

New Life Presbyterian Church

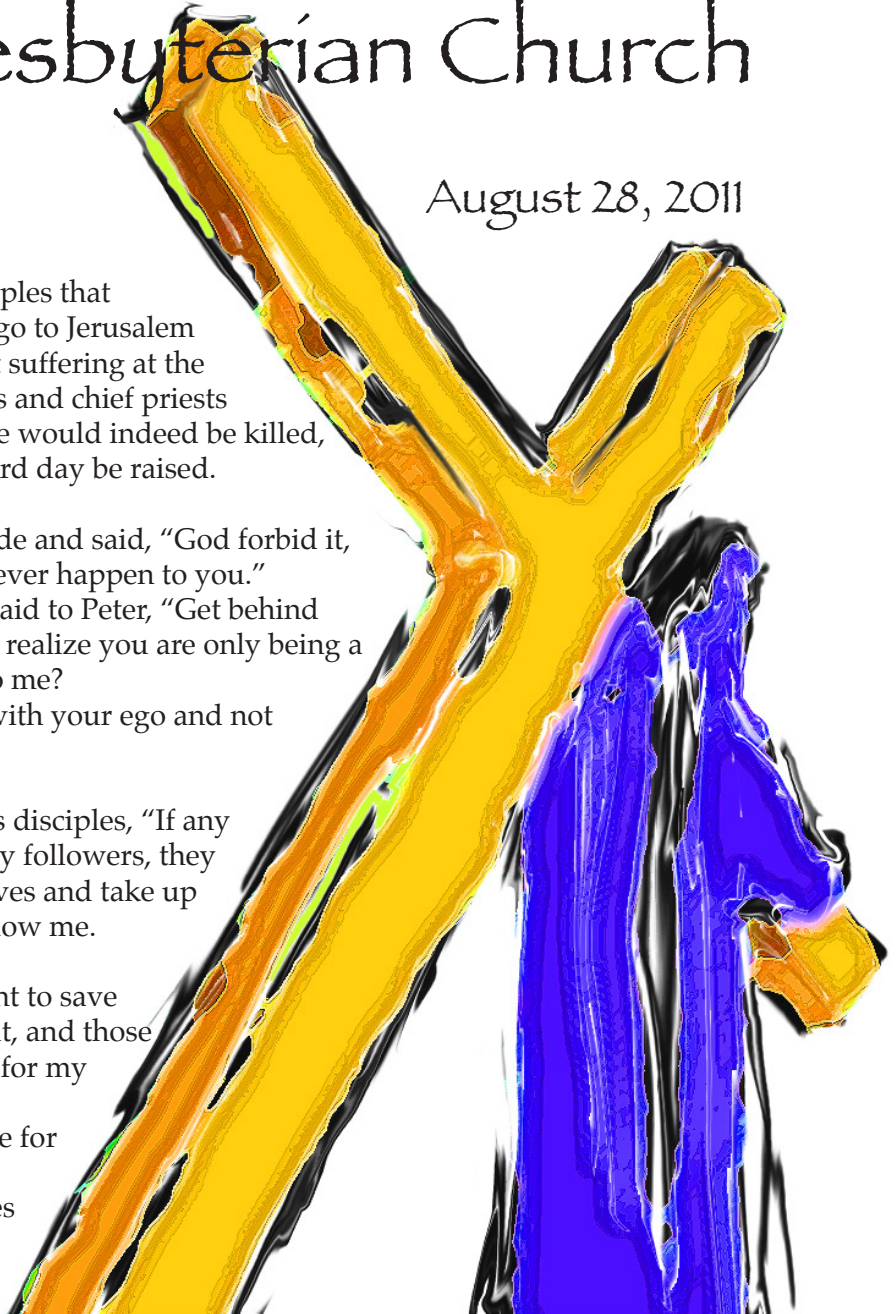
August 28, 2011

Jesus told his disciples that he would have to go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, that he would indeed be killed, and that on the third day be raised.

Peter took him aside and said, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! Do you realize you are only being a stumbling block to me? You are thinking with your ego and not your soul!"

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, they will deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. What profit is there for anyone who gains the world and loses life and soul?"



NL Choral Ensemble

“Go Down, Moses” Arr. Neil Johnson

*When Israel was in Egypt land, oppressed so hard they could not stand,
“Let my people go.” Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt land.
Tell ol’ Pharaoh, “Let my people go. No more shall they in bondage toil.
Let them come out with Egypt’s soil. Let my people go.”*

Collective Prayer (Unison):

Often we go about our busy lives attending to the crisis at hand.

**We proceed with the perception that it is up to us
to figure out the solutions by ourselves.**

**Sometimes, like Moses, we need something more dramatic
to catch our attention.**

**We need a “burning bush” to remind us that holy ground is everywhere,
God’s presence is constant and God’s mysteries can be found
in unexpected places.**

**We need to be reminded that our God, the great, I AM,
hears our prayers and will not abandon us. Amen.**

† Hymn of Assurance *“His eye is on the Sparrow”* SF 2146

A time with the children

Children leave for Sunday Circle.

† Sharing the Peace of God

*To our guests and first time visitors today: During the sharing of the Peace
it is our custom to move around and greet one another. Please join us.*

† Hymn *Walk with Me”* SF 2242

Gospel Lesson Matthew 16: 21-28

Sermon Rev. Bobbie G. McGarey

The Chimes Signal the Prayers of the People
*As we offer our prayers of petition and of thanks, the people respond,
"God, you hear our prayers," or "God, we thank you."*
Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus
*We pray this prayer inviting each of you to pray it in the version closest to your heart.
Even as we pray, we listen to the rich diversity here.*

Call to Service and Action

Romans 12: 9-21

The Message

Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it.
Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good.
Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.
Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame.
Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant.
Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder.
Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.
Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath.
Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy;
share tears when they're down.
Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up.
Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.
Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone.
If you've got it in you, get along with everybody.
Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do.
"I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."
Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry,
go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink.
Your generosity will surprise him with goodness.
Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.

Sharing Our Bounty

*And then the sheep will ask, "Master, what are you talking about?
When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink?
And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?"*

Then the Master will say,

"I'm telling the solemn truth:

*Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored,
that was me - you did it to me."*

Matthew 25: 37-40

Offering

Music by Wilma Turco

† Unison Prayer of Dedication

You call ordinary people to be your servants in the world.

Accept now these gifts, given to further your work in the world. Amen.

† Doxology

Copies on Tables

Going Out

† Sending Hymn

"Take My Life and Let it Be"

PH 391

† Benediction

*Join us for a social time while we sandwiches to take downtown to our
hungry brothers and sisters. We call the program Random Sacks of Kindness!*

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This morning's service was prepared by Bobbie McGarey and the Worship Committee.

Resources:

"Go Down, Moses" Words Traditional, arr. Neil Johnson.

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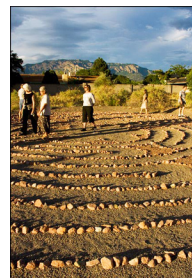
Welcome to New Life Community Presbyterian Church, a welcoming family of believers and seekers from diverse spiritual backgrounds, striving to be a cooperative and mutually respectful community in which to pursue our individual and community relationship with God.

We carry out God's mission for New Life as a joyful, sensitive faith community modeled on the inclusive and healing love of Jesus Christ. We reflect Christ's love to all who come through our doors, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, age, race or economic status. We extend this ethic to our pastor, elders and deacons.

- We are open to freedom of interpretation of Scripture, believing that truth is also found in our experiences of God in our individual and communal lives.
- We practice freedom of expression in worship, inviting participation from the whole congregation.
- We worship at round tables to signify inclusivity, connection and equality.
- As part of our ministry to explore and deepen our individual and collective spirituality, we host an ancient form of walking meditation called the labyrinth.
- We reach out to the community at large through our ongoing participation with Project Share, Habitat for Humanity, the Martineztown House of Neighborly Services, and other projects.

NEW LIFE is home to two labyrinths, tools for walking prayer and meditation, that date back to the 12th century pattern found in Chartres Cathedral in France. Our indoor canvas labyrinth is used for meditative services throughout the year. The outdoor labyrinth is open from dawn to dusk daily year-round.

Every Sunday evening, a contemplative Taizé service from 6:30 - 7:15 is held at New Life. On the last Sunday evening of each month we hold a shorter Taizé service with a labyrinth walk following. The Labyrinth walks will be held outside, weather permitting. In 'uncooperative' weather and on special occasions, we will have the walk on the indoor labyrinth.



New Life Presbyterian Church
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Office Phone: 296-2313 www.newlifepcusa.org

MINISTERS - ALL THE MEMBERS OF NEW LIFE
PASTOR - THE REV. DR. BOBBIE G. MCGAREY: 918-0240
Bobbie's Office Hours: Monday 10-2, Tuesday 2-5, Wednesday 1-6
Please call Bobbie if these times are not convenient for you.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND PIANIST - MATALIE WHAM
SECRETARY & WEB WEAVER - DIDI ACOSTA

The New Life Session ordinarily meets on the second Sunday of each month after worship and Random Sacks of Kindness.
Contemplative Taizé Service ~ Every Sunday evening at 6:30
Taizé service and Labyrinth walk ~ the last Sunday of each month