

NEW LIFE



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
THE LAST SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
MARCH 2, 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: "Transfiguration", Kelly Latimore, 2014

To purchase prints and other works by Kelly Latimore, visit <https://kellylatimoreicons.com/>

WORSHIP MEDITATIONS

And in this Transfiguration the foremost object was to remove the offence of the cross from the disciple's heart, and to prevent their faith being disturbed by the humiliation of His voluntary Passion by revealing to them the excellence of His hidden dignity. But with no less foresight, the foundation was laid of the Holy Church's hope, that the whole body of Christ might realize the character of the change which it would have to receive, and that the members might promise themselves a share in that honour which had already shone forth in their Head. About which the Lord had Himself said, when He spoke of the majesty of His coming, "Then shall the righteous shine as the sun in their Father's Kingdom," whilst the blessed Apostle Paul bears witness to the self-same thing, and says: "for I reckon that the sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared with the future glory which shall be revealed in us:" and again, "for ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. For when Christ our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory." But to confirm the Apostles and assist them to all knowledge, still further instruction was conveyed by that miracle.

-Pope St. Leo the Great, 5th c.

What we call the beginning is often the end, and to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from.

-T. S. Eliot, 20th c.

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY + **PRE-LENT** + EASTER + PENTECOST + TRINITY

In years when Easter is later, resulting in a longer time from Epiphany to Lent, there may be a few Pre-Lenten Sundays. The Pre-Lenten season begins after the Feast of Presentation and extends through Transfiguration Sunday. Pre-Lent is a time to recognize that the season of Lent is approaching and to begin to make preparations for that penitential season. During Pre-Lent, the Christmas paraments are removed and the color shifts to green, though the Christ candle stays lit. This is except for the first Sunday before Lent, when White returns in memorial of the Transfiguration of Christ.

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.

Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

The maker of heaven and earth.

Let us pray.

COLLECT

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP

Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain;

for the Lord our God is holy!

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

The Lord is great in Zion;

he is exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name!

Holy is he!

The King in his might loves justice.

You have established equity;

you have executed justice

and righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool!

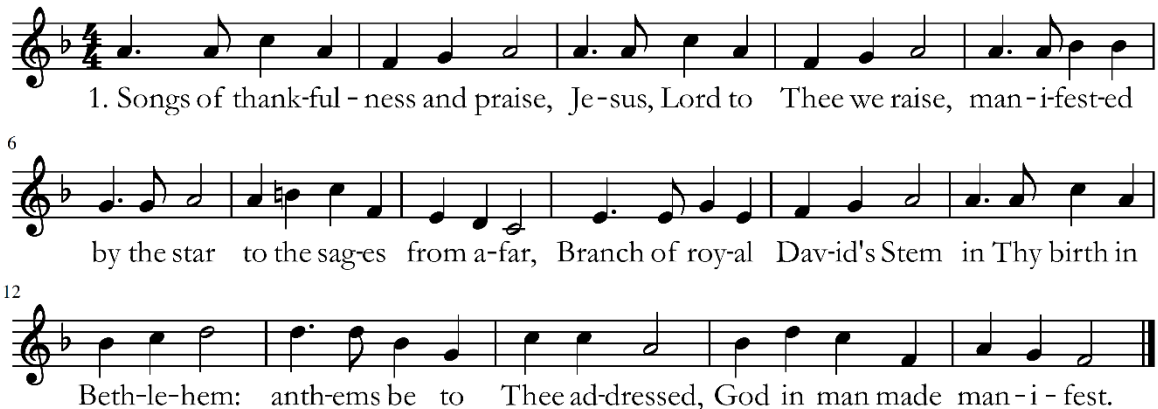
Holy is he!

Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain;

for the Lord our God is holy!

-- Psalm 99:1-5; antiphon: v. 9

SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE



1. Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je-sus, Lord to Thee we raise, man-i-fest-ed
6
by the star to the sag-es from a-far, Branch of roy-al Dav-id's Stem in Thy birth in
12
Beth-le-hem: anth-ems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.

2. Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest
In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

3. Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

4. Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed,
God in man made manifest.

5. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Present in Thy holy Word
Grace to imitate Thee now
And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee
At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

*Words: Christopher Wordsworth, 19th c.
Music: Sir George Elvey, 19th c.*

READING

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

-- *Mark 9:2-4*

O WONDROUS TYPE! O VISION FAIR!



1. O won-drous type! O vi-sion fair of glo - ry that the Church may share, which



Christ up-on the moun-tain shows, where bright-er than the sun he glows!

2. With Moses and Elijah nigh
The incarnate Lord holds converse high;
And from the cloud the Holy One
Bears record to the only Son.

4. And faithful hearts are raised on high
By this great vision's mystery,
For which in joyful strains we raise
The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

3. With shining face and bright array
Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs above
Who joy in God with perfect love.

5. O Father, with the eternal Son
And Holy Spirit ever one,
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace
To see Thy glory face to face.

*Words: John Mason Neale, 19th c.
Music: 15th c. English Melody*

CONFESSING OUR SINS

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

If we say we have not sinned,
we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

-1 John 1:8-10

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

Most merciful Father, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Continue to confess your sins silently before the Lord.

RECEIVING ASSURANCE OF PARDON

After the words of absolution are spoken, all say:

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to His people on earth.

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

1. Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

2. When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

3. Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God

One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

Words and Music: Charitie Lees Bancroft, Vikki Cook

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dear Jesus, you showed your glory to Peter, James, and John on top of a mountain long ago. We also want to see your glory. Please let us see you so that we can be strong to live our lives for 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: 2 PETER 1:16-21

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we

have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE PSALM: PSALM 50; ANTIPHON: V. 2

**Antiphon: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.**

¹ The Mighty One, God the Lord,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

² **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.**

³ Our God comes; he does not keep silence;
before him is a devouring fire,
around him a mighty tempest.

⁴ He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his
people:

⁵ “Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

⁶ The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge!

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.

**Antiphon: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.**

GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 9:28-36

28 Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. 30 And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, 31 who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 And as the men were parting from

him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. 34 As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. 35 And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!” 36 And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Glory to you, O Lord!

HEARING THE WORD PREACHED

Sermon Title: “A Vision to Sustain Us”
Sermon Text: Luke 9:28-36
Sermon Series: *The Beloved: Exposition of the Letters of John*, VII
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Timothy LeCroy

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/

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

OFFERTORY

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.

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.*

A PARTING HYMN WE SING

1. A part-ing hymn we sing, a - round your tab - le Lord; A -

6

gain our grate-full tri - bute bring, our so - lemn vows re - cord.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of music, and the second staff contains the second line, starting with a measure rest labeled '6'. The lyrics are written below the notes.

2. Here have we seen your face,
and felt your presence here;
so may the savor of your grace
in word and life appear.

3. We're purchased by your blood,
by sin no longer led,
the path our dear Redeemer trod
may we rejoicing tread.

4. In self-forgetting love
be our communion shown,
until we join the church above,
and know as we are known.

Words: Aaron R. Wolfe, 1858
Music: Robert Schumann, 1850

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.*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The pastor prays a prayer of blessing.

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 the church in **Democratic Republic of Congo**, where **rebel uprisings** in the city of **Goma** have been especially violent and destructive. The country has been **experiencing conflict for over 30 years**, but escalation in recent weeks **has displaced families and destroyed communities**. Pray for **God to restore peace and redeem what has been broken**.

PCA CHURCHES AND PASTORS IN THE NEW YORK STATE PRESBYTERY

- **Presbyterian Church of Wellsville; Tom Kristofferson**, pastor

SISTER CHURCHES IN ITHACA

- **Tabernacle Baptist Church; Elijah Beltz**, pastor

NEW LIFE ALUMS IN VOCATIONAL MINISTRY

- **Bruce Cain, Wycliffe Bible Translators** in **Southeast Asia**

OUTREACH IN LOCAL COMMUNITY

- **Ithaca Pregnancy Center; Lynn Merchant**, director

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 New Life Alums Samwise and Temi Parkinson. Prayers for Samwise as he starts a new job and for their family as they continue to adjust to a new city and 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.
- **Cindy Kao and Bo-Jhang Ho: Praise** for the **birth** of their baby, **Kira**, on Saturday, February 8.
- **Heewon Park: Praise** for his **engagement** to **Sun Jae Lee**. Pray for her as **she moves here** in the fall, and that her **transition here** would be smooth.
- 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).

life @ new life

March Taco Potluck – TODAY after the service

Please join us for food and fellowship after the worship service today. This will be a **taco potluck**: The church will provide the taco shells, tortillas, cheese, sour cream, and salsa. Attendees should bring the meats, lettuce, tomatoes, other veggie toppings, and desserts.

Ash Wednesday Service – THIS WEDNESDAY, March 5, 6:30PM

Join us to mark the Lenten season with prayer and repentance.

New Life University Returns Next Sunday

Our Spring New Life U class resumes this week, immediately following today's service. We will be taking a survey of the entire Bible. Remaining meeting dates are March 9, 16, and 23.

Youth Group – MOVING TO MARCH 14, 6:30PM

We'll have Youth Group a week earlier, on March 14, as Pastor Tim will be out of town on the 21st. Come join us for a lesson, food (PULLED PORK!!) and fun.

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:

950 Danby Road
Suite 195
Ithaca, New York 14850

607.277.8398 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: _____

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- 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: _____