



# GENEROSITY IN FORGIVENESS

MATTHEW 18:21-35

## RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

*Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship*

**Pentecost 15**  
**September 13, 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.**

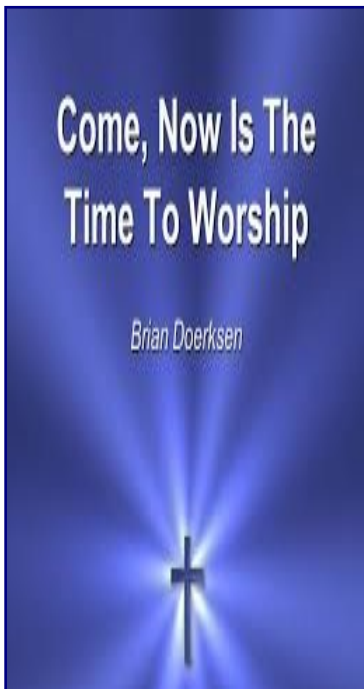
- ROOTED *in the Word*
- REFRESHED *in the Spirit*
- REACHING *into the Neighborhood & the World!*

#### **TODAY @ NEW LIFE:**

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

**Come, Now is the Time to Worship**

Come, now is the time to worship!  
Come, now is the time to give your heart!  
Come, just as you are to worship!  
Come, just as you are before your God!  
Come!



One day every tongue will confess You are God.  
One day every knee will bow.  
Still the greatest treasure remains for those  
Who gladly choose You now!

Come, now is the time to worship!  
Come, now is the time to give your heart!  
Come, just as you are to worship!  
Come, just as you are before your God!  
Come!

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One day every knee will bow.  
Still the greatest treasure remains for those  
Who gladly choose You now!

## CALL TO WORSHIP



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

C: **who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. Amen!**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION



P: Faithful God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ABSOLUTION AND FORGIVENESS

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ☩ Christ Jesus. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C: **Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: **And also with you.**



## 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!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful judge,

C: **you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through 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: Genesis 50:15-21

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

- 15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said,  
"What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?"
- 16 So they approached Joseph, saying,  
"Your father gave this instruction before he died,  
17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father."  
Joseph wept when they spoke to him.
- 18 Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said,  
"We are here as your slaves."
- 19 But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?  
20 Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.  
21 So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones."  
In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Here ends the reading.*

## Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

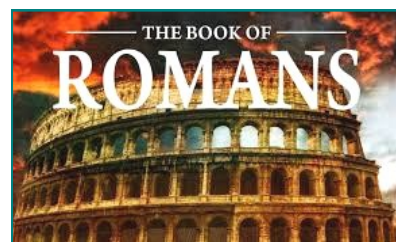
(*Bold - verse for FAITH5*)

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

- 1 Welcome those who are weak in faith,  
but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.
- 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.
- 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,  
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat;  
for God has welcomed them.
- 4 Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?  
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall.  
And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
- 5 **Some judge one day to be better than another,  
while others judge all days to be alike.  
Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.**
- 6 Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord.  
Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord,  
since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain,  
abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.
- 7 We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
- 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;  
so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
- 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again,  
so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.
- 10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?  
Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?  
For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.
- 11 For it is written,  
    *“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
    and every tongue shall give praise to God.”*
- 12 So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

<sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

<sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: Word of God. Word of Life!  
C: Thanks be to God.



## Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift your name on high.  
Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life,  
I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;  
from the cross to the grave,  
from the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high. (*Repeat*)

Text: Rick Founds  
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# 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.

*We Believe*



**FAITH5 - PRAY**

P: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

P: You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*



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P: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## THE OFFERING IS GIVEN

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

### **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 tab's main pages.

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

On in-person Parking lot Service Sundays, there will be a basket for donations out.

Thank you for supporting New Life's ministry.

## THE OFFERTORY

New Life Houseband

Giving Update September giving at New Life: \$8451.81 of \$28,248 needed for the month. (29.9%)

*Thank you!*

## THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

C: You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere, to give you thanks and praise O Holy Father, our eternal and ever-present God. You sent us your Son, Jesus. In his love Christ has filled us with joy as we remember his birth and celebrate his return.

**C: Amen! Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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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.

The  
LORD'S  
Prayer

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Take, eat and drink the bread and the cup to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

**C: AMEN!**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



P: Let us pray. We give you thanks gracious God,

**C: that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

## FAITH5 - BLESS

P: Mothering God, Father, ☩ Son and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C: Amen!

## A SENDING SONG

### Mighty to Save

Everyone needs compassion  
A love that's never failing  
Let mercy fall on me  
Everyone needs forgiveness  
A kindness of a Savior  
The hope of nations



### Refrain

**Savior**

**He can move the mountains**

**My God is Mighty to save**

**He is Mighty to save**

**Forever**

**Author of salvation**

**He rose and conquered the grave**

**Jesus conquered the grave**

So take me as You find me  
All my fears and failures  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow  
Everything I believe in  
Now I surrender **Refrain**

Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King...Jesus  
Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King **Refrain (X2)**

## WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

P: Go in peace. Remember the Poor.

C: Thanks be to God.





# All are Welcome

## NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEARLAND, TEXAS

### LIVE STREAMING SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY:

8:00am: Traditional Worship

*(Tailgate Worship & Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)*

10:30am: Contemporary Worship

### The Language of God's Stewards:

TRUTH  
BLESSING

GRATITUDE

LOVE

FORGIVENESS

COMPASSION

SACRIFICE

WHOLE-LIFE MINISTRY

### UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



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

September 13<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. - Livestream Worship with Virtual Communion

September 20<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 a.m. Livestream Tailgate Worship with Live Communion & 10:30 a.m. - Livestream Worship with Virtual Communion

September 27<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. - Livestream Worship with Virtual Communion

Gospel

Bible Study



zoom

### Sunday Zoom Gospel Study Offered

Pastor Bill is hosting "The Inside Scoop!", an online *Zoom* virtual Adult Christian Education class each Sunday at 9:30 am, beginning September 13.

Each 30-minute session will feature a study and discussion of the Gospel Reading for that day.

Pastor Bill will send a link to the *Zoom* meeting from [pastor@newlifelutheran.com](mailto:pastor@newlifelutheran.com) if you responded via email. If you would like to join the class, please send your name, phone number and email address to the above email.