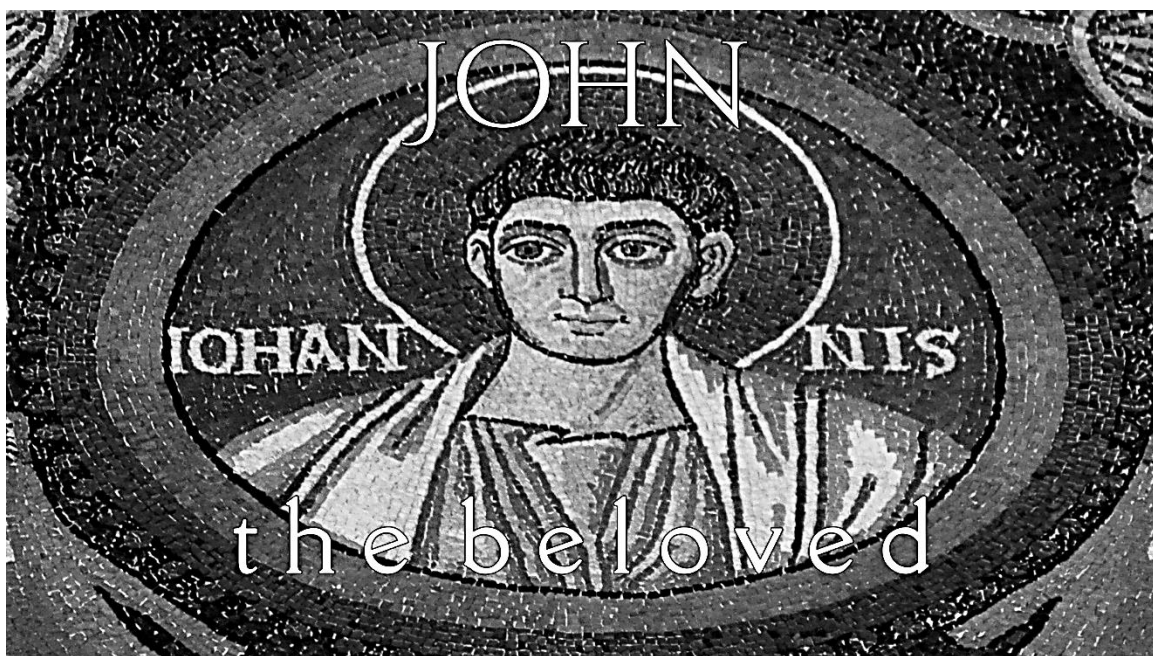


NEW LIFE



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 9, 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

We are conquerors before we engage with the enemy, for our head Christ has once for all conquered for us the whole world.

-John Calvin, 16th c.

If we know, let us love. For knowing without love does not save. “Knowledge puffs up, love builds up.” If you wish to confess and not to love, you are like the demons. The demons confessed the Son of God and said, “What have we to do with you?” And they were repulsed. Confess and embrace. For they feared him because of their iniquities; you, love the Forgiver of your iniquities.

-St. Augustine, 5th c.

It often happens that men are very pious without being very good.

-Charles Hodge, 19th c.

It is the Lord Jesus that is the great Master of love: it is his school (his own church) that is the school of love. His disciples are the disciples of love, and his family must be the family of love.

-Matthew Henry, 17th c.

Draw whatever darkness you please over your deeds. God is light.

-Tertullian, 3rd 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

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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

O God, be not far from me;

O my God, make haste to help me!

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,

for their number is past my knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;

I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have taught me,

and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

- Psalm 71:12, 15-18

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

1. All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and let us
 4 sing: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Thou burn-ing sun with gold - en
 8 beam, though sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O praise him! O
 12 praise him! Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

2. O rushing wind that art so strong,
 ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
 alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
 ye lights of evening, find a voice,
 O praise him, O praise him,
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
 make music for thy Lord to hear,
 alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire, so masterful and bright
 that givest man both warmth and light,
 O praise him, O praise him,
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. And all ye men of tender heart,
 forgiving others, take your part,
 O sing ye, alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
 praise God and on him cast your care,
 O praise him, O praise him,
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5. Let all things their Creator bless,
 and worship him in humbleness,
 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: St. Francis of Assisi, 13th c.
 Translation by: William H. Draper, 1926
 Music: Geistliche Kirchengesang, Cologne, 1623*

READING

And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. ⁶ And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it.

- 2 John 5-6

I ASKED THE LORD

1. I asked the Lord that I might grow
In faith and love and every grace
Might more of His salvation know
And seek more earnestly His face

2. 'Twas He who taught me thus to pray
And He I trust has answered prayer
But it has been in such a way
As almost drove me to despair

3. I hoped that in some favored hour
At once He'd answer my request
And by His love's constraining power
Subdue my sins and give me rest

4. Instead of this He made me feel
The hidden evils of my heart
And let the angry powers of Hell
Assault my soul in every part

5. Yea more with His own hand He seemed
Intent to aggravate my woe
Crossed all the fair designs I schemed,
Cast out my feelings, laid me low

6. Lord why is this, I trembling cried
Wilt Thou pursue thy worm to death?
"Tis in this way" The Lord replied
"I answer prayer for grace and faith"

7. "These inward trials I employ
From self and pride to set thee free
And break thy schemes of earthly joy
That thou mayest seek thy all in me,
That thou mayest seek thy all in me."

*Words: John Newton, 18th c.
Music: Laura Tay*

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.

WOOD AND NAILS

Verse 1

O humble carpenter,
down on Your hands and knees
Look on Your handiwork
and build a house
So You may dwell in Me
So You may dwell in Me

Chorus 1

The work was done with nothing but
wood and nails
In Your scar-borne hands
Oh, show me how to work and praise
Trusting that I am Your instrument

Verse 2

O loving laborer,
with the sweat upon Your face
Oh, build a table that I too
may join You
In the Father's place
Oh, in the Father's place

Chorus 1

The work was done with nothing but
wood and nails
In Your scar-borne hands
Oh, show me how to work and praise
Trusting that I am Your instrument

Chorus 2

The kingdoms come and built upon
Wood and nails
gripped with joyfulness
So send me out within Your ways
Knowing that the task is finished

Chorus 3

The dead will rise and give You praise
Wood and nails
will not hold them down
These wooden tombs,
we'll break them soon
And fashion them into flower beds

Chorus 4

The curse is done, the battle won
Swords bent down into plowshares
Your scar-borne hands,
we'll join with them
Serving at the table You've prepared

O humble carpenter

Words and Music: Isaac Wardell, Keith Watts, Madison Cunningham

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dear Jesus, you are king and Lord of all things. Help us to trust in your rule and obey your commands. Help us to be your ambassadors and servants in extending your kingdom. Give us your justice. O King! Heal our world! 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 2:7-17

Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸ At the same time, it is a new commandment that 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.

¹² I am writing to you, little children,
because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

¹³ I am writing to you, fathers,

because you know him who is from the beginning.
I am writing to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.
I write to you, children,
because you know the Father.
¹⁴ I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,
and the word of God abides in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE PSALM: PSALM 119:57-64; ANTIPHON: JOHN 13:34

**Antiphon: 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.**

- ⁵⁷ The Lord is my portion;
I promise to keep your words.
⁵⁸ I entreat your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.
⁵⁹ When I think on my ways,
I turn my feet to your testimonies;
⁶⁰ I hasten and do not delay
to keep your commandments.

**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.**

- ⁶¹ Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,
I do not forget your law.
⁶² At midnight I rise to praise you,
because of your righteous rules.
⁶³ I am a companion of all who fear you,
of those who keep your precepts.
⁶⁴ The earth, O Lord, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes!

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.

**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.**

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 13:31-38

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ ³⁴ 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. ³⁵ By this all people

will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

³⁶ 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.” ³⁷ Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” ³⁸ 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: **“A New Old Commandment”**
Sermon Text: 1 John 2:7-17
Sermon Series: *The Beloved: Exposition of the Letters of John, IV*
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Timothy R. 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

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 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.*

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

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.

All music reprinted under CCLI SongSelect terms of use.
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License #153561
CCLI Streaming License #21567482
All biblical text reprinted by permission from
The English Standard Version

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

- Pray for **displaced people** around the world, driven from their homes by **natural disasters, war, and violence**. Pray that **God will be an ever-present help** to the sojourners and that **His church** will show forth **His kingdom** in **serving the homeless**.

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

- **Christ Chapel: Steve Felker**, pastor; **Ben Hutton**, assistant pastor

NEW LIFE ALUMS IN VOCATIONAL MINISTRY

- **Matt & Jenn Irvine, Serge** (World Harvest) -- **London, England**

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

- **Cindy Kao and Bo-Jhang Ho:**
- **Heewon Park: Praise** for his **engagement** to **Sun-je**. Pray for her as **she moves here** in the fall, and that her **transition here** would be smooth.
- **Anne Williamson: Praise** for the **publishing** of her **brother-in-law's book**.
- **Scott Brodie: Praise** that his **mom's chemo is working**, and **pray** that the resulting **nerve damage** would be minimal.
- **Brad Helmsie: Praise** that **Richard**, the father of his brother-in-law, is **improving**. Pray for his cousin **Christine** as she mourns the **death of her mother** and **decides what to do** with her life at this point.
- **Lucy LeCroy: Pray** that her parents would know **how to treat the migraines** that she has begun having, and that they would be **rare**.
- **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**.
- **Pray** for New Life Alums Samwise and Temi Parkinson. Prayers for Samwise as he starts a new job tomorrow and for their family as they continue to adjust to a new city and church.

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

New Life University Returns TODAY

Our Spring New Life U class starts 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. If you want to sign up, you must let Rachel LeCroy know today. We will be assigning groups this week.

Youth Group – February 14

Youth group will resume this Friday, February 14. We'll have a time of worship, teaching, food, and fun. Remember to memorize the first 10 catechism questions!

March Taco Potluck – March 2nd

Thanks to everyone who participated in the potluck lunch last Sunday! We'll have another opportunity for food and fellowship after the worship service on March 2nd. 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. A signup sheet will be going out soon.

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: _____

-
- 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: _____