



RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship

Lent 3

March 7, 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:

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

Gathering Songs

New Life House Band

WELCOME & NEWS

Change My Heart, O God

Change my heart, O God.
Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God.
May I be like you.

You are the potter,
I am the clay;
mold me and make me,
this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God.
Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God.
May I be like you.



Text: Eddie Espinosa
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CALL TO WORSHIP



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

C: the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. Amen!

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION



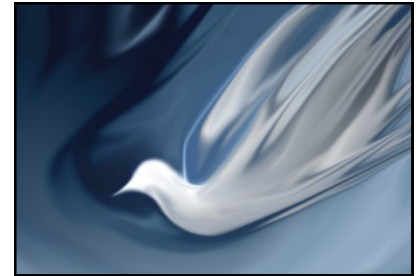
P: Fountain of living water,

C: **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

WORDS OF ABSOLUTION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ✠ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

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: Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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: Exodus 20:1-17

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me,

⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.

¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Here ends the reading.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 *(Bold - verse for FAITH5)*

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

R: Word of God. Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God!



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

C: Praise to You, Lord Christ!



Gospel

READING

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering (*especially*). Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.



P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through 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: Giving for February: \$20,805
Needed for Monthly Budget: \$25,974 for 80%
Thank You!

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Faithful God,

C: you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with 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."



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. God of steadfast love,
C: **at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FAITH5 - BLESS

P: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
C: Amen!

A SENDING SONG

Prince of Peace

MEN

You are holy
You are mighty
You are worthy
Worthy of praise

I will follow
I will listen
I will love You
All of my days

I will sing to
And worship
The King who
Is worthy

I will love Him
Adore Him
I will bow down
before Him

I will sing to
And worship
The King who
Is worthy

I will love Him
Adore Him
I will bow down
Before Him

You're my Prince of Peace, and I will live my life for You.
You're my Prince of Peace, and I will live my life for You.

WOMEN

(You are holy)
(You are mighty)
(You are worthy)
(Worthy of praise)

(I will follow)
(I will listen)
(I will love you)
(All of my days)

(You're the lord of lords)
(You're the king of kings)
(You are mighty God)
(Lord of everything)

(You're Emmanuel)
(You're the Great I am)
(You're the Prince of Peace)
(Who is the lamb)

(You're the living God)
(You're my saving grace)
(You will reign forever)
(You are ancient of days)

(You are Alpha Omega)
(Beginning and End)
(You're my Savior Messiah)
(Redeemer and friend)

Michael W. Smith



WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

P: Go in peace. Share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.



All are Welcome

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEARLAND, TEXAS

UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITY & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Lent 3 March 7th - 8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship

Lenten Wednesday Night Service - March 10th - 7pm

Season of Lent, six weeks of reflection, repentance, and preparation for our Easter celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Our weekly Lent Wednesday **7:00 p.m. devotional services** will take the form of song, abbreviated liturgy, Scripture, devotional reading and prayer. Our Lent theme this year is Prayer: With Open Hands, based on the book by the same name by Henri J. M. Nouwen. **You are invited to attend** online through New Life's FaceBook livestream or in-person (with RSVP and pandemic protocols). May God's Spirit accompany us on our Lenten journey toward the Cross and the joy of Christ's resurrection.



Lent 4 March 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!"**)

Palm Sunday - Mar. 28th
Holy Week



Easter Sunday - Apr. 4th



The **ABC** (Adult Bible Class) will resume in-person study at 9:30am on Sundays,
in the Fellowship Hall + Social Distancing and Masks required +

Sunday Zoom Gospel 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!

Gospel Bible Study

