

# New Life Presbyterian Church

May 29, 2011

God's Promises  
Jesus' Love



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† Please stand if you are able SF - Sing the Faith PH - Presbyterian Hymnal  
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*The chimes call us to the tables for worship.*

Prelude

Grace and Peace to you. Let us worship God.

## Gathering

† Hymn

“All Who Hunger”

SF 2126

*Announcements and Introductions*

*Welcome and Introduction of Guests*

*The chimes signal a time of silence in order to center ourselves for worship.*

We kindle the first light.

*It is our custom at New Life to light the votive candles on the Communion table  
as we sing hymns, pass the peace of Christ, and offer prayers of the people.*

*Please come forward at any of these times.*

Call to Worship

One: Jesus said:

**All: Those who love me will keep my word,**

One: and Father will love them,

**All: and we will come to them and make our home with them.**

One: Jesus Christ is Risen!

**All: Jesus Christ is Risen! Indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayer for Today

**Great and loving God, your will for us in Jesus is the peace which the world cannot give; your abiding Gift is the Advocate he promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear. keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your world, that we may always be your dwelling place. Grant this through Jesus Christ, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit.**

† Gathering Hymn  
We will repeat this

“As the Deer”

SF 2025

Call to Confession **In the mighty love and mercy of God let us pray  
together the prayer of confession.  
For God knows us and loves us still.**

Prayer of Confession in Unison

**Hear our prayer dear God.**

**We are your children, called by name, loving Jesus, and following our call.**

**We seek your guiding hand as we face each day knowing  
that with you at our side we are fully awake.**

**Keep our eyes sharp for places where we can be peacemakers.**

**Keep our ears keen that we may hear the cries of the hurting.**

**Keep our hearts open that we may know your love burning in us  
is to be shared with those who are lost in this world.**

**We know we have been blind, and deaf, and with stone hearts. Change us.**

Assurance of Pardon

**The mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting  
to those who love Jesus. I declare to you, this day,  
in Jesus' name, you are forgiven and freed to new life.  
You are forgiven. Thanks Be to God.**

NL Choral Ensemble

Directed by Matalie Wham

“If Ye Love me”

by Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

John 14: 15-17

If ye love me,

keep my commandments,

and I will pray the Father,

and he shall give you

another comforter

That he may abide with you for ever,

ev'n the spirit of truth.

A time with the children

Children leave for Sunday Circle.

Peace of Christ

† Hymn

“For all the Saints”

PH 526

## Hearing the Word

Responsive reading from 1 Peter 3: 13-22, *The Message*

- One: If with heart and soul you're doing good,  
**All: do you think you can be stopped?**
- One: Even if you suffer for it,  
**All: you're still better off.**
- One: Don't give the opposition a second thought.  
**All: Through thick and thin, keep your hearts at attention,  
in adoration before Christ, your Savior.**
- One: Be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks  
why you're living the way you are,  
and always with the utmost courtesy.  
**All: Keep a clear conscience before God  
so that when people throw mud at you, none of it will stick.  
They'll end up realizing that they're the ones who need a bath.**
- One: It's better to suffer for doing good, if that's what God wants,  
than to be punished for doing bad.  
**All: That's what Christ did definitively: suffered because of others' sins,  
the Righteous One for the unrighteous ones.  
Jesus went through it all—was put to death and then made alive—  
to bring us to God. The Word of God. Thanks be to God**

Gospel Reading John 14: 15-21

Sermon "God's promises, Jesus' love"

Rev. Bobbie G. McGarey

Hymn to draw us into Prayer "Santo, Santo Santo"  
(1st time in Spanish, 2nd time in English)

SF 2007

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.*

## Sharing Our Bounty

The Invitation to the Offering

The Mission Statement – Help for the victims of tornados and flooding

Offering

Improvisational Music by Matalie Wham

† Doxology

Copies on Tables

† Unison Prayer of Dedication

**All That we have is Yours dear God for we are richly blessed.**

## Going Out

† The Invitation to Discipleship

† Sending Hymn

“O Christ, the Great Foundation”

PH 433

† Unison Charge from The Brief Statement of Faith

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,**

**we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks**

**and to live holy and joyful lives,**

**even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,**

**praying, Come, Lord Jesus!**

**With believers in every time and place,**

**we rejoice that nothing in life or in death**

**can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

† Choral Benediction

“Go Now in Peace”

Copies on tables

Postlude

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This morning’s service was prepared by Bobbie McGarey and the Worship Committee.  
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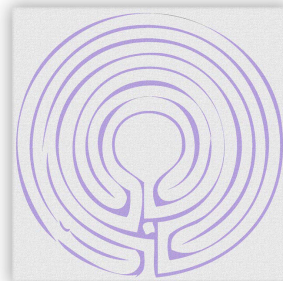
**W**elcome to New Life Community Presbyterian Church, a welcoming family of believers and seekers from diverse spiritual backgrounds, striving to be a cooperative and mutually respectful community in which to pursue our individual and community relationship with God.

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](http://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: 266-2857**  
**SECRETARY & WEB WEAVER - DIDI ACOSTA: wireless 450-2127**

**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