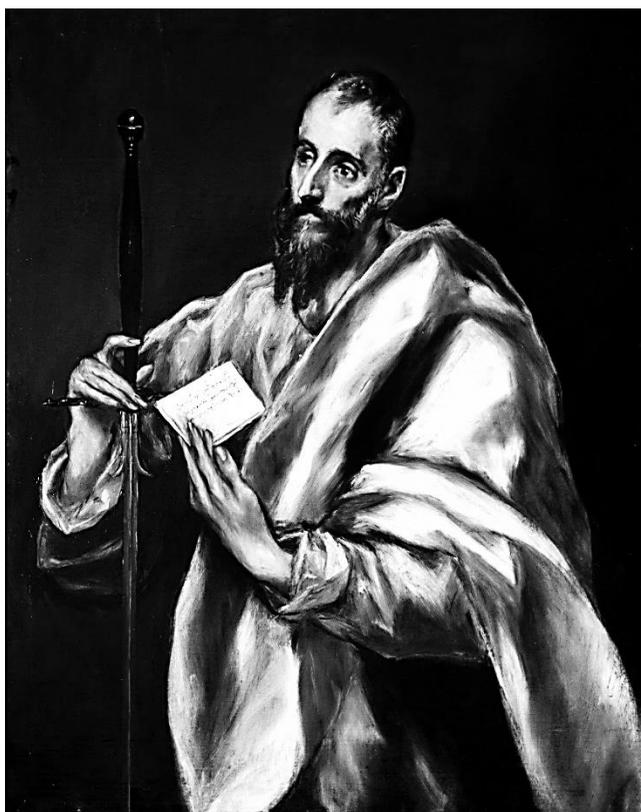


NEW LIFE



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 18, 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:
The Apostle St. Paul
El Greco, 1610*

WORSHIP MEDITATIONS

It is the death and resurrection of Jesus, the empty cross, which lies at the heart of the apostolic Christianity and is God's good news for the world.

-Michael Green

For what else was Christ's death, but a sacrifice for expiating our sins –what but a satisfactory penalty, by which we might be reconciled to God –what but the condemnation of one, for the purpose of obtaining forgiveness for us?

-John Calvin, 16th c.

If you disbelieve one witness, you have twelve witnesses. If you disbelieve the twelve, then listen to five hundred. If you disbelieve them, listen to James the Lord's brother who did not believe until after the Ascension. But you may say that his brother was a biased witness. So then, Paul says, "listen to me, for he appeared to me as well. Who am I? I am Paul, his enemy! I was formerly a persecutor." But now he preaches the good news of the resurrection.

-St. John Chrysostom, 4th c.

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

Easter is the greatest festival season of the Christian year. It begins with the feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday) and lasts for 50 days. After the long preparation of Lent, and the cold dreary winter months that accompany it, and the somber preparation of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, Easter Sunday erupts into our hearts and souls as a joyous celebration filled with expectation of Christ's work among us. For 50 days we feast and celebrate Our Lord and his great victory. Easter themes are new life, joy, exuberance, resurrection, hope and love. The liturgical colors for Easter are white and gold.

THE WORSHIP OF ALMIGHTY GOD

GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let us pray.

COLLECT

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The Lord has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,

with the lyre and the sound of melody!

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!

- Psalm 98:1-6

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

1. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled.
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

2. Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield:
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine
from the furrows of the grave.

3. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory be to God on high;
alleluia to the Savior,
who has won the victory;
alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
To the Triune Majesty.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth, 1862
Music: Thomas John Williams, 1890

THE PSALM: PSALM 23; ANTIPHON: V. 4

**Antiphon: Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

¹ Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
² Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!
³ Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!
⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord!
For he commanded and they were created.
⁶ And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.
⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,
⁸ fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

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.

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

⁹ Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
¹⁰ Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!
¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
¹² Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!
¹³ **Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**
¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to
him.
Praise the Lord!

IN CHRIST ALONE

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

CONFESSING OUR SINS

Alleluia! Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us,

Therefore let us keep the feast,

not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia!

-1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Continue your confession of sins in silent prayer

RECEIVING ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

-1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to his people on earth!

AMAZING GRACE

1. Amazing grace!— how sweet the sound—
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3. Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4. The Lord has promised good to me,
his Word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

5. And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.

6. When we've been there ten thousand
years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

*Words: John Newton
Music: American Folk Melody*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dear Jesus, you appeared to over 500 people after you rose from the dead. Help us to believe in you even though we can't see you. Bless us with faith in you. We love 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

EPISTLE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five

hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 21:1-14

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way.² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together.³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter

heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Glory to you, O Lord!

HEARING THE WORD PREACHED

Sermon Title: "Fools for Christ"
Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Timothy R. LeCroy

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE NICENE CREED

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

OFFERTORY

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. But chiefly we are bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ; for He is the very Paschal Lamb that was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world; who by His death has destroyed death and by His rising to life again has restored us to everlasting life. 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! LORD, GOD OF HOSTS.

5
Hea-ven and earth are full of Your glo-ry! Ho - san-na in the high - est!!

11
Bles-sed is He who comes in the NAME of the LORD.

15
Ho - san - na in the high - est!

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 mediate 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.*

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
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one.
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Words: Thomas Ken

Music: Geistliche Kirchengesang Cologne, 1623

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 that the **Lord would raise up workers** to serve in the northern region of **Central African Republic**, where **Islam** is rapidly **growing in influence** due to crises in nearby countries. Pray that more **students would enter ministry** and be called to serve in this difficult area.

PCA CHURCHES AND PASTORS IN THE NEW YORK STATE PRESBYTERY

- **First Presbyterian Church, Schenectady, Mark Dunn**, senior pastor; **Matthew Mierski**, assistant pastor

SISTER CHURCHES IN ITHACA

- **Covenant Love Community Church, Freeville**

NEW LIFE ALUMS IN VOCATIONAL MINISTRY

- **Karl Johnson, Consortium of Christian Study Centers**, executive director

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

- New York State Governor, **Kathy Hochul**; Lieutenant Governor, **Antonio Delgado**; the members of the **Legislature** and the **Judiciary**, **that they may govern with wisdom according to your word that we may all live quiet and peaceable lives.**

NEW LIFE CHURCH

- **Hannah Eagelson: Praise** that her husband **Nathan** completed and submitted his **tenure package**.
- **Katie Ribbens & Jake Battaglia: Praise** that they were **married yesterday**; pray for their **marriage** and for their **summer internship in Idaho**
- **Steve & Sheryl Froehlich: Pray** that their **son Christopher's** participation in a **burn pit study** would lead to **meaningful change** in the armed forces. Pray for their **grandson Eli** and for **wisdom for Eli's parents**. Pray for **Steve's work** as **interim pastor** at **Westminster Presbyterian in Rock Tavern**.
- **David Williamson: Pray for Isaac**, a **Pakistani** man David met on his recent flight, and for his **ministry in Pakistan**.
- **Anne Williamson: Pray** for **Abigail** as she prepares for her **recital on June 1**.
- **Toni Marcheua: Pray** for her **brother's new baby**, who is **not growing** as quickly as he should.
- 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.
- **Thanks be to God** a good financial report for April! (See report on page 19.)

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

Ladies' Bible Study in Two Weeks

Our next Bible study session will be:

- Saturday, May 31st, at 2:30pm, at Ann Williamson's (135 Lexington Drive.)

Even if you haven't been able to attend before, or read the material ahead of time, you are more than welcome! A Zoom link will be sent out for those who are unable to attend in person.

Youth Group – No Youth Group This Month

We will resume in June.

Pentecostal Pulled Pork Potluck – June 8th

We will celebrate the feast of Pentecost with some of Pastor Tim's pulled pork. Look for a sign up for appetizers, sides, and desserts.

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.

April Financial Report

	Actual	Budgeted	Net
Income	\$23,510	\$20,000	\$3,510
Expense	\$16,590	\$20,000	\$3,410

Year to date

	Actual	Budgeted	Net
Income	\$83,964	\$80,000	\$3,964
Expense	\$81,807	\$80,000	\$1,807

contact us

Senior Pastor:

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

Elder:

David Williamson – david@newlifeithaca.org

Church Contact:

950 Danby Road
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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: _____

-
- 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: _____