Nations

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

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,
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Benediction – Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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. 9/13	9:00 am	Sunday School	Aquarium
Sun. 9/13	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/13	11:30 am	2 nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Area
Sun. 9/13	12:00 pm	Young Adult Bible Study	Classroom 1
Tues. 9/15	9:30 am	Women’s Bible Study	Aquarium
Tues. 9/15	11:00 am	Prayer Gathering	Classroom 1
Tues. 9/15	7:00 pm	Women’s Bible Study	Zoom
Wed. 9/16	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2
Wed. 9/16	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
Wed. 9/16	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
Wed. 9/16	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/20	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 9/20	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/20	11:30 am	Called Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/20	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members’ Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2026	\$315,000.00	\$343,326.63
Week of 9/6/26	\$8,750.00	\$10,760.39

Announcements

❖ Sunday School Classes:

- **Adults: Genesis 12-50, The Patriarchs.** Meet in the Aquarium.
- **Adults: Christ of the Covenants:** Starting next week in classroom 2, another adult Sunday school class will be offered. Wayne Blanding will teach a class on O. Palmer Robertson's book, *Christ of the Covenants*. This book defines what a covenant is and examines how the idea of God making a covenant with His people, through His son Jesus, is a thread weaving together the Bible as a cohesive whole.
- **Children and Youth:** Classes will begin next week.

❖ **Women's Bible Study:** If you have not ordered a book, you are still welcome to come to the study of *Revelation* beginning **this Tues. Sept. 15**. For more information about the study or ordering a book, please contact Marlene Spark or the office.

❖ **Called Congregational Meeting:** New Life will be holding a congregational meeting **next Sun. Sept. 20** after the worship service. The purpose is to consider Pastor Justin's resignation request, which was made Sun. Aug. 16.

❖ **Annual Voices Women's Retreat:** This retreat is for women survivors of domestic abuse and will be taking place at Providence Presbyterian Church on **Sat. Nov. 7** from 9am-4:15pm. There is also a **Fri. Nov. 6** evening program which is open to everyone from 6:30-8pm. For more information, visit yorkpca.org/voices-retreat.

❖ **Voices Retreat Votive Gifts:** Are you interested in helping create votive jar favors for this year's Voices Retreat at Providence Presbyterian Church? The jars will be used to decorate the lunch tables and are given to each participant. All supplies and instructions are provided. We will meet at the following times:

- **Wednesdays Sept. 16, 23, & 30** – 10am-12pm @ PPC, room 3
- **Tuesdays Sept. 22 & 29** from 6-7:30pm @ PPC, room 3

Come join the fun as we create and pray over the completed project. Contact Amy Miller or the office.

❖ **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.
- **Scholarships available:** There are scholarships available for the marriage retreat. If you would not be able to go without scholarship help, please do apply for a scholarship. Please contact Jerry Grim for more information.



Groups for Fellowship and Growth

Christian Education: Adults, join us in the Aquarium for our Sunday school class focusing on Genesis 12-50: The Patriarchs. Children and youth Sunday school will begin **Sept. 20**.

Women's Bible Study: Beginning **Tues. Sept. 15**, all women of the church and their friends are welcome to attend a 10-week study, *Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom*, by Jen Wilkin. Daytime group meetings occur in the church Aquarium Room on Tuesdays 9:30-11am, or you can attend 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 a group of women who meet every Wednesday morning from 9am-11am. Children are welcome as they will have their own age-appropriate class to attend. Contact Joy Swanson or the office.

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 Gathering: NLPC has two ongoing opportunities dedicated to prayer. 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. 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.