



RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship

Pentecost 6

July 12, 2020

New Life Lutheran Church
Pearland, Texas

10:30AM



*New Life Lutheran Church is a partner congregation of
the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

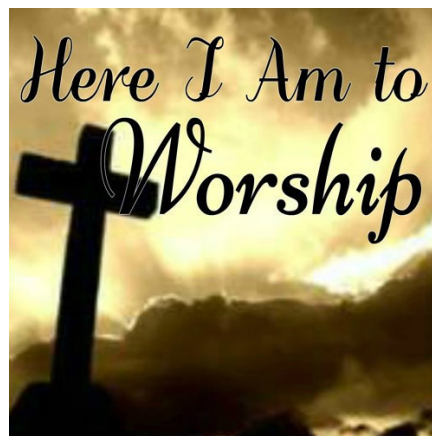
GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

- ROOTED *in the Word*
- REFRESHED *in the Spirit*
- REACHING *into the Neighborhood & the World!*

TODAY @ NEW LIFE: God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

FAITH5 - GATHER

WELCOME & NEWS



Here I am to Worship

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness.
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you
Hope of a life spent with you

Chorus:

Here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth you created.
All for love's sake became poor. *Chorus*

Bridge:

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross. (3x)

Chorus (2x)

Words: Tim Hughes

CALL to WORSHIP

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

C: **whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.**

Amen!

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Reconciling God,

C: **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**



AFFIRMATION AND FORGIVENESS ANNOUNCED

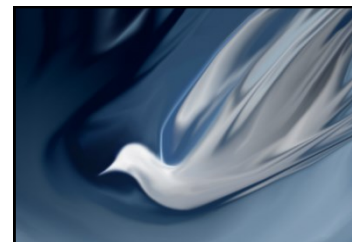
P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**



God Of Wonders



Lord of Heaven and Earth.
Lord of Heaven and Earth.

Lord of all creation, of water, earth and sky.
The heavens are your Tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on high!

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are Holy, Holy.
The universe declares Your majesty, You are Holy, Holy.

Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call your name by night

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are Holy, Holy.
The universe declares Your majesty, You are Holy, Holy.

Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth (3x)

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are Holy, Holy.
Precious Lord, reveal your heart to me, You are Holy, Holy.
The universe declares Your majesty, You are Holy, Holy.

Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Lyrics by Chris Tomlin

GREETING

P: Grace and peace to all of you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; and may the inseparableness of the Holy Spirit be with everyone here!

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God,

C: we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Each Sunday a special message is shared with all the children ages infants through 6th grade.

All God's children are welcome!

Sang Kim



FAITH 5 - READ

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.



Here ends the reading.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

R: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: **Thanks be to God!**





Gospel

READING

P: The Good News of Jesus, Son of God according to St. Matthew:

C: Praise to You, Lord Christ!

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (*Bold - verse for FAITH5*)

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³**But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."**

P: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God.

"Tilling the Soil"

"We Believe"

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear,
there is only one foundation. We believe, we believe.

In this broken generation, when all is dark, You help us see.
There is only one salvation. We believe, we believe.

REFRAIN

We believe in God the Father; we believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit; and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion; we believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection; and He's comin' back again, we believe.

So, let our faith be more than anthems
greater than the songs we sing.
And in our weakness and temptations
we believe, we believe!

REFRAIN

We believe in God the Father; we believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit; and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion; we believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection; and He's comin' back again, we believe.

BRIDGE

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised; in the here and now, let love invade!
Let the church live loud! Our God, we'll say, "We believe! We believe!"
And the gates of hell will not prevail, for the pow'r of God has torn the veil.
Now we know Your love will never fail. We believe! We believe!

REFRAIN

We believe in God the Father; we believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit; and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion; we believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection; and He's comin' back!
He's comin' back again! He's comin' back again!
We believe, We believe!

THE OFFERING IS GIVEN

Giving is good for the giver; promoting our trust in God and providing blessings to the world.

THE OFFERTORY

NewLife Houseband

TEXT GIVING is now available at New Life

You can now tithe via text. Text to **281.864.3278**, add a \$\$ amount to the message box and send. A link will appear for a 1 time set up.

Once it is set-up, it takes seconds to give again.

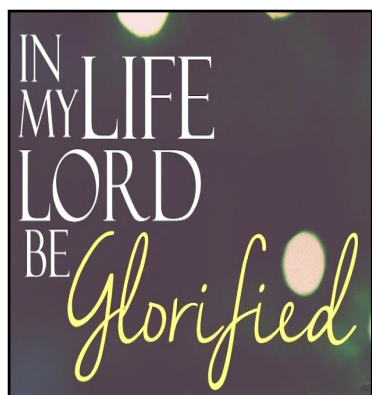
You can also give thru the New Life website NewLifeLutheran.com. There is a give page and donate options on most of the tabs main pages.

Checks can also be dropped off at the Church or mailed in.

Thank you for supporting New Life's ministry.

Giving Update As of Wednesday, July 8th, New Life has received \$8,455 of \$30,490 (27.6%), the Minimum July Monthly Giving Goal.

Thank you!



- 1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.
- 2 In my song, ...
- 3 In your church, ...

Text: Bob Kilpatrick
(c) 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corporation

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of goodness and growth,

C: all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

FAITH5 - PRAY

P: Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

P: Gracious God, your word has been sown in many ways and places. We pray for missionaries and newly planted congregations around the world. Inspire us by their witness to the faith we share. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creating God, the mountains and hills burst into song and the trees and fields clap their hands in praise. We pray for the birds and animals who make their home in the trees, and for lands stripped bare by deforestation. Empower us to sustainably use what you have given. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Reigning God, we pray for our nation's leaders. Increase their desire for justice and equality. We pray for our enemies. Bridge the chasms that divide us and guide authorities to a deep and lasting peace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Abiding God, care for all who are in need (*especially*). For those who are doubting, renew faith. For those who are worrying, provide release. For those who are struggling, ease burdens. For those in fear, give hope. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Renewing God, revive your church in this place. Nourish and nurture the seeds you have planted, that we might grow as disciples. Replace what has been depleted. Sustain our ministries and deepen relationships with the wider community. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have died. Comfort us in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



C: Our Father, who is in heaven.
Hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come; your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil;
for yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

FAITH5 - BLESS

P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: Amen!

A SENDING SONG

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Refrain

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Refrain

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, who called me here below
Will be forever mine... Will be forever mine... You are forever mine...



WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia and Amen!





Texas - Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.



Pastor Morgan Gates is a First Call candidate in the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod and recent graduate of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago where she earned her Master of Divinity. In June she completed her year-long Pastoral Internship with +KINDRED Lutheran Church in the Montrose neighborhood of Houston. She and her wife Katie are Texas natives and live near downtown Houston where Katie works as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). While Morgan waits for Assignment and First Call she spends her time cross-stitching, playing guitar, reading, and supply preaching for congregations like New Life! Morgan looks forward to receiving her Regional and Synodical Assignment

Hello, families and kiddos!

Please read and spend time together as a family!



Matthew 13:23

But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.

Faith 5: *Share, Read, Talk, Pray Bless!*

<https://faithink.com/the-faith5-steps>

- 1) Share when you saw God producing good fruit in / through you.
- 2) How can you keep your soil good?
- 3) What good word can you hear from God today? Do you understand it?
- 4) Pray to God for good soil and hearing and understanding God's Word.