NEW LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

November 8, 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

November 8, 2026

Reflection

"It only makes sense to talk about 'knowing God' if it is actually possible for God to be known. There are religions and philosophies which do not accept such a possibility. The Bible insists throughout that the living God of whom it speaks not only can be known, but wills to be known. And far from leaving it up to us to get to know Him through some game of religious hide and seek, this God takes the initiative in revealing Himself to us. God can be known because God has spoken."

– from Christopher J.H. Wright, *Knowing God as Father through the Old Testament*

Welcome and Announcements *Pastor Erik Swanson*
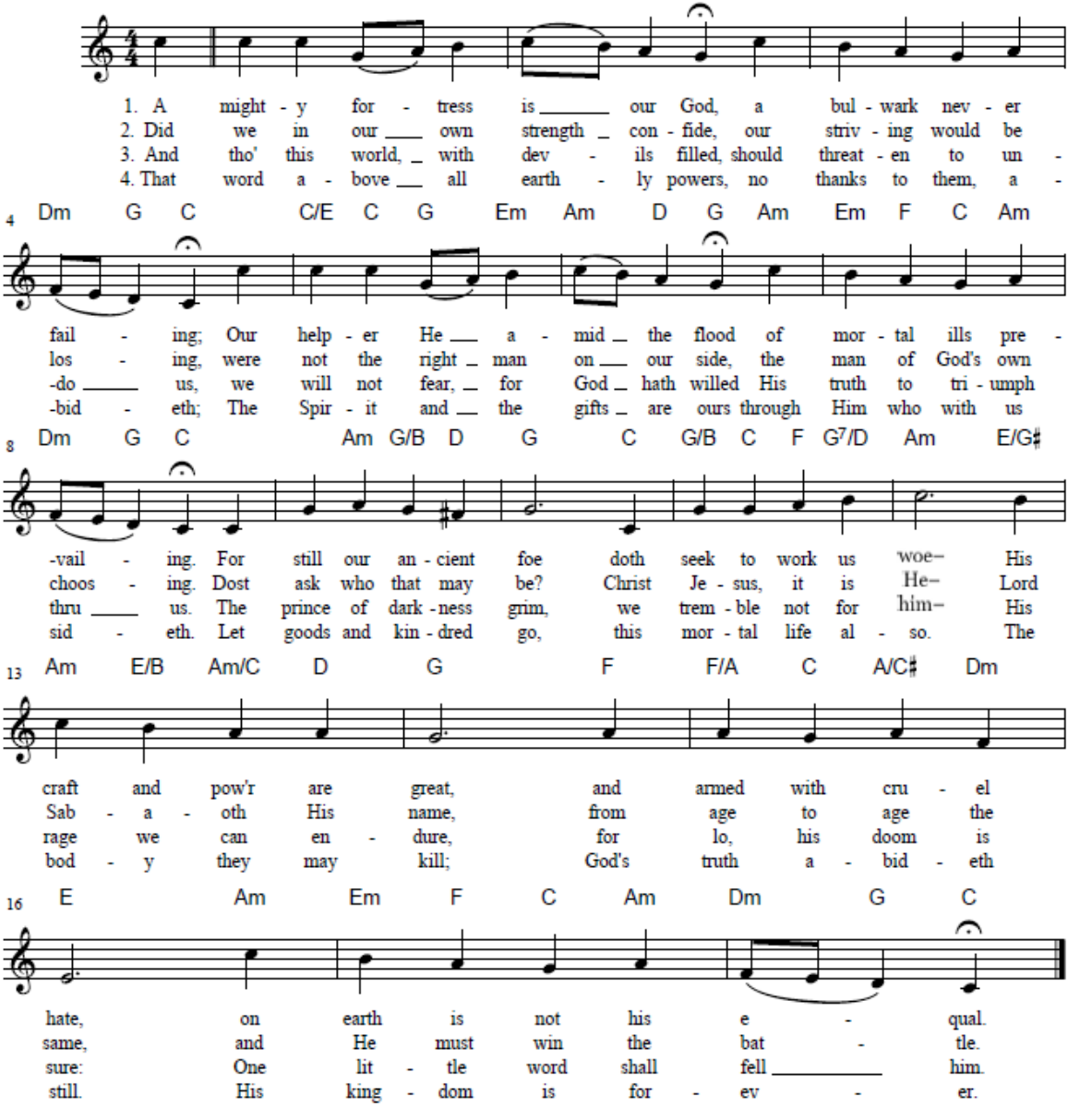
Prelude

Call to Worship – I Timothy 6:15-16 *Elder Wayne Blanding*

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.***

Prayer of Praise

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



Stronger

Verse 1
There is Love that came for us
Humbled to a sinner's cross
You broke my shame and sinfulness
You rose again victorious

Verse 2
Faithfulness none can deny
Through the storm and through the fire
There is truth that sets me free
Jesus Christ who lives in me

Chorus
You are stronger
You are stronger
Sin is broken
You have saved me
It is written
Christ is risen
Jesus You are Lord of all

Verse 3
No beginning and no end
You're my hope and my defense
You came to seek and save the lost
You paid it all upon the cross

Chorus
You are stronger
You are stronger
Sin is broken
You have saved me
It is written
Christ is risen
Jesus You are Lord of all

Bridge
So let Your Name be lifted higher
Be lifted higher
Be lifted higher
(REPEAT 4X)

Chorus
You are stronger
You are stronger
Sin is broken
You have saved me
It is written
Christ is risen
Jesus You are Lord of all
(REPEAT)

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Affirmation of Faith – adapted from Revelation 5:4-12

With the Hosts of Heaven, we affirm that our Lord Jesus Christ is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, who has conquered so that He can open the scroll and its seven seals. Worthy are you, Lamb of God, to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth. Worthy are you, the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! Amen!

Scripture Reading – Hebrews 1:1-9 *Kevin St. John*

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.
All: Thanks be to God!
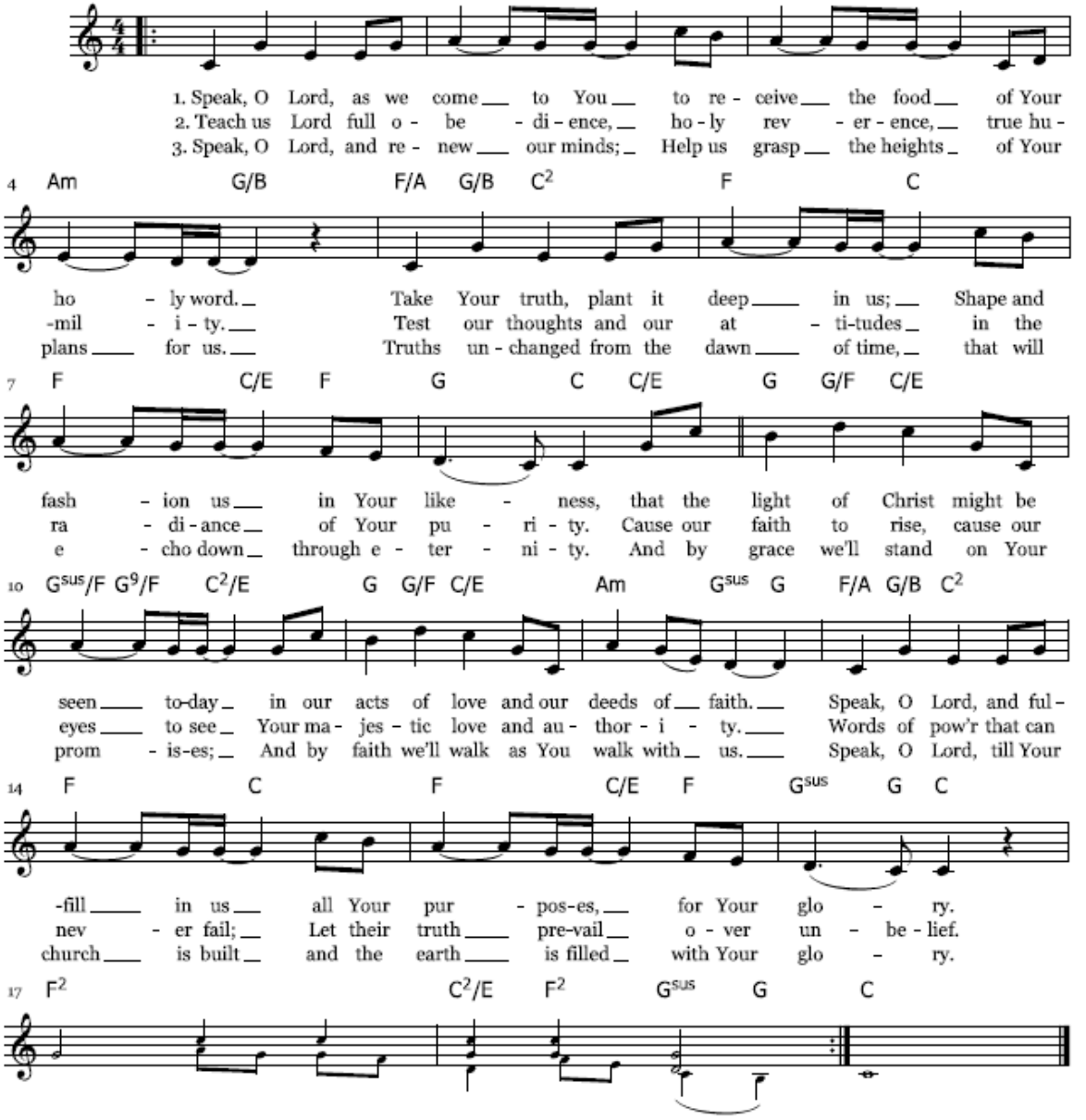
Prayer of Confession – from Martin Luther

Lord God, I have indeed transgressed your commandments. I have been impatient in reverses and trials. I am unsympathetic and unmerciful. I do not help my neighbor. I am unable to resist sin. I do not tire of doing wrong. Dear Lord, pour out your grace to me and give me your Holy Spirit so that I may be obedient and keep each of your commandments. Help me to be at odds with the world and to give my heart and soul to you. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness – Romans 4:7-8

Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.

Speak O Lord



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Prayers of the People

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: Deuteronomy 18:9-22

9 "When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to
follow the abominable practices of those nations. 10 There shall not be found among you
anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or
tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer 11 or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer
or one who inquires of the dead, 12 for whoever does these things is an abomination to the
LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you.
13 You shall be blameless before the LORD your God, 14 for these nations, which you are about
to dispossess, listen to fortune-tellers and to diviners. But as for you, the LORD your God has
not allowed you to do this.
15 "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your
brothers—it is to him you shall listen— 16 just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on
the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God
or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' 17 And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what
they have spoken. 18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I
will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. 19 And
whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of
him. 20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded
him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.' 21 And if
you say in your heart, 'How may we know the word that the LORD has not spoken?'— 22 when a
prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that
is a word that the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need
not be afraid of him.

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

How Great Thou Art

Verse 1
O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made
I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thru'out
The universe displayed

Chorus
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

Verse 2
When through the woods
and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees,
when I look down
from lofty mountain
grandeur,
and hear the brook
and feel the gentle breeze;

Chorus
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

Verse 3
And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin

Chorus
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

Verse 4
When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

Chorus
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

"How Great Thou Art" words and music by
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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. 11/8	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
	11:30 am	2nd Sunday Lunch	Fellowship Area
	11:45 am	Inquirers Class	Classroom 1
	11:45 am	Advent Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Tues. 11/10	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study	Aquarium
	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Zoom
Wed. 11/11	9:00 am	Moms+	Classroom 2
	9:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Classroom 1
	7:00 pm	Music Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Gathered Prayers	Classroom 3
	7:00 pm	Missions Meeting	Aquarium
Sun. 11/15	9:00 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Classrooms
	10:00 am	Corporate Worship	Sanctuary
	11:45 am	Youth Discipleship	Classrooms 1 & 5
	11:45 am	Advent Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	6:00 pm	Community Groups	Members' Homes

Church Financial Summary

Category	Budget	Actual
Year to Date 2026	$385,000.00	$399,150.35
Week of 11/1/26	$8,750.00	$12,333.53

Announcements

- **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.
- **Sharing Lessons Learned:** In learning what we can from the events of the summer, the session would like to share "lessons learned" with any from the congregation who want to be part of that discussion. To that end, the session is scheduling two "town hall" discussions: one on **Sun. Nov. 29** at 11:30am and the other on **Sun. Dec. 6** at 11:30am. In terms of what the session plans to share, the content of these discussions will be the same. Please meet in the aquarium classroom.
- **Advent Children's Choir:** All singers age 4 through 8th grade are invited to participate in our 2026 Advent children's choir. Rehearsals will begin about 15 minutes after worship ends on Sundays Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and Dec. 6. The children will sing in worship on **Sun. Dec. 13**. Questions? Please contact either Ellen Metzger or Jenn Ryan. We hope to see you there!

- **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:** $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 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.

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 Prayers: 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 with any questions.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF): Contact Elder Will Pope 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 4th Sunday at 6pm, usually at the Raine home. Contact Nathan Raine or the office for more information.