



RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship

Epiphany 4
January 31, 2021

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:

shows the people the
pointing to the unique
encounter that authority
prevails over any lesser
follow Jesus.

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

Gathering Songs

New Life House Band

WELCOME & NEWS

Word of God Speak

I'm finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is it's okay
The last thing I need is to be heard
But to hear what You would say

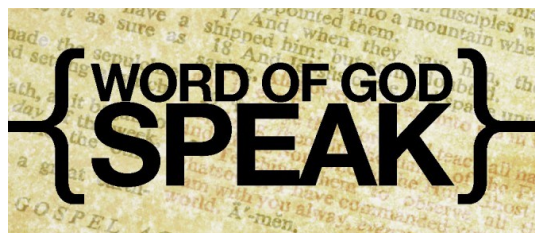


CHORUS: Word of God speak
Would You pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty
To be still and know that You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest in Your holiness
Word of God speak

I'm finding myself in the midst of You
Beyond the music, beyond the noise
All that I need is to be with You
And in the quiet hear Your voice. *CHORUS*

I'm finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is it's okay

Mercy Me



CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C: whose Spirit is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation. Amen!

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Holy God,

C: you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin – our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.



WORDS OF ABSOLUTION AND FORGIVENESS

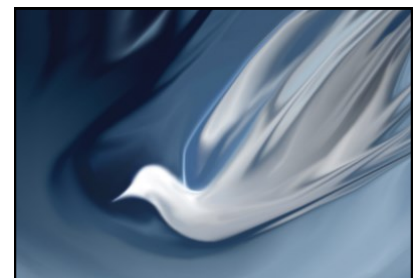
P: How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of ☩ Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

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

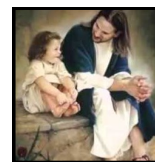
P: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.

¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die."

¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said.

¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command.

¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak – that prophet shall die."

Here ends the reading.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 (*Bold - verse for FAITH5*)

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.

²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge;

³**but anyone who loves God is known by him.**

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.”

⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth — as in fact there are many gods and many lords —

⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols?

¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.

¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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 1:21-28

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching – with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

P: For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: prophets, teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; for the church and its ministries, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: For those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: those who are sick and hospitalized, those struggling with COVID-19, those living with mental illness, those who are hungry or homeless, and all in any need (*especially*); for caregivers, hospice workers, and home health aides, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: For the covenant God made with us in the waters of baptism, in thanksgiving for the baptized who have died in the Lord, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.



P: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

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: Giving for January as of January 26th: \$17,050
64.9% of the proposed 2021 Monthly Budget of \$26,285.**

Thank You!

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: O God,

C: receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. 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: Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus. Come and be fed.

C: AMEN!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



P: Let us pray. Christ Jesus,

C: at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. Amen.

FAITH5 - BLESS

P: God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.

C: Amen!

A SENDING SONG

"We Believe"

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear,
there is only one foundation. We believe, we believe.

In this broken generation, when all is dark, You help us see.
There is only one salvation. We believe, we believe.

REFRAIN

**We believe in God the Father; we believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit; and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion; we believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection; and He's comin' back again, we believe.**

So, let our faith be more than anthems
greater than the songs we sing.
And in our weakness and temptations
we believe, we believe!

REFRAIN

BRIDGE

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised; in the here and now, let love invade!
Let the church live loud! Our God, we'll say, "We believe! We believe!"
And the gates of hell will not prevail, for the pow'r of God has torn the veil.
Now we know Your love will never fail. We believe! We believe!

REFRAIN

WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.



Lyrics by Newsboys



All are Welcome

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEARLAND, TEXAS

UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITY & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Epiphany 4 Jan. 31st - 8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship

Congregational Meeting Jan. 31st - following 10:30 service - In-Person & via Zoom

Epiphany 5 - Souper Bowl of Caring Feb. 7th - 8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship (Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed. "Don't forget to RSVP using the New Life Google form email by noon on Thursday of each week!")



 **Valentine Drive-Thru Lasagna Dinner & Flower Shop - Saturday, Feb. 13th**
Voices of New Life Concert - following Dinner



Transfiguration of Our Lord Feb. 14th - 8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship - (Because of limited capacity, RSVPs are needed. "Don't forget to RSVP using the New Life Google form email by noon on Thursday of each week!")

Valentine's Day Drive-Thru Flower Shop Feb. 14th - in front of Church



Ash Wednesday - Feb. 17th - 7pm



Lenten Wednesday Night Services - 7pm



Palm Sunday - Mar. 28th
Holy Week



Easter Sunday - Apr. 4th



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!