



RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship

Lent 4

March 14, 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 fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

Gathering Songs

New Life House Band

WELCOME & NEWS

Here I am to Worship

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness.
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you
Hope of a life spent with you

Chorus:

Here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth you created.
All for love's sake became poor. *Chorus*

Bridge:

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross. (3x)

*Chorus (2x)**Words: Tim Hughes*

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

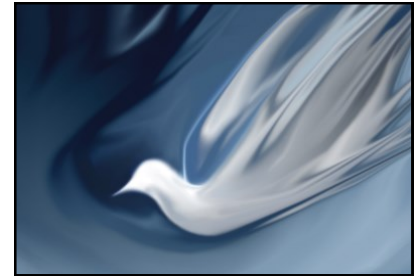
P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ✠ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

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: O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

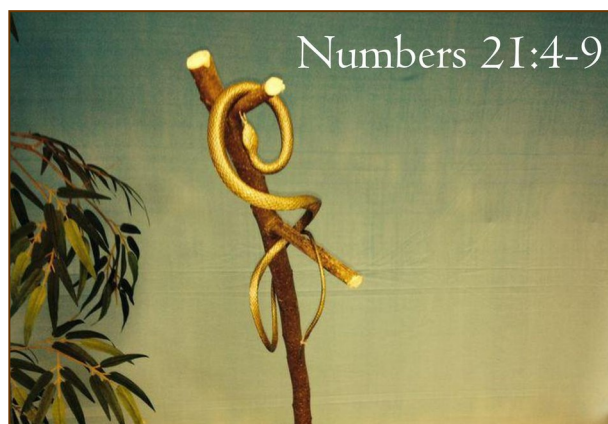
C: **Amen.**

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: Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.

⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food."

⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.

⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live."

⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

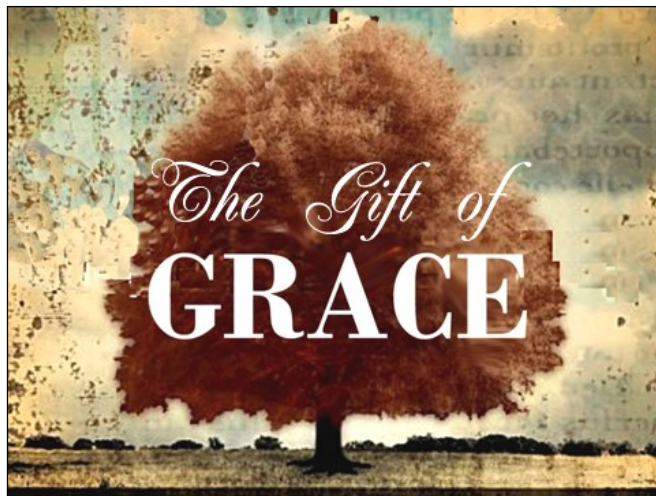
Here ends the reading.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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 3:14-21

(Bold - verse for FAITH5)

[Jesus said:] **¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,** ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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: You sent your Son that the world might be saved through him. Inspire the witness of the church throughout the world. Empower missionaries, Bible translators, and ministries of service in your name. Bless our partners in ministry, our ELCA global partner churches, and Young Adults in Global Mission. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You sustained your people in the wilderness. Give courage to all who lead in times of crisis and scarce resources. Prosper the work of those who aid victims of famine and drought. Bring peace in places where scarce resources cause violence. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to you, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; give healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who mourn. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: By grace we have been saved. Fill this congregation to overflowing with that grace, that we show mercy to others. Nourish any in our midst who are hungry, especially children, and bless our ministries of feeding and shelter. Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.



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 March: \$11,810.59
Needed for Monthly Budget: \$25,974 for 45.5%
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



How Deep the Father's Love

1. How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond on measure
That he should give his only son
To make a wretch his treasure

How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the chosen one
Bring many sons to glory

2. Behold the man upon the cross
My sin upon his shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

3. I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom X2

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 4 March 14th - 8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship

Lenten Wednesday Night Service - March 17th - 7pm

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 5 March 21st - 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



Maundy Thursday - Apr. 1st - Service @ 7pm

Good Friday - Apr. 2nd - Service @ 7pm

Drive Thru Fish Fry @ 5pm



Easter Sunday - Apr. 4th



Youth Sunday School for K-3rd grade - 9:30am on Sundays,
Upstairs in the Fellowship Hall + Social Distancing and Masks required +

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

