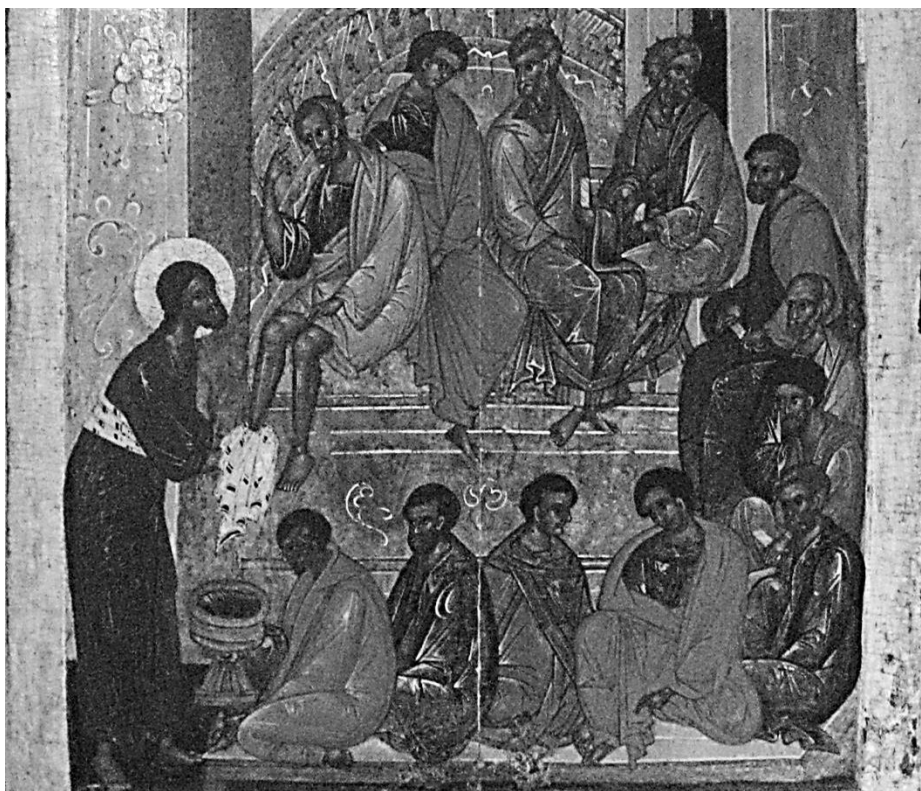


# NEW LIFE



**THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**APRIL 6, 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: Christ washing the feet of the Apostles. Icon of Pskov school, 16<sup>th</sup> c. Russian*

## WORSHIP MEDITATIONS

For small creatures such as we the vastness is bearable only through love.

*-Carl Sagan*

It's strange that words are so inadequate. Yet, like the asthmatic struggling for breath, so the lover must struggle for words.

*-T.S. Eliot*

The fact that we desire at all means that we are essentially incomplete beings. We are unfinished. If we were self-sufficient, if we were our own good, if we were already finished, we would not have any desire. The reason for this is that desire is nothing less than a yearning for a good which we do not possess.

*-Gregory of Nyssa, 4<sup>th</sup> c.*

Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence... Love others as well as you love yourself."

*-Matthew 22:37, 39, The Message*

To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. To love is to be vulnerable.

*-CS Lewis, The Four Loves*

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

Lent is a 40 day season of confession and repentance in preparation for Easter. Christians have been keeping the season of Lent since the 2nd century. During this season Christians typically fast on certain days and abstain from certain things in order shape our hearts and souls towards repentance. The 40 day fast of Lent symbolizes several events in salvation history: Jesus' 40 fast in the wilderness, Israel's 40 year wandering in the desert, the 40 days of rain cleansing the earth during the flood of Noah, among others. The liturgical colors for Lent are purple and black, symbolizing mourning and repentance.

# THE WORSHIP OF ALMIGHTY GOD

## GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

**a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

*-Psalm 51:17*

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

**let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

*-Psalm 95:1*

Let us pray.

## COLLECT

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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

Salvation belongs to the Lord;

**your blessing be on your people!**

But you, O Lord, are a shield about me,

**my glory, and the lifter of my head.**

I cried aloud to the Lord,

**and he answered me from his holy hill.**

I lay down and slept;

**I woke again, for the Lord sustained me.**

I will not be afraid of many thousands of people

**who have set themselves against me all around.**

*- Psalm 3:8, 3-6*

# TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS



1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to take Him at His word;



Just to rest up - on His promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."



*Refrain*

Je - sus, Je - sus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!



Je - sus, Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust Him more!

2. O how sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just to trust his cleansing blood;  
just in simple faith to plunge me  
'neath the healing, cleansing flood!

3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just from sin and self to cease;  
just from Jesus simply taking  
life and rest, and joy and peace. [Refrain]

## **Refrain:**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!**  
**How I've proved him o'er and o'er!**  
**Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!**  
**O for grace to trust him more!**

4. I'm so glad I learned to trust thee,  
precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;  
and I know that thou art with me,  
wilt be with me to the end. [Refrain]

*Words: Louis M. R. Stead, 1882*  
*Music: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1882*

## THE DECALOGUE

And God spoke all these words, saying,

<sup>2</sup> "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

<sup>3</sup> "You shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup> "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup> "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

<sup>8</sup> "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

<sup>12</sup> "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup> "You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup> "You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> "You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup> "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup> "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

- *Exodus 20:1-17*

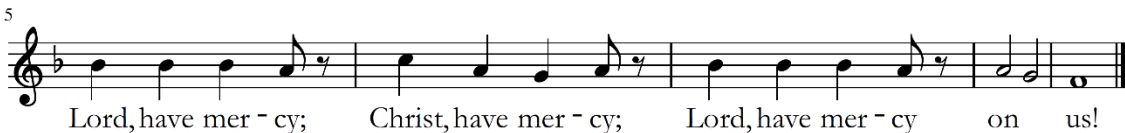
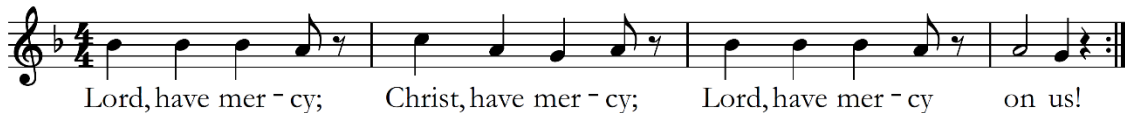
## CONFESSING OUR SINS

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness! <sup>2</sup> Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.

- *Psalms 143:1-2*

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

**God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**



*Continue to confess your sins silently before the Lord.*

## RECEIVING ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

*Music: Music: Steve Merkel, 20<sup>th</sup> c.*

## LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

### **Refrain:**

**Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

*[Back to verse 1]*

2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
leaning on the everlasting arms. **[Refrain]**

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
leaning on the everlasting arms. **[Refrain]**

*Words: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887  
Music: Anthony J. Shwalter, 1887*



## **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Dear Jesus, you commanded your children to love one another. But this can be so hard to do! Help us to love each other. REALLY love each other. So that everyone around can see that you are a good God. We love you. Amen.

## **PRAISES AND PETITIONS**

*Please see page 22 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 23.*



# THE LORD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 JOHN 4:7-17

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

THE PSALM: PSALM 119:25-32; ANTIPHON: 2 JOHN 6

**Antiphon: And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments.**

<sup>25</sup> My soul clings to the dust;  
give me life according to your word!  
<sup>26</sup> When I told of my ways, you answered me;  
teach me your statutes!

**And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments.**

<sup>27</sup> Make me understand the way of your precepts,  
and I will meditate on your wondrous works.  
<sup>28</sup> My soul melts away for sorrow;  
strengthen me according to your word!  
<sup>29</sup> Put false ways far from me  
and graciously teach me your law!

**And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments.**

<sup>30</sup> I have chosen the way of faithfulness;  
I set your rules before me.  
<sup>31</sup> I cling to your testimonies, O Lord;  
let me not be put to shame!  
<sup>32</sup> I will run in the way of your commandments  
when you enlarge my heart!

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.**

**And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments.**

## GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 13:34-38

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

<sup>36</sup>Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am

going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.” <sup>37</sup>Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” <sup>38</sup>Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord!**

## HEARING THE WORD PREACHED

Sermon Title: "This Is Love"  
Sermon Text: 1 John 4:7, 10, 17; 2 John 6  
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Steven Froehlich, Pastor Emeritus

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

### THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. 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/](http://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

# EUCHARIST

## 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 singing:

Ho-ly! Ho-ly! Ho-ly is the Lord! Ho-ly! Ho-ly! Ho-ly is the

8 Lord! Heav'n and earth are full of Your Glo - ry! Ho-ly! Ho-ly!

15 Ho-ly is the Lord! Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na to the Lord! Ho-

22 san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is he who

28 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na to the Lord!

## 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.*

## THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE

1. We are one in the Spirit  
We are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit  
We are one in the Lord  
And we pray that all unity  
May one day be restored

### **Chorus**

**And they'll know we are Christians  
By our love by our love  
Yes they'll know we are Christians  
By our love**

2. We will walk with each other  
We will walk hand in hand  
We will walk with each other  
We will walk hand in hand  
And together well spread the news  
That God is in our land  
*Chorus*

3. We will work with each other  
We will work side by side  
We will work with each other  
We will work side by side  
And well guard each mans dignity  
And save each mans pride  
*Chorus*

4. All praise to the Father  
From whom all things come  
And all praise to Christ Jesus  
His only Son  
And all praise to the Spirit  
Who makes us one  
*Chorus*

*Words and Music: Peter Scholtes, 1966*

## **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: Thomas Tallis, 16<sup>th</sup> 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 the church in **Myanmar** where **buildings are continuing to collapse** as a result of the **recent earthquake**. Pray for millions who have **lost loved ones** and **loved spaces**, for the Lord's provision of **aid, healing, and restoration**.

### PCA CHURCHES AND PASTORS IN THE NEW YORK STATE PRESBYTERY

- **New City Fellowship**, Beechwood (Rochester); **Chris Holdridge**, pastor

### SISTER CHURCHES IN ITHACA

- **Bethel Grove Bible Church**; **Matthew Raley**, lead pastor

### NEW LIFE ALUMS IN VOCATIONAL MINISTRY

- **Will and Julia Dickerson**, OMS in **Budapest, Hungary**

### OUTREACH IN LOCAL COMMUNITY

- **Hannah Eagleson**, **InterVarsity** Graduate Student and Faculty Ministry, **Cornell University**

### GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

- New York State Governor, **Kathy Hochul**; Lieutenant Governor, **Antonio Delgado**; the members of the **Legislature** and the **Judiciary**

### NEW LIFE CHURCH

- Pray for all **New Life alums** working for the federal government, that they would retain their jobs and funding during this time. Pray also for those working at Cornell who may be affected by the related hiring freezes and budget cuts.
- Pray for all the **victims of abuse** in the worldwide **church**, that they will **receive justice and healing**.
- 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](mailto:angelabrodie@gmail.com)).*

# life @ new life

## **Ladies' Bible Study – This Wednesday**

Please join us this Wednesday, April 9 at 11:30am, at Liz Thomforde's home (159 Pleasant Grove Rd.) for a time of Bible study and fellowship! If you can't attend this week, our next meeting will be Saturday, April 26 at 2:30pm, at Ann Williamson's.

## **Session Meeting – This Thursday, 7PM**

Please pray for the leaders of the church as we meet.

## **Youth Group, April 11, 6:30PM**

We'll have youth group a week earlier this month due to Holy Week, so please come THIS Friday evening at 6:30pm for food, games, and fellowship!

## **Holy Week Services**

We will have three opportunities for worship and reflection during Holy Week (April 14-18). We will have a video presentation of the Stations of the Cross at Noon on Tuesday and Wednesday. There will be a Maundy Thursday service at 7:30PM and a Good Friday service at 7:30PM, all at the church.

## **Easter Sunday – April 20**

We'll have a feast after the service, with the church providing roast lamb and everyone else bringing sides and desserts. We would also like to have an egg hunt if we can get volunteers to run it.

## **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

*Church Contact:*

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607.277.8398 [www.newlifeithaca.org](http://www.newlifeithaca.org)

*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: \_\_\_\_\_