



RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING
Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship

Advent 1
November 29, 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: Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Gathering Songs

New Life House Band

WELCOME & NEWS

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Refrain

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

4 Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*



Text: Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710;

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

C: whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen!

P: Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as
God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION



P: Loving and forgiving God,

C: we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ABSOLUTION AND FORGIVENESS

P: People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free – free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, ☩ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

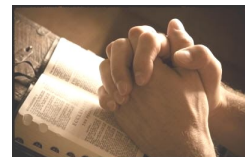
C: And also with you.



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!

C: And also with you.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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: Isaiah 64:1-9

- 1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence –
- 2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil –
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
- 3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
- 4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
- 5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
- 6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
- 7 There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
- 8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
- 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.



Here ends the reading.



Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (*Bold - verse for FAITH5*)

- ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,
⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind —
⁶ **just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you —**
⁷ so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
⁹ God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

R: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

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

C: Praise to You, Lord Christ!

Gospel

READING

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power
and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender
and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when
you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very
gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these
things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words
will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in
heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do
not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey,
when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work,
and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep
awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in
the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may
find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to
all: Keep awake.”

P: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God.



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: God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

P: We pray for the ministry we share in Christ's name. Open our hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity. Relieve their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses (*especially*). Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, for Jan Zuerner and all those whose names we know and those whose names are known only to you. Sustain all who still yearn for the completion of your redeeming work. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



P: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus 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. 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, placed in the offering plate or mailed in.

Thank you for supporting New Life's ministry.

THE OFFERTORY

New Life Houseband

[Giving Update](#) November giving at New Life: \$15,384 of \$28,248 needed for the month. (54.5%)

Thank You!

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Generous God,

C: you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. 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."

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.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here. Come, eat and drink.

C: AMEN!



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Gracious and abundant God,

C: you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FAITH5 - BLESS

P: The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, † now and forever.

C: Amen!

A SENDING SONG

Messiah

Messiah

1. Someone's shouting from the desert,
someone's shouting from the sea.
Someone's shouting from the mountain,
someone's shouting from the valley.

**Refrain: Messiah, Messiah, come and be our King.
Messiah, Messiah, come and be our King.**

2. Someone's shouting from the city,
I am young, I am cold.
Someone's shouting from the country,
I am lonely, I am old. *Refrain*
3. Someone's shouting I am broken.
Someone's shouting make me whole.
Someone's shouting come and change me,
someone's shouting save my soul. *Refrain*

Text: Larry Olson

WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.





All are Welcome

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEARLAND, TEXAS

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



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

Advent 1

November 29th - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship

Advent 2

December 6th - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship

(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed. **"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Thursday of each week!"**)

Advent 3 December 13th - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship

(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed. **"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Thursday of each week!"**)

Advent 4 December 20th - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship


(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed. **"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Thursday of each week!"**)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services December 24th

3:00p.m., 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship

(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed. **"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Wednesday, December 23rd!"**)

Christmas Day - Christ is Born! December 25th

 Christmas 1 December 27th - One service @ 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship & the **"Voices of New Life"** will be doing a **Song Fest @ 3pm** outside on the field next to the Sanctuary. It will not be a service, but it will include all of the hymns we didn't get to sing Christmas Eve.

(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed for both events. **"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Thursday of each week!"**)



In Sympathy - We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Jan Zuerner, who died in Christ on Tuesday, November 10th.

May the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christ bring comfort and

Sunday Zoom Gospel Study

Gospel Bible Study

Join Pastor Bill in an online *Zoom* virtual Adult Christian Education - Bible Study each Sunday at 9:30 am. Each 30-minute session will feature a study and discussion of the Gospel Reading of the day.

If you would like to join the class, please send your **name**, **phone number** and **email address** to pastor@newlifelutheran.com and Pastor Bill will send you a link to the Zoom meeting and instructions. Come join in the conversation online!

