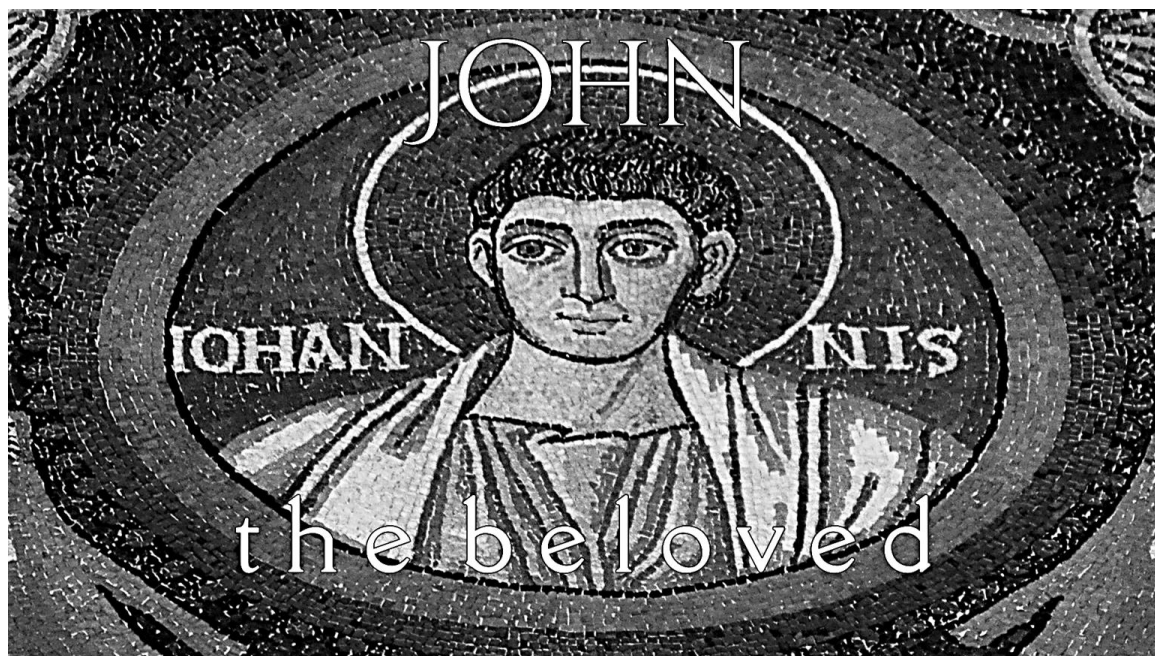


NEW LIFE



THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 12, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Thank you for joining us for worship today. We welcome you into our fellowship as together we gather in the presence of God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

If you are a visitor, please take a moment to scan the QR code below and fill out the form.

We want to acknowledge your presence today with a note of thanks. Please let us know if there is a way we may be of help or encouragement to you today.

If you have any prayer requests or concerns, questions about your faith or the Christian life, if you have updates to your contact information, or if there is anything you need to communicate, please note those remarks on the form.



On the front cover: St. John the Apostle, the Basilica of St. Apollinaris, Ravenna, Italy

WORSHIP MEDITATIONS

In Jesus Christ what is eternal and transcendent has become palpably immanent.

-Robert Yarbrough

The point of 1 John 1:1-4 is that Jesus really was with us, that the eternally preexistent Son of God was here! God knows firsthand the joys and sorrows, the trials and temptations, the hopes and fears of being human. The gospel message of the apostles originated in their encounter with the God-man.

-Karen Jobes

It is said that in this persecution the apostle and evangelist John, who was still alive, was condemned to dwell on the island of Patmos in consequence of his testimony to the divine word. But after Domitian had reigned fifteen years, and Nerva had succeeded to the empire, the Roman Senate, according to the writers that record the history of those days, voted that Domitian's honors should be cancelled, and that those who had been unjustly banished should return to their homes and have their property restored to them. It was at this time that the apostle John returned from his banishment in the island and took up his abode at Ephesus, according to an ancient Christian tradition. After Nerva had reigned a little more than a year he was succeeded by Trajan. At that time the apostle and evangelist John, the one whom Jesus loved, was still living in Asia, and governing the churches of that region, having returned after the death of Domitian from his exile on the island. And that he was still alive at that time may be established by the testimony of two witnesses. They should be trustworthy who have maintained the orthodoxy of the Church; and such indeed were Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria. The former in the second book of his work *Against Heresies*, writes as follows: "And all the elders that associated with John the disciple of the Lord in Asia bear witness that John delivered it to them. For he remained among them until the time of Trajan."

-Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book III, 4th c.

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY + LENT + EASTER + PENTECOST + TRINITY

The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek word that means "to reveal." Thus, the season of Epiphany is about the revealing of Jesus as the Son of God and Savior of the World. Historically three main events from Jesus' life are commemorated during Epiphany season: the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and the Transfiguration of Jesus. All three of these events in their own way reveal something about the glory and worship of Christ. We continue to use white and gold as our primary colors during Epiphany to emphasize the shining glory of the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world.

THE WORSHIP OF ALMIGHTY GOD

GREETING

Blessed be God: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us go to his dwelling place;

let us worship at his footstool!

-Ps. 132:7

Let us pray.

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP

[The Lord] brought me to the banqueting house,

and his banner over me was love.

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,

your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;

your judgments are like the great deep;

man and beast you save, O Lord.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house,

and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life;

In your light do we see light.

- Song of Solomon 2:4; Psalm 36:5–9

BE THOU MY VISION

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true
word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

3. Be thou my battle shield, sword for my
fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight, ➔

thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r;
raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my
pow'r.

4. Riches I heed not, nor mans empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

5. High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's
Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: 8th c. Irish
Translated by: Mary E. Byrne, 1905
Music: Traditional Irish Melody
Arranged by: David Evans, 1927

READING

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- *John 1:9-14*

LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL



1. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, Thy day of march has come;
2. Lead on, O King c - ter - nal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease,



Hence-forth in fields of con - quest, Thy tents shall be our home.
And ho - li-ness shall whis - per the sweet "A - men" of peace.



Through days of pre - par-a - tion, Thy grace has made us strong
For not with swords loud clash - ing, Nor roll of stir - ring drums;



And now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
With deeds of love and mer - cy, the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.



Chorus

So lead on, O King, Lead on, O King,



Lead on, O King, Lead on!

3. Lead on, O King eternal,
We follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning,
Where'er Thy face appears.

Thy cross is lifted over us,
We journey in its light;
The crown awaits the conquest;
Lead on, O God of might.

Chorus 2x.

*Words: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1887
Music: Jeff Pardo, 2005; Arranged by: Nathan Carico*

CONFESSING OUR SINS

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *-John 8:12*

A new commandment I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. ⁹ Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. ¹⁰ Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹ But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes. *-1 John 2:8-11*

Let us then confess our sins unto God, our Maker:

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.

Continue to confess your sins silently before the Lord.

RECEIVING ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you. *-Eph. 5:14*

I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake. *-1 John 2:12*

Glory to God in the highest!
And peace to His people on earth.

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

1. The splendor of the King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice
All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
And trembles at His voice

Chorus

**How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God**

2. And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb
[Chorus]

Bridge

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

Words and Music: Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dear God, thank you for giving us so many good things. You give us food to eat, clothes to wear, homes to live in, and family to care of us. In all that you have given us, help us in our gratitude to remember to give back to you. Amen.

PRAISES AND PETITIONS

Please see page 18 for the prayers this week.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT AND DISMISSAL

All children may come forward for a brief lesson and prayer by Pastor Tim. Then children up to fifth grade are dismissed for an age-appropriate lesson.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

While the children are being dismissed, we will have a brief time of welcome and greeting. You are welcome to "pass the peace of Christ" to one another.

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are visiting, or have a contact update, please scan the QR code below and fill out the form. Please see announcements on page 19.



THE LORD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 JOHN 1:1-5

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you,

so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE PSALM: PSALM 27:1-6; ANTIPHON: I JOHN 1:5

Antiphon: God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

¹ The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

² When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

⁴ One thing have I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,

to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his temple.

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

⁶ And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to
the Holy Spirit
**As it was in the beginning is now and ever
shall be world without end. Amen.**

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 21:20-25

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” ²¹When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” ²²Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!”

²³So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet

Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

²⁴This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

²⁵Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Glory to you, O Lord!

HEARING THE WORD PREACHED

Sermon Title:

“The Beloved”

Sermon Text:

1 John 1:1-4

Sermon Series:

The Beloved: Exposition of the Letters of John

Preacher:

Rev. Dr. Timothy R. LeCroy

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE NICENE CREED

We will say the Nicene Creed during Christmas and Epiphany

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke through the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE OFFERING

New Life is supported by the generous gifts of our church members and friends. If you are visiting, you are not expected to give, but if the Lord has blessed you today and you would like to support our ministry, it would be most appreciated. If you don't have cash or check, you can also give on-line at www.newlifeithaca.org/giving/

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

-- 2 Cor. 9:6-7

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

EUCCHARIST

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is proper and right to do so.

Truly it is proper, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And now we do praise You that You did send unto us Your only-begotten Son and that in Him, being found in fashion as a man, You did manifest the fullness of Your glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, and with the Church on earth, we praise and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory!

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER

THE ACCLAMATION

For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of Faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor prays a further prayer for the Holy Spirit to bless our communion meal.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven:
Hallowed be Thy Name,
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE INVITATION

New Life Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who trust in Jesus Christ to receive Holy Communion with us.

-If this does not describe you, you are invited to come forward, crossing your arms in front of your chest when you reach the front, to receive a blessing from the pastor.

DISTRIBUTION

The congregation will come forward row-by-row, forming two lines in the center aisle. Cup your hands together to receive the bread, then proceed outwardly to the wine tray. There is juice in the very center and wine on the outside. Then use the outside aisle to return to your seat and wait until we eat and drink together.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*We partake together of the most holy body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
After the communion the pastor prays a prayer of blessing.*

Prayers for Those Not Communing

New Life Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who trust in Jesus to receive Holy Communion with us. If you are not able to receive Communion, please use the time to meditate on one of the following prayers:

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I recognize that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

For Those Struggling with Sin

If you are a baptized believer in Christ who is struggling with sin, you should still come forward for communion. As it says in our Larger Catechism 172:

One who doubteth of his being in Christ, or of his due preparation to the sacrament of the Lord's supper, may have true interest in Christ, though he be not yet assured thereof; and in God's account hath it, if he be duly affected with the apprehension of the want of it, and unfeignedly desires to be found in Christ, and to depart from iniquity: in which case (because promises are made, and this sacrament is appointed, *for the relief even of weak and doubting Christians*) he is to bewail his unbelief, and labour to have his doubts resolved; and, so doing, he may and *ought to come to the Lord's supper, that he may be further strengthened.*

ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS



1. On Jor-dan's stor - my banks I stand, and cast a wishful



2. All o'er thosewide ex - ten - ded plains, shines one e - ter - nal
eye to Can - aan's fair and ha - ppy land, where my po - sses - sions
day; There God, the Son for - ev - er reigns, and sca - ters night a -



Chorus

lie.
- way.

I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for Promised



Land. I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for Promised Land.

3. No chilling winds nor poisonous breath
Can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death,
Are felt and feared no more.

Chorus

4. When shall I reach that happy place,
And be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face,
And in His bosom rest?

Chorus

Chorus

I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land,
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land.

*Words: Samuel Stennett (1787)
Music: Christopher Miner (1997)*

BENEDICTION

The Pastor pronounces a blessing upon the congregation from Scripture.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Words: Thomas Ken, 1674
Music: Louis Bourgeois, 16th c..*

DECLARATION OF PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Go in peace.

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The English Standard Version

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

- **Pray for new church plants in Laos**, for God to **bless their ministries** and **bring many to faith** in spite of **government opposition to the gospel**. **Pray for leaders' hearts to soften** toward the message of Christ.

PCA CHURCHES AND PASTORS IN THE NEW YORK STATE PRESBYTERY

- **Reformed Presbyterian Church, Duaneburg; Anthony Gorsuch, Pastor**

SISTER CHURCHES IN ITHACA

- **Calvary Chapel; Scott Hathorn, pastor**

NEW LIFE ALUMS IN VOCATIONAL MINISTRY

- **Matt Coburn, Trinity Baptist Church in New Haven, CT**

OUTREACH IN LOCAL COMMUNITY

- **Second Wind Cottages** (care for and discipleship of homeless men) in Ithaca: **Carmen Guidi, Sarah Widercrantz, Deb Wilke, Jeff Furst, Lucas Raley**, board members

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

- **President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris; the members of Congress and the Judiciary**

NEW LIFE CHURCH

- **Angela Brodie: Pray** for her as she runs a **Bible translation workshop** from January 10-20. **Pray for safe travels for students**, and encouraging **time of fellowship, discipleship, and learning** with her persecuted brothers and sisters.
- **David Williamson: Pray** for **David's brother-in-law Joe**, who was laid off and is **looking for new employment**.
- **The Helmetsies: Praise** for **Erszi's 7th birthday** last week.
- **Alec Duquette: Pray** for his **roommate Xiao** as he **transfers to Notre Dame** to pursue his studies. **Pray** that he will **find a church** and continue to **grow in his faith** there.
- **Jason Burnham: Pray** for Jason as he **recovers from surgery**, and for **Hannah and Reagan** as they care for him and for their farm. **Praise** that the **surgery was successful**.
- **Praise** that our church's **financial footing** has **improved**, and that **people would continue to give**.

If you do not wish to have praises and requests shared during the worship service printed in the bulletin for the next three weeks, please inform Angela Brodie in an email (angelabrodie@gmail.com).

life @ new life

Welcome Back Reception – January 26

Next Sunday, January 26, please plan to stick around after the service for doughnuts and fellowship!

Congregational Meeting – January 26

Our annual congregational meeting to present the budget, discuss finances, and set the tone for the coming year will be on Sunday, January 26th, convening 30 minutes after the end of the service.

Church Potluck – February 2

On Sunday February 2nd, please plan to stick around after the service for a potluck lunch. A sign-up sheet will be coming soon.

New Life University Returns February 9

We'll have our Spring New Life U class starting Feb. 9th. We will be taking a survey of the entire Bible. Meeting dates are Feb. 9 and 16, and March 9, 16, and 23.

Rotating Dinner Groups

We'll be having two sets of rotating dinner groups this Spring. Three volunteers to host are needed. We'll have sign-ups soon.

Youth Group – January hiatus

Youth group will resume on Friday, February 14. Remember to memorize the first 10 catechism questions!

Morning Prayer & Pastor Tim's "Office Hours" – Tuesdays

Join us on Tuesdays at 7:45AM for a short time of prayer. We will be using the traditional form for the Daily Office, which has confession of sin, psalms, scripture readings, and intercessory prayer; and our time together should last about 20 minutes. Immediately following Morning Prayer on Tuesdays, Pastor Tim will be available at the church for consultation or conversation. Please feel free to stop by.

contact us

Senior Pastor:

The Reverend Dr. Timothy R. LeCroy
tim@newlifeithaca.org

Elder:

David Williamson – david@newlifeithaca.org

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New Life Presbyterian is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Please let us know you worshiped with us today!

We would like to acknowledge your presence with us today. You will not be added to any mailing lists without your permission and we will not share your information with anyone. Please fill this out and place it in the offering when it comes by.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Mobile Number: _____

Prayer Requests: _____

-
- I am an out-of-town visitor.
- I reside locally and I am visiting New Life Church today.
- I would like more information about New Life. Please have someone contact me.
- Please send me more information about: _____
- I would like to meet the pastor for coffee.

Other comments: _____