

New Life Presbyterian Church

September 18, 2011

Let all who thirst come to the water.
And let all who have nothing come to the Lord,
 without money, without price.
Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?

And let all who seek come to the water.
And let all who have nothing come to the Lord,
 without money, without strife.
Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?
And let all who toil come to the water.

And let all who are weary come to the Lord,
 all who labor, without rest.
How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?

And let all the poor come to the water.
Bring the ones who are laden to the Lord.
Bring the children, without might:
 easy the load, and light.
 Come to the Lord.



NL Ceramic Baptismal by Sharon Prentice, 1973

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September 18, 2011

The Season of Acceptance ~ Seven Keys to Life

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† Please stand if you are able,

SF - Sing the Faith, PH - Presbyterian Hymnal

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Prelude

The chimes call us to the tables for worship.

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ. Welcome all.

Gathering

† Gathering Hymn “God You Spin the Whirling Planets” PH 285

Sharing the Joys and Concerns of the Community

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: Open the eyes of our hearts, God.

All: We want to see you.

One: Open our ears, calling God,

All: That we may hear your voice so clear.

One: Open our mouths, dear Creator,

All: That we may declare your praise

Come and worship together! We belong to God!

† Hymn “There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy” PH 298

Call to Transformation

Prayer of Transformation in unison

**All Loving God we come to you this day
thirsty for your Word of mercy and forgiveness.**

We know where we have gone wrong.

We know where we have fallen short of your hopes for us.

We know when we put blinders on to the needs of the world.

Still we continue to harm others and the earth;

we are petty and we gossip; we feel entitled to extravagance.

Turn us. Make us new people altogether.

Hear our silent prayers seeking your grace.

Assurance of New Life

Hearing the Word

A Responsive Reading of the Psalm

One: We will extol you, my God and sovereign,
and bless your name forever and ever.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: Every day We will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: God is great, and greatly to be praised; God's greatness is unsearchable.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works,
I will meditate.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and we will declare your greatness.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger
and abounding in steadfast love.

**All: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

NL Choral Ensemble

Directed by Matalie Wham

“Come to the Water” words and music by John Foley
(words on the bulletin cover)

A time with the children
Children leave for Sunday Circle.

† Greeting One Another Sharing the Peace of Christ

† Hymn “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” PH 276

Scripture

Exodus 16: 2-15

Matthew 20: 1-16

Sermon: “Who’s on first?” Rev. Bobbie G. McGarey

A silence is kept.

Hymn Preparation “Come and Find the Quiet Center” SF 2128
(Please remain seated.)

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.”*

The Lord’s Prayer
*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.*

Invitation to Discipleship

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Improvisational Music by Matalie Wham

† Doxology Copies on Tables

† Prayer of Dedication

Going Out

† Sending Hymn

“Go With Us Lord”

PH 535

† 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.**

† Benediction

Postlude

For the Community...

The Peacemaking Offering will be received on World Communion Sunday October 2.

An Inquires Class for adults is being formed to begin in the next few weeks to explore what the Presbyterian Church is all about and what membership in New Life PCUSA entails. Come and learn and then decide. Please speak to Pastor Bobbie after the service or give her a call during the week. Her number is 918-0240. There are 3x5 cards on the tables if you would like to leave your name and number and the memo, “Membership.” We will contact you.

A Youth Confirmation Class will be held at 4 PM today, Sunday, September 18. We will meet at church. We are looking forward to our time together

The Women’s Bible Study this year is on the Beatitudes. Friday morning at the home of Nancy Hughes. Come join together as we study and do theology together.

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

Resources: “Come to the Water” words and music by John Foley.

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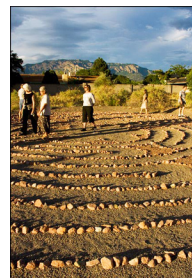
**W**elcome to New Life Community Presbyterian Church, a welcoming family of believers and seekers from diverse spiritual backgrounds, striving to be a cooperative and mutually respectful community in which to pursue our individual and community relationship with God.

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**  
**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