



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

September 27, 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 27, 2026

Reflection – from Os Guinness, *Fool's Talk*

“The fool bearer, the person who is not actually a fool at all, but who is prepared to be seen and treated as a fool – the ‘fool for Christ’s sake.’ Those last four words go back to a famous passage in St. Paul’s letter to the church in the Greek city of Corinth (I Corinthians 4:10), where he was defending his standing before the church as an apostle. Not for one moment did he consider that he and his fellow apostles were really fools, but the Corinthians thought so because they saw themselves as superior. They thought too highly of themselves, so when they disagreed with the apostles, they disparaged the apostles as fools.”

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – 2 Corinthians 1:3-5, 20

Minister: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

People: Our Father of mercies and God of all comfort.

Minister: Who comforts us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction,

People: with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by you, our God.

Minister: We share abundantly in Christ’s sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.

All: For all the promises of God find their Yes in Jesus Christ. That is why through Him we utter our Amen to you, God, for your glory.

Prayer of Praise

Come Thou Fount

1. Come, Thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of
 2. Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; Hith - er by Thy help I'm come; And I
 3. O, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be! Let Thy

5

D A D G D A7 D D F#m G

mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise: Teach me some me - lo - dious
 hope, by Thy good pleas - ure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home: Je - sus sought me when a
 grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I

10

G/D D D F#m G D A7 D A D

son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove; Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of
 stran - ger, wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter -
 feel it, prone to leave the God I love; Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; Seal it

15

G D A7 D

Thy re - - deem - - ing love.
 posed His pre - - cious blood.
 for Thy courts a - - bove.

Christ Is Mine Forevermore

Verse 1

Mine are days that God has numbered
I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings

Chorus 1

But mine is hope in my Redeemer
Though I fall His love is sure
For Christ has paid for every failing
I am His forevermore

Verse 2

Mine are tears in times of sorrow
Darkness not yet understood
Through the valley I must travel
Where I see no earthly good

Chorus 2

But mine is peace that flows from heaven
And the strength in times of need
I know my pain will not be wasted
Christ completes His work in me

Verse 3

Mine are days here as a stranger
Pilgrim on a narrow way
One with Christ I will encounter
Harm and hatred for His name

Chorus 3

But mine is armour for this battle
Strong enough to last the war
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore

Chorus 4

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore

Bridge

Come rejoice now O my soul
For His love is my reward
Fear is gone and hope is sure
Christ is mine forevermore
(REPEAT)

Chorus 4

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore
Christ is mine forevermore

"Christ Is Mine Forevermore" words and music by Jonny
Robinson and Rich Thompson
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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 – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Bryan McGahan

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession – adapted from *The Valley of Vision*

O Lord of Grace, the world is before us this day, and we are weak and fearful, but we look to you for strength. Too often we venture forth alone in our wisdom and our strength so that we stumble and fall. As we listen to the treachery of our own hearts, we shame your name. Be our arm to support, our strength to stand, our light to see, our shield to protect. We urge Christ's saving name as the one who died for us. We plead His blood to pay our debts of wrong, accept His worthiness for our unworthiness. For it is in that name of Christ, we pray, Amen.

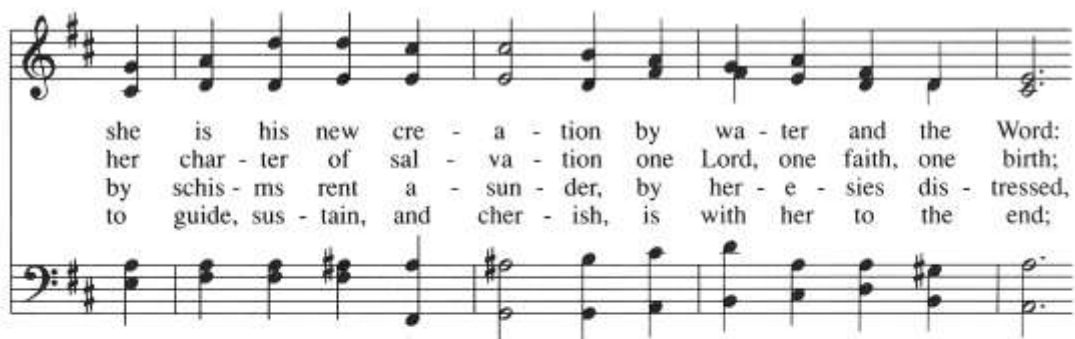
Assurance of Forgiveness – 1 John 2:1-2

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.

The Church's One Foundation



1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4. The church shall nev - er per - ish! Her dear Lord to de - fend,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word:
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end;



from heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 a - gainst or foe or trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.

Prayers of the People

Ministry Moment – Voices

Ellen Metzger

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 5

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. ² Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." ⁵ And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."

So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. ⁶ And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷ And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me."

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, it is a great word the prophet

has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

¹⁵ Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, “Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant.” ¹⁶ But he said, “As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none.” And he urged him to take it, but he refused. ¹⁷ Then Naaman said, “If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the LORD. ¹⁸ In this matter may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon your servant in this matter.” ¹⁹ He said to him, “Go in peace.”

But when Naaman had gone from him a short distance, ²⁰ Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, “See, my master has spared this Naaman the Syrian, in not accepting from his hand what he brought. As the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him.”

²¹ So Gehazi followed Naaman. And when Naaman saw someone running after him, he got down from the chariot to meet him and said, “Is all well?” ²² And he said, “All is well. My master has sent me to say, ‘There have just now come to me from the hill country of Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets. Please give them a talent of silver and two changes of clothing.’” ²³ And Naaman said, “Be pleased to accept two talents.” And he urged him and tied up two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothing, and laid them on two of his servants. And they carried them before Gehazi. ²⁴ And when he came to the hill, he took them from their hand and put them in the house, and he sent the men away, and they departed.

²⁵ He went in and stood before his master, and Elisha said to him, “Where have you been, Gehazi?” And he said, “Your servant went nowhere.” ²⁶ But he said to him, “Did not my heart go when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Was it a time to accept money and garments, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male servants and female servants? ²⁷ Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and to your descendants forever.” So he went out from his presence a leper, like snow.

Sermon: That You Might Know

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

Cornerstone

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name
(REPEAT)

Chorus

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

Chorus

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

Verse 3

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

Chorus

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all
(REPEAT)

"Cornerstone" words and music by Edward Mote, Eric Liljero,
Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder Bradbury
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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. 9/27	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 9/27	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/27	11:30 am	Town Hall Discussion	Sanctuary
Sun. 9/27	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Swanson Home
Sun. 9/27	6:00 pm	Town Hall Discussion	Sanctuary
Tues. 9/29	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study	Aquarium
Tues. 9/29	11:00 am	Prayer Gathering	Classroom 1
Tues. 9/29	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Zoom
Wed. 9/30	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2
Wed. 9/30	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
Wed. 9/30	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sat. 10/3	11:00 am	Town Hall Discussion	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/4	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 10/4	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/4	11:30 am	Giant cards for sale	Foyer
Sun. 10/4	11:45 am	Inquirers Class	Classroom 1
Sun. 10/4	11:45 am	Parents & Youth Meeting	Aquarium
Sun. 10/4	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2026	\$332,500.00	\$354,199.01
Week of 9/20/26	\$8,750.00	\$6,070.99

Announcements

- ❖ **Inquirers' Class:** For those interested in learning more about New Life's history, core beliefs, practices, and membership, please consider attending an Inquirers' Class, which will meet for 5 weeks. The class begins on **Sun. Oct. 4** at 11:45am in classroom 1.
- ❖ **Parents & Youth Meeting:** On **Sun. Oct. 4** at 11:45am, parents and youth (6-12th grades) are invited to meet in the Aquarium room to discuss youth group plans for the year.
- ❖ **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:** The dates scheduled for creating votive gifts for the Voices retreat have been canceled. All gifts have been assembled. Thanks to all who helped!
- ❖ **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, or in Classroom 2 for a class on *Christ of the Covenants*. Children and youth meet in the following rooms: PK-1st grade – Classroom 5; 2nd-5th grade – Classroom 4; 6th-8th grade – Classroom 3; 9th-12th grade – Classroom 1.

Women's Bible Study: We meet in the Aquarium room on Tuesday mornings or via Zoom on Tuesday evenings. 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 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 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.

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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