



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

Christmas 1
December 27, 2020

New Life Lutheran Church **10:30 AM**
Pearland, Texas



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

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

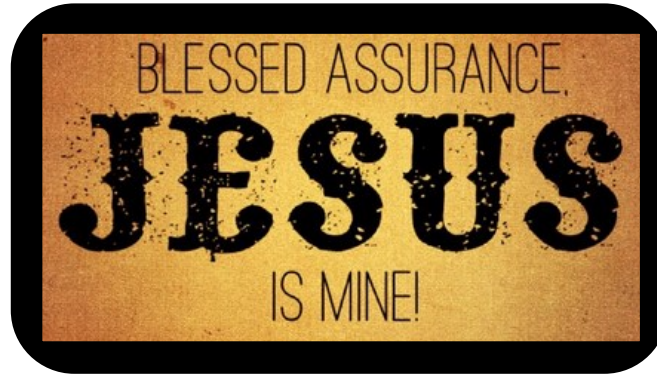
- ROOTED *in the Word*
- REFRESHED *in the Spirit*
- REACHING *into the Neighborhood & the World!*

TODAY @ NEW LIFE:

The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity, to praise God. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.

FAITH5 - GATHER

WELCOME & NEWS



Blessed Assurance



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

CALL TO WORSHIP



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

C: who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy. 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: God of goodness and loving kindness,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

WORDS OF ABSOLUTION AND FORGIVENESS

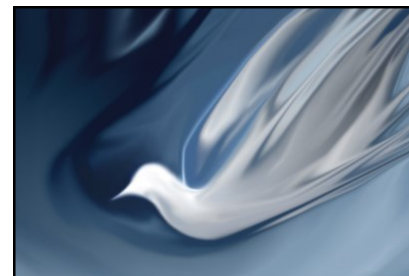
P: Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through ☩ Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

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.

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
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:



2. 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: Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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!





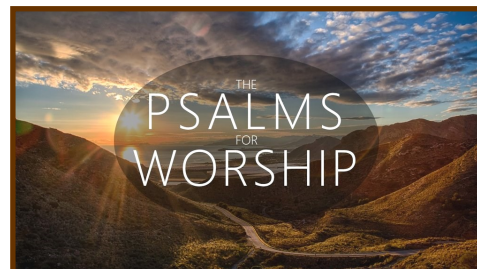
First Reading: Isaiah 61:10--62:3

- 10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
- 11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
- 62:1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
- 2 The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- 3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 148

- ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.
- ²Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
- ³Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.
- ⁴Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.
- ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,
- ⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.
- ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
- ⁸fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
- ⁹mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
- ¹⁰wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;
- ¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
- ¹²young men and maidens,
old and young together.
- ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all
faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the
LORD. Hallelujah!



Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7 (Bold - verse for FAITH5)

- 4 When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman,
born under the law,
5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might
receive adoption as children.
6 **And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into
our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"**
7 So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir,
through God.



R: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL VERSE

Congregation:

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

Optional Repeat

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

C: Praise to You, Lord Christ!



GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

Gospel
READING

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."



³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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.

FAITH5 - PRAY

P: Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Night and day, all creation praises you, O God. Strengthen your church across nations, denominations, and traditions. Fill us with wisdom and unify our proclamation of your forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: The nations are upheld by your hand, O God. Cause righteousness and praise to spring forth, inspiring leaders to serve with compassion and integrity. Send your spirit of discernment upon legislators grappling with complex decisions for the sake of the common good. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Send the spirit of your Son into our hearts, O God. Come quickly to hearts that race with fear, hearts that break with grief, and hearts that long for wholeness (*especially*). Reveal your power to heal and to save. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Adopt us into your family, O God. Bless our elders with the peace and joy of Simeon and Anna. Strengthen those who have retired, those who work in older age, and those in need of income, food, company, or health care. Connect young and old across generations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.



P: God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

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 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

Johnny Salvesen

Giving Update

December giving at New Life: \$24,702 of \$28,248 needed for the month. (87%)

General Funds Received for the Year: \$287,641 (81.6 %)

Total Funds Needed for the Year: \$352,446

Thank You!


THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Gracious God,

C: you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*




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

Presider: *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is




right to give God thanks and praise.

The preface appropriate to the day or season is sung or said.


Presider: It is our duty and delight . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY


Congregation:



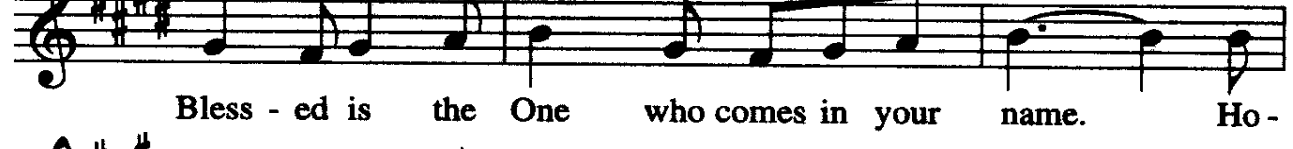
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and




might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!



Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The minister continues with the eucharistic prayer.

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."

Remembering then his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The Word is revealed in a manger, in simple bread and wine. Come meet Christ in this meal.

C: AMEN!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



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

C: **that you have once again fed us from your very self with the body and blood of Christ. Through this mystery, send us forth to proclaim your promise to a world in need, through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

FAITH5 - BLESS

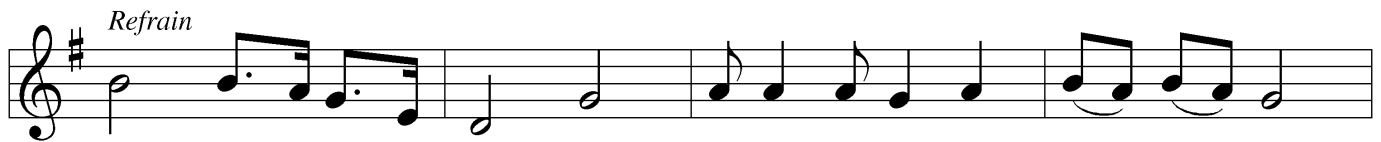
P: Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day ☩ through the Word made flesh.

C: Amen!

A SENDING SONG



Go Tell It on the Mountain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 ~~The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth~~
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
~~rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.~~
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

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.

Christmas 1 Sunday, December 27th



One service @ 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship
(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed for the Service. **"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Thursday of each week!"**)

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.



Christmas 2 Sunday, January 3rd

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship
(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed for Services. **"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Thursday of each week!"**)



Epiphany of Our Lord Wednesday, January 10th

Baptism of Our Lord Sunday, January 10th

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. In-Person & Livestream Worship
(Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed for Services.

"Don't forget to RSVP using the Google form in the Friday New Life News email by noon on Thursday of each week!")

Un-Greening/Post-Epiphany Party

Un-Greening during Sunday School Hour & Brunch/Party when finished after the 10:30 service.
Stay and help take down decorations to store for next year.

