



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 25, 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: A Christian Woman in Prayer Catacombs of Priscilla, Rome, 260 AD

WORSHIP MEDITATIONS

The entire Bible pivots on one weekend in Jerusalem about two thousand years ago. Attempts to make sense of the Bible that do not give prolonged thought to integrating the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are doomed to failure, at best exercises in irrelevance.

-D.A. Carson

If Christ is not risen, nothing else matters. And if Christ is risen, nothing else matters.

-Jaroslav Pelikan

Our problem is very simple—we simply do not know how to live as people who believe that Jesus is the resurrected Lord.

-Stanley Hauerwas

The trumpet must sound. It is the loud summons of all the living and all the dead, to come and appear at the tribunal of Christ. At this summons the graves shall open, the dead saints shall rise incorruptible, and the living saints be changed to the same incorruptible state.

-Matthew Henry, 17th c.

[Death] took a body and came upon God!

It took earth and encountered Heaven!

It took what it saw, but crumbled before what it had not seen!

O death, where is thy sting?

O Hades, where is thy victory?

Christ is risen, and you are overthrown!

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen!

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!

Christ is risen, and life reigns!

-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, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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

Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you;

he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

My heart is in anguish within me;

the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

But I call to God,

and the Lord will save me.

Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan,

and he hears my voice.

He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage,

for many are arrayed against me.

- Psalm 55:22, 4, 16–18

COME, YE FAITHFUL, RAISE THE STRAIN

- 1. Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness; loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters; led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
- 2. 'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen; all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

- 3. Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.
- 4. Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal: but today amidst thine own thou didst stand, bestowing thine own peace, which evermore passeth human knowing.

Words: John of Damascus, 8th c. Translator: John Mason Neale, 19th c. Music: Piae Cantones, 1582

ANTIPHON

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- Romans 6:9-11

HIS MERCY IS MORE

- 1. What love could remember no wrongs we have done Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more
- 2. What patience would wait as we constantly roam What Father so tender is calling us home He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more

- Chorus
 Praise the Lord!
 His mercy is more
 Stronger than darkness,
 new every morn
 Our sins, they are many;
 His mercy is more
- 3. What riches of kindness He lavished on us His blood was the payment; His life was the cost We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more *Chorus*

Words and Music: Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

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!

YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN

1. Your labor is not in vain
Though the ground underneath you
Is cursed and stained
Your planting and reaping are never the same
Your labor is not in vain

2. Your labor is not unknown
Though the rocks they cry out
And the sea it may groan
The place of your toil may not seem like a home
But your labor is not unknown

Chorus

For I am with you I am with you I am with you I am with you For I have called you Called you by name
Your labor is not in vain

- 3. The vineyards you plant will bear fruit The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth For all that is old will at last be made new The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
- 4. The houses you labored to build Will finally with laughter and joy be filled The serpent that hurts and destroys will be killed And all that is broken be healed **Chorus**

Words and Music: Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach, Wendell Kimbrough

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 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

EPISTLE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-58

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

55 "O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God!**

THE PSALM: PSALM 150; ANTIPHON: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:55

Antiphon:

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

¹ Praise the Lord!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens!
² Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his excellent greatness!

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

³ Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

⁵ Praise him with sounding cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

"O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 11:1-44

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. 7Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." 8 The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" 9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. 10 But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." 11 After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." 12 The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." 13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. 14 Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, 15 and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." 16 So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning

their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." 29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. 34 And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept. 36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard

me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord **People: Glory to you, O Lord!**

HEARING THE WORD PREACHED

Sermon Title: "Don't Die"

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
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.

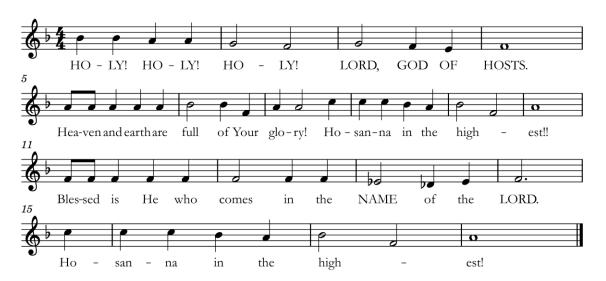
Lift up your hearts!

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:



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.

TIL HE COME







- 2. When the weary ones we love enter on their rest above, seems the earth so poor and vast, all our life-joy overcast? Hush, be ev'ry murmur dumb: it is only till he come.
- 3. Clouds and conflicts round us press: would we have one sorrow less? All the sharpness of the cross, all that tells the world is loss, death and darkness, and the tomb, Only whisper "Till he come."
- 4. See, the feast of love is spread, drink the wine, and break the bread: sweet memorials, till the Lord call us round his heav'nly board; some from earth, from glory some, severed only till he come.

Words: Edward H. Bickersteth, 1862 Music: Richard Redhead, 1853

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!

> 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

O Pray for the underground church in Hong Kong, where there has been a mass exodus since 2020 due to political changes. Pray that many believers will stay to continue the work of the Kingdom and to be a witness for Jesus in this city.

PCA CHURCHES AND PASTORS IN THE NEW YORK STATE PRESBYTERY

o Affirmation Presbyterian Church, Somers; Bill Spanjer, pastor

SISTER CHURCHES IN ITHACA

o Hillside Alliance Church

NEW LIFE ALUMS IN VOCATIONAL MINISTRY

o Matt Coburn, Trinity Baptist Church in New Haven, CT

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

President Donald Trump and Vice-President J.D. Vance; the members of Congress
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.
- o Katie Ribbens & Jake Battaglia: Praise that they were married; pray for their marriage and for their summer internship in Idaho
- Steve & Sheryl Froehlich: Pray for Sheryl's mom as her health continues to decline
 due to age. Pray for Sheryl and Steve as they make decisions regarding her care, and as
 they travel to and from Ohio to see her.
- O 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.
- 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.
- o 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 this Saturday

Our next Bible study session will be this 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.

Pentecost 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 sheet 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.

contact us

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Dr. Timothy R. LeCroy tim@newlifeithaca.org

Elder:

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Church Contact: 950 Danby Road Suite 195 Ithaca, New York 14850

Other comments: _

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. | |