

## RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

*Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship*

**Pentecost 8**

**July 26, 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:**

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 &amp; NEWS



### Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us,  
for our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.
- 2 We are yours; in love befriend us,  
be the guardian of our way;  
keep your flock, from sin defend us,  
seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.
- 3 You have promised to receive us,  
poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us,  
grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.
- 4 Early let us seek your favor,  
early let us do your will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior,  
with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.

## 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.**



## AFFIRMATION AND FORGIVENESS ANNOUNCED

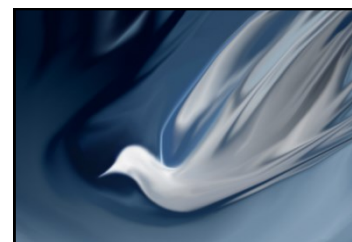
P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: **And also with you.**



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# HUMBLE — THYSELF

## **Humble Thyself**

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord (Echo)

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord (Echo)

And He shall lift you up, higher and higher

And He shall lift you up, up into Heaven

And He shall lift you up

## **Awesome God**

Our God is an Awesome God

He reigns from heaven above

With wisdom, power and love

Our God is an Awesome God!



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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.

## 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

*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: 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.*

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." <sup>6</sup>And 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. <sup>7</sup>And 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. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Give 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?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>God 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, <sup>12</sup>I 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.*



## 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.*

**<sup>26</sup>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.**

<sup>27</sup>And 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.

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For 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. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He 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? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who 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. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

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

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor 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

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## READING

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

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;<sup>32</sup>it 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."

<sup>33</sup>He 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."

<sup>44</sup>"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.

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

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

<sup>51</sup>"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And 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!"*

**Better Is One Day**

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty.  
For my soul longs and even faints for You.  
For here my heart is satisfied within Your presence.  
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,  
better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.  
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,  
better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,  
than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your beauty,  
to find You in the place Your glory dwells.  
For You are both our light and shield; your grace and power  
Bring joy to all who place their trust in You.

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,  
better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.  
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,  
better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,  
than thousands elsewhere.

*Lyrics: Matt Redman*



## 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.

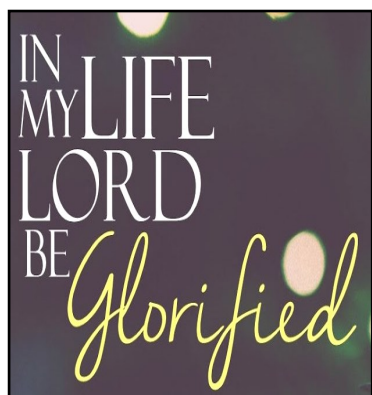
You can also give thru the New Life website [NewLifeLutheran.com](http://NewLifeLutheran.com). There is a give page and donate options on most of the tabs main pages.

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!*



- 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. 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.

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: 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.**

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.**





**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.**

<b>FAITH5 - BLESS</b>
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**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



### Jesus Messiah

He became sin who knew no sin  
That we might become His righteousness  
He humbled Himself and carried the cross.  
Love so amazing, love so amazing

*Messiah*

Refrain:

Jesus Messiah, name above all names  
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel  
The rescue for sinners, The ransom from Heaven  
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all

His body, the bread, His blood, the wine  
Broken and poured out all for love  
The whole earth tremble and the veil was torn.  
Love so amazing, Love so amazing.      Refrain

All our hope is in You! All our hope is in You!  
All the glory to You, God: The light of the world      Refrain

*Words and music by Chris Tomlin, Christopher Dwayne Tomlin,  
Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves*

## 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?