



NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

October 4, 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 4, 2026

Reflection – from Anselm, *Proslogion*, chapter 1 (1078 A.D.)

“Man cannot seek God, unless God himself teaches him; nor find Him, unless He reveals Himself. God created man in his image, that he might be mindful of him, think of him, and love him. The believer does not seek to understand, that he may believe, but he believes that he may understand: for unless he believed he would not understand.”

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Erik Swanson

Prelude

Call to Worship – 1 Timothy 6:15-16

Elder Will Pope

Minister: He who is blessed and only Sovereign,

People: The King of kings and Lord of lords,

Minister: Who alone has immortality,

People: Who dwells in unapproachable light,

Minister: Whom no one has ever seen or can see.

All: To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

Prayer of Praise

What a Beautiful Name

Verse 1

You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

Chorus 1

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Verse 2

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now

Chorus 2

What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Bridge 1

Death could not hold You
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

Bridge 2

You have no rival
You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

Chorus 3

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Ending

What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

"What a Beautiful Name" words and music by Ben Fielding and
Brooke Ligertwood
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Fairest Lord Jesus



1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus; Rul - er of all na - ture,
 2. Fair are the mead - ows; Fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3. Fair is the sun - shine; Fair - er still the moon - light
 4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

5 D G D A/C# D A/E D A D/F#



O Thou of God and man the Son. Thee will I
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring. Je - sus is
 and all the twin - kling star - ry host. Je - sus shines
 Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and

10 B Em A⁷ D



cher - ish; Thee will I hon - or, Thou
 fair - er; Je - sus is pur - er, who
 bright - er; Je - sus shines pur - er than
 hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now

13 D/F# G D/A A⁷ D



my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 all the an - gels heav'n can boast.
 and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

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 – 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

Elder Joe Heidler

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

Open our eyes, Lord, that we might see our sinful failings and your amazing grace. We confess our lack of spiritual sight as we are confounded by our own selfish vision and the distractions around us. Both forgiveness and vision of the eternal are found in our Savior, help us to see anew. Thanks be to you, O God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus 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.

Be Thou My Vision

1. Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my true heart
 2. Be Thou my wis - dom and Thou true Word
 3. Rich - es I heed not and man's emp - ty praise
 4. High King of hea - ven my vic - to - ry won

5 Naught be ev - all else to me save that Thou art
 I mine in - with Thee and Thou now with me Lord
 Thou May I reach her - it - ance joys, O bright heaven's al - ways
 sun

9 Thou my best thought by day or by night
 Thou my great Fa - ther and Thy true son
 Thou and of Thou my own heart ly in my be - heart
 Heart of my my own heart what - first ev - er my be - fall

13 Wa - king or sleep - ing Thy pres - ence my light
 Thou in King dwell - ing and my I trea - sure Thee one
 High King of my vis - ion, O Rul - er of all
 Still be my vis - ion, O Rul - er of all

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: 2 Kings 6:1-23

⁶ Now the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, “See, the place where we dwell under your charge is too small for us. ² Let us go to the Jordan and each of us get there a log, and let us make a place for us to dwell there.” And he answered, “Go.” ³ Then one of them said, “Be pleased to go with your servants.” And he answered, “I will go.” ⁴ So he went with them. And when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees. ⁵ But as one was felling a log, his axe head fell into the water, and he cried out, “Alas, my master! It was borrowed.” ⁶ Then the man of God said, “Where did it fall?” When he showed him the place, he cut off a stick and threw it in there and made the iron float. ⁷ And he said, “Take it up.” So he reached out his hand and took it.

⁸ Once when the king of Syria was warring against Israel, he took counsel with his servants, saying, “At such and such a place shall be my camp.” ⁹ But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, “Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are going down there.” ¹⁰ And the king of Israel sent to the place about which the man of God told him. Thus he used to warn him, so that he saved himself there more than once or twice.

¹¹ And the mind of the king of Syria was greatly troubled because of this thing, and he called his servants and said to them, “Will you not show me who of us is for the king of Israel?” ¹² And one of his servants said, “None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom.” ¹³ And he said, “Go and see where he is, that I may send and seize him.” It was told him, “Behold, he is in Dothan.” ¹⁴ So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city.

¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” ¹⁶ He said, “Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” ¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed and said, “O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see.” So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. ¹⁸ And when the Syrians came down against him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, “Please strike this people with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Elisha. ¹⁹ And Elisha said to them, “This is not the way, and this is not the city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek.” And he led them to Samaria.

²⁰ As soon as they entered Samaria, Elisha said, “O LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see.” So the LORD opened their eyes and they saw, and behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. ²¹ As soon as the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, “My father, shall I strike them down? Shall I strike them down?” ²² He answered, “You shall not strike them down. Would you strike down those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink and go to their master.”

²³ So he prepared for them a great feast, and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them

away, and they went to their master. And the Syrians did not come again on raids into the land of Israel.

Sermon: The Mercy 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

Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er more shalt be,
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

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. 10/4	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 10/4	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/4	11:15 am	Giant cards for sale	Foyer
Sun. 10/4	11:45 am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/4	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes
Tues. 10/6	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study	Aquarium
Tues. 10/6	11:00 am	Prayer Gathering	Classroom 1
Tues. 10/6	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Zoom
Wed. 10/7	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2
Wed. 10/7	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
Wed. 10/7	7:00 pm	Youth Discipleship	Classroom 1
Wed. 10/7	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/11	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
Sun. 10/11	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
Sun. 10/11	11:30 am	2 nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Area
Sun. 10/11	11:45 am	Inquirers' Class	Classroom 1
Sun. 10/11	11:45 am	Parents & Youth Meeting	Aquarium

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2026	\$341,250.00	\$358,575.07
Week of 9/27/26	\$8,750.00	\$4,376.06

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. 11** at 11:45am in classroom 1.
- ❖ **Parents & Youth Meeting:** On **Sun. Oct. 11** 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.
- ❖ **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!
- ❖ **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.

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.

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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