



RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship

Pentecost 8

July 26, 2020

New Life Lutheran Church

8:00 AM

Pearland, Texas



*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!*

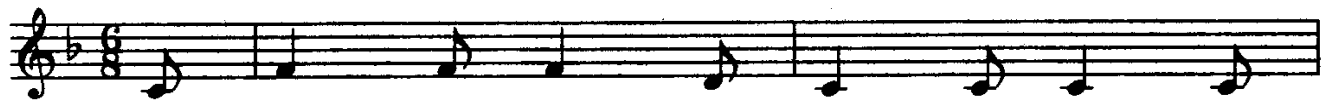
TODAY @ NEW LIFE:

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

FAITH5 - GATHER

WELCOME & NEWS

I COME WITH JOY



1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, For -
 2. I come with Chris - tians far and near To
 3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, Each
 4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, We'll



giv - en, loved and free, In awe and won - der
 find, as all are fed, The new com - mun - i -
 proud di - vi - sion ends. The love that made us,
 pres - ence, al - ways near, Is in such friend - ship
 go our dif - f'rent ways, And as his peo - ple



to re - call His life laid down for me, His
 ty of love In Christ's com - mun - ion bread, In
 makes us one, And stran - gers now are friends, And
 bet - ter known: We see and praise him here, We
 in the world We'll live and speak his praise, We'll



life laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 stran - gers now are friends.
 see and praise him here.
 live and speak his praise.

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 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.

WORDS OF ABSOLUTION AND FORGIVENESS

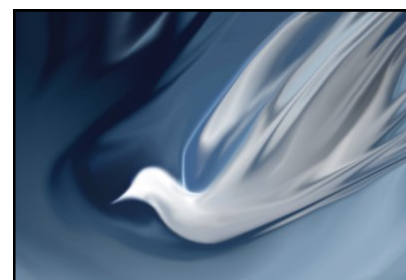
P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

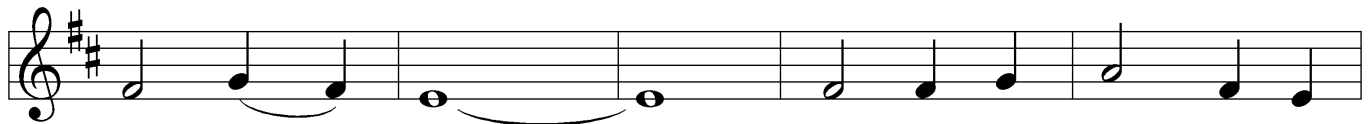




Seek Ye First



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and



right - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Matthew 6:33, 7:7; adapt. Karen Lafferty, b. 1948
Music: LAFFERTY, Karen Lafferty, b. 1948

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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.

KYRIE



Johnny: In peace, in peace,

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

Johnny: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all...

Johnny: For your people here, who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your Word...

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

NOW THE FEAST

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

Presider:

Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Beloved and sovereign God,

C: **through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sang Kim

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

All God's children are welcome!



FAITH 5 - READ



First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Here ends the reading.



Psalm 119:129-136

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. *(Ps. 119:130)*

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful;

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word is opened it gives light;**

it gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹I open my mouth and pant

because I long for your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to me and be gracious to me,**

as you always do to those who love your name.

¹³³Order my footsteps in your word;

let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴**Rescue me from those who oppress me,**

and I will keep your commandments.

¹³⁵Let your face shine upon your servant

and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶**My eyes shed streams of tears,**

because people do not keep your teaching.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

(*Bold - verse for FAITH5*)

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL VERSE

Gospel

READING



Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

Optional Repeat

life. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

C: Praise to You, Lord Christ!

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

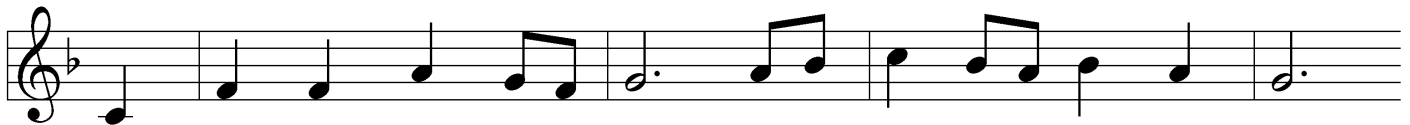
P: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God.

"Treasure Right Under Your Nose!"



I Love Your Kingdom, Lord



1 I love your king - dom, Lord, the place of your a - bode;
 2 I love your church, O God! Its walls be - fore you stand,
 3 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,
 4 Sure as your truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be giv'n



the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
 dear as the ap - ple of your eye and grav - en on your hand.
 its sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, its hymns of love and praise.
 the bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt.

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE OFFERING IS GIVEN

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

THE OFFERTORY

Johnny Salvesen

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 22nd, New Life has received \$17,221 of \$28,238 (61%), the Minimum July Monthly Giving Goal.

Thank you!



Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of goodness and growth,

C: all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. 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: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a woman baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways you encounter us in daily life. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers. Treasuring the earth, may we live as grateful and healing caretakers of our home. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees, gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for the saints according to your will. Help us when we do not know how to pray. Give comfort to the dying, refuge to the weary, justice to those who are oppressed, and healing to the sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

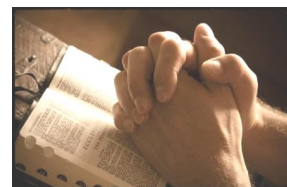
P: You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need. Help this congregation ask boldly for what is most needed. Refresh us with new dreams of being your people in this place and time. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: In you our lives are never lost. Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places. Embolden our witness now and one day gather us with all your saints in light. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.



P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



**C: 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
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.**

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

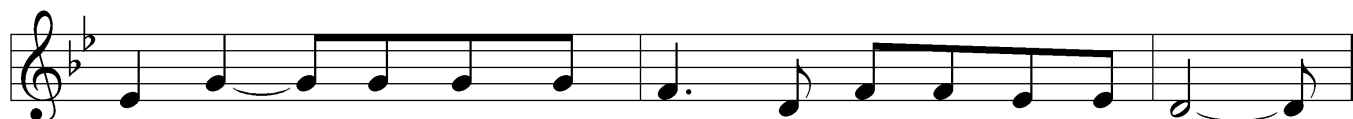
How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune

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 Bill is contracted as our part-time Interim Pastor here at New Life Lutheran.

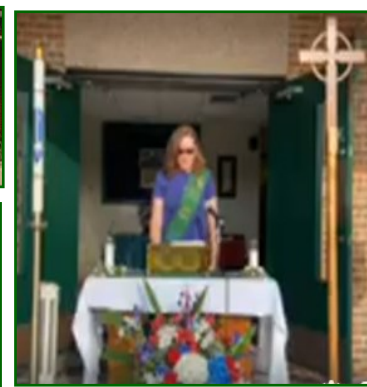
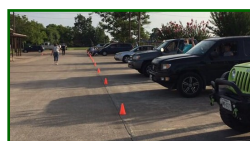
Currently, his hours in the office are Mondays and Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

If you would like pastoral counseling, please call Pastor Bill at 713-614-7561 to set up a convenient time. He will be glad to visit with you.



Save the Date:

New Life will be holding another 8:00am "Parking Lot" service on Sunday, August 2nd. The 8:00am and the 10:30am service will be live-streamed on Facebook.



Hello, families and kiddos!

Please read and spend time together as a family!



Romans 8:26

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

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

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

1. What are some of the ways you need God's help?
2. When is weakness OK?
3. What can we do when we don't know what to pray for?