



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

October 18, 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

October 18, 2026

Reflection – from G. K. Beale, *Redemptive Reversals* (p. 151)

“We live in a world where visible circumstances lure us to the opposite of what God wills and tempt us to trust in what appears before our eyes (unlike Joseph, who responded well, see Gen. 39). Appearances are often deceiving, since there is a spiritual reality underlying this physical world (2 Kings 6:12-18). Consequently, irony lies at the foundation of our faith, since God’s word calls us to live the opposite of what seems to face us in life.”

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – Galatians 1:3-5

Minister: *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,*

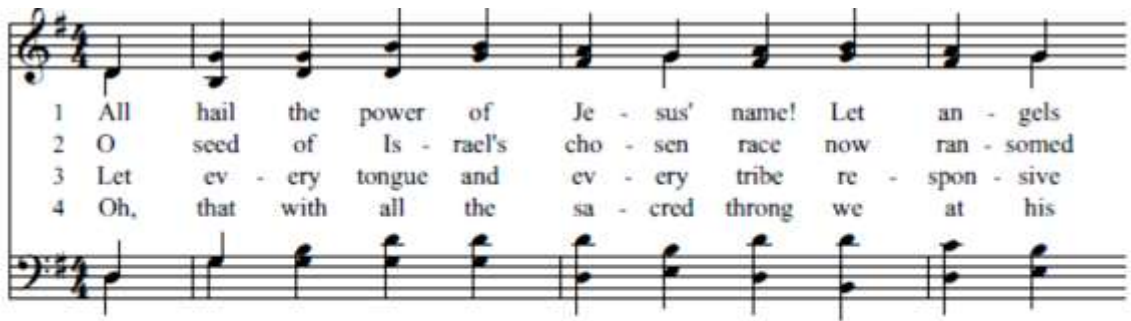
People: **Who gave Himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age,**

Minister: *According to the will of our God and Father,*

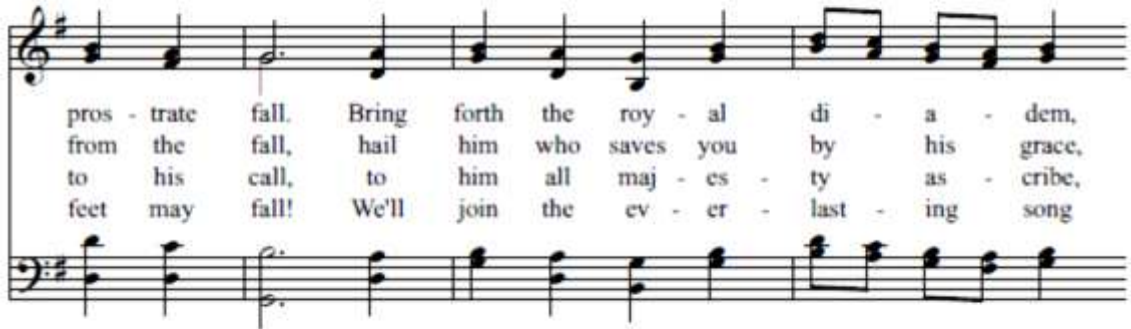
All: ***To whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.***

Prayer of Praise

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



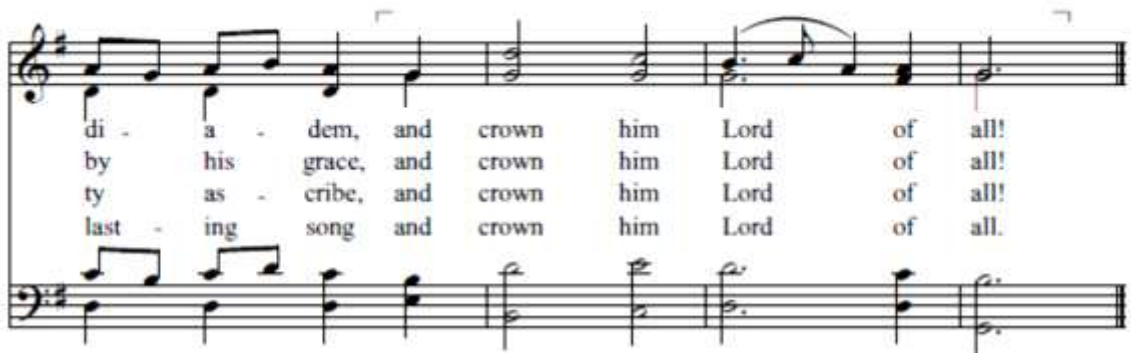
1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - some,
 3 Let ev - ery tongue and ev - ery tribe re - spon - sive
 4 Oh, that with all the sa - cred throng we at his



pros - trate fall. Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem,
 from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace,
 to his call, to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe,
 feet may fall! We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song



and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the roy - al
 and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you
 and crown him Lord of all. To him all maj - es -
 and crown him Lord of all. We'll join the ev - er -



di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!
 last - ing song and crown him Lord of all.

His Glory and My Good

Verse 1

I have seen my Father's glory
Revealed in Jesus Christ
And the more that I behold Him
The more He satisfies
When I gaze upon His beauty
When I see Him as I should
Then my eyes are lifted upward
For His glory and my good

Verse 2

There is hope in every trial
For I can trust the Lord
He will turn my heart towards Him
And help me bear the thorn
So in faith I follow Jesus
On the road not understood
For I know that He is working
For His glory and my good

Chorus 1

To our God be the glory
To our God be praise
He alone the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God
For I know His glory is my good

Verse 3

See the open arms of Jesus
Upon the cross that day
What they understood as weakness
Deserves my every praise
For the charge that was against me
It was nailed into the wood
Yes I know that He has saved me
For His glory and my good

Chorus 1

To our God be the glory
To our God be praise
He alone the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God
For I know His glory is my good

Verse 4

Would I gladly be made nothing
That Christ would be made more
Would I seek the only kingdom
That far outweighs them all
I will stand before my Father
Where the faithful saints have stood
And with joy my heart shall praise Him
For His glory and my good
And with joy my heart shall praise Him
For His glory and my good

Chorus 2

To our God be the glory
To our God be praise
He alone the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God
For I know His glory is my good
(REPEAT)

Tag

Yes I know His glory is my good

"His Glory And My Good" words and music by Ben Fielding,
Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson
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Music
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Affirmation of Faith – Belgic Confession (1561), Article 26: The Intercession of Christ

We believe that we have no access to God except through the one and only Mediator and Intercessor: Jesus Christ the Righteous. He therefore was made man, uniting together the divine and human natures, so that we human beings might have access to the divine Majesty. Otherwise we would have no access. But this Mediator, whom the Father has appointed between himself and us, ought not terrify us by his greatness, so that we have to look for another one, according to our fancy. For neither in heaven nor among the creatures on earth is there anyone who loves us more than Jesus Christ does.

Scripture Reading – Philippians 1:3-11

Elder Wayne Blanding

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

Our Lord, you have done such great things; because of your love and faithfulness you have brought many restorations in our lives, including the greatest of all, to be reconciled to you through the work of Christ. Forgive us for being swallowed up by anxiety or despair or distraction by the world, or losing our vision of Who you are, what you have done, and of your active, real presence in our lives always. As Elisha of old brought vision of you to the people, help us today to both see our own sinfulness and your mercy to forgive us, because of Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – Hebrews 10:22-23

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Living Hope

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness
Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom
such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah
praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 3

Then came the morning
that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
(REPEAT)
Jesus Yours is the victory

Chorus

Hallelujah
praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope
(REPEAT)

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

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Prayers of the People

Missions Moment

Roxanne Malick

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 8:1-15

8 Now Elisha had said to the woman whose son he had restored to life, "Arise, and depart with your household, and sojourn wherever you can, for the LORD has called for a famine, and it will come upon the land for seven years." ² So the woman arose and did according to the word of the man of God. She went with her household and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years. ³ And at the end of the seven years, when the woman returned from the land of the Philistines, she went to appeal to the king for her house and her land. ⁴ Now the king was talking with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me all the great things that Elisha has done." ⁵ And while he was telling the king how Elisha had restored the dead to life, behold, the woman whose son he had restored to life appealed to the king for her house and her land. And Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, here is the woman, and here is her son whom Elisha restored to life." ⁶ And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed an official for her, saying, "Restore all that was hers, together with all the produce of the fields from the day that she left the land until now."

⁷ Now Elisha came to Damascus. Ben-hadad the king of Syria was sick. And when it was told him, "The man of God has come here," ⁸ the king said to Hazael, "Take a present with you and go to meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD through him, saying, 'Shall I recover from this sickness?'" ⁹ So Hazael went to meet him, and took a present with him, all kinds of goods of Damascus, forty camels' loads. When he came and stood before him, he said, "Your son Ben-hadad king of Syria has sent me to you, saying, 'Shall I recover from this sickness?'" ¹⁰ And Elisha said to him, "Go, say to him, 'You shall certainly recover,' but the LORD has shown me that he shall certainly die." ¹¹ And he fixed his gaze and stared at him, until he was embarrassed. And the man of God wept. ¹² And Hazael said, "Why does my lord weep?" He answered, "Because I know the evil that you will do to the people of Israel. You will set on fire their fortresses, and

you will kill their young men with the sword and dash in pieces their little ones and rip open their pregnant women.” ¹³ And Hazael said, “What is your servant, who is but a dog, that he should do this great thing?” Elisha answered, “The LORD has shown me that you are to be king over Syria.” ¹⁴ Then he departed from Elisha and came to his master, who said to him, “What did Elisha say to you?” And he answered, “He told me that you would certainly recover.” ¹⁵ But the next day he took the bed cloth and dipped it in water and spread it over his face, till he died. And Hazael became king in his place.

Sermon: The Plan of God

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1. Great is Thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther, there is no
 2. Sum-mer and win - ter, and spring-time and har - vest; Sun, moon and
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, Thy own dear

6 C/E C D/A A⁷ D⁷ G G⁷ C G⁷/C C Dm C/E



shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee; Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in man - i - fold
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; Strength for to - day and bright hope for to -

CHORUS

12 Fmaj⁷ F[♯]⁷ C/G G⁷ C G



fail not; As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be. Great is Thy
 wit - ness to Thy great faith - ful-ness, mer - cy and love.
 -mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

18 F/C C A⁷ Gm/D Dm G⁷ C Cm⁶ G/D D⁷



faith-ful-ness! Great is Thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer - cies I

24 G G⁷ C G⁷/C C Dm C/E Fmaj⁷



see; All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed-



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Benediction – 1 Peter 5:10-11

The God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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. 10/18	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 10/18	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/18	11:45 am	Inquirers’ Class	Classroom 1
Sun. 10/18	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members’ Homes
Tues. 10/20	9:30 am	Women’s Bible Study	Aquarium
Tues. 10/20	11:00 am	Gathered Prayers	Classroom 1
Tues. 10/20	7:00 pm	Women’s Bible Study	Zoom
Wed. 10/21	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2
Wed. 10/21	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
Wed. 10/21	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
Wed. 10/21	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Wed. 10/21	7:00 pm	Keystone Care Team Meeting	Classroom 3
Sun. 10/25	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 10/25	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/25	11:45 am	Inquirers’ Class	Classroom 1
Sun. 10/25	6:00 pm	Young Adult Gathering	Raine Home

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2026	\$358,750.00	\$373,745.65
Week of 10/11/26	\$8,750.00	\$4,459.39

Announcements (page 1 of 2)

- ❖ **Keystone Care Team:** An information meeting will be held at New Life in classroom 3 **this Wed. Oct. 21** at 7pm for anyone interested in joining the New Life Keystone care team. This team supports families fostering vulnerable children. A sign-up sheet is available in the foyer. If you have any questions, please see Micah Raine or Sue Grim.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Encouraging the Ladies of the Voices Retreat:** Ladies, there is a box full of note cards and envelopes on the table in the hallway. I would like to encourage you to take a few and write a note of hope and encouragement to a woman who will be attending the VOICES retreat. There is a large "CARDS" box to place your completed notes in. Please turn them in by November 1. Thank you so much!
- ❖ **Operation Christmas Child:** Join with Samaritan's Purse in sending gift boxes to children around the world! Grab a shoebox and a label from the foyer and fill the box with presents. (Visit samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/ for ideas and instructions and how to pay. \$10 will cover the shipping cost and an additional \$6 will provide the child with the follow-up curriculum "The Greatest Journey.") Be sure to consult the front of your label which will allow you to follow your box! Completed shoeboxes are due back to New Life no later than **Sun. Nov. 15**. Have trouble getting out? If you prefer, you can build/send a box entirely online by visiting the link above.

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.
- **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.

Gathered Prayer: 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.

Young Adults: Young Adults meet on the 2nd Sunday at 12pm in Classroom 1. They also meet on the 4th Sunday at 6pm at the Raine home. Contact Nathan Raine or the office for more information.