

RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship

Easter 2

April 11, 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 Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.



Pastor Tracey Breashears Schultz is the Bishop's Associate for Leadership. She works with congregations in transition. Pastor Tracey is a graduate of the University of Arkansas, Wartburg Theological Seminary, and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She served two parish calls prior to her work on synod staff, one in San Antonio and one in Houston. Her joys in ministry are: faith formation, worship, preaching, and evangelism. Some of her joys in life are: practicing yoga, drinking good coffee, trying new recipes, and watching too many British crime dramas. Pastor Tracey is married to Chris Schultz, an architect and UT grad. They live in the Heights.

Gathering Songs

New Life House Band

WELCOME & NEWS

O Come to the Altar

Are you hurting and broken within?
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well?
Jesus is calling

***Chorus* O come to the altar
 he Father's arms are open wide
 Forgiveness was bought with
 The precious blood of Jesus Christ**

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling ***Chorus X2***

***Bridge* Oh what a savior
 Isn't He wonderful?
 Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen
 Bow down before Him
 For He is Lord of all
 Sing Hallelujah, Christ is risen**

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you found
Jesus is calling ***Chorus X2***

Are you hurting and broken within?
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling

CALL TO WORSHIP & THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.



Silence is kept for reflection.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

WORDS OF ABSOLUTION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE



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

C: **And also with you.**

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with every one here.

C: **And also with you.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.

³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.

³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Here ends the reading.



Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2

(*Bold - verse for FAITH5*)

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life —

²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us —

³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.

⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;

⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

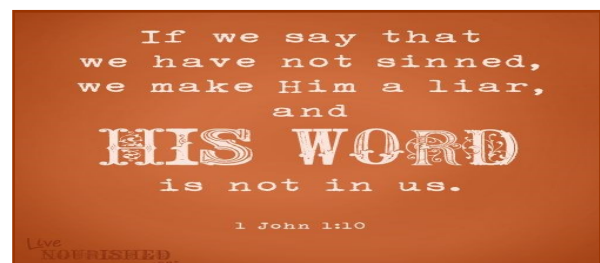
¹⁰**If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.**

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

P: You shower your church with grace, O God. Unite the whole church on earth, so that with one heart it testifies to the resurrection of Jesus Christ with power and love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You direct the nations, O God. Guide all in authority, that they shepherd their peoples in the ways of your love. Defeat in us our impulse to war. Bestow the peace of Christ upon those in authority and breathe upon them the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You give us fellowship with one another in this faith community. Shine the light of the risen Christ in our life together, so that we live in love for one another and our joy may be complete. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: You share the gift of eternal life. In thanksgiving and remembrance, we recall the lives and gifts of those who now live in endless joy (*especially*). Unite us with them in resurrection hope. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



P: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; 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 April: \$7,645.44
Needed for Monthly Budget: \$25,974 for 29.4%
Thank You!

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of love,

C: you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. 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: The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

C: AMEN!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



P: Let us pray. Wellspring of joy,

C: **through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FAITH5 - BLESS

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

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 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!
He's comin' back again! He's comin' back again!
We believe, We believe!

Lyrics by Newsboys

WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



EASTER 2

APRIL 11, 2021



All are Welcome

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEARLAND, TEXAS

UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITY & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Easter 2 - April 11th - 8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship

Easter 3 - April 18th - 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!")



The Voices of New Life Concert on March 27th collected 200+ pounds of non-perishable food items and \$100+ for Christian Helping Hands.

Thank you!



Thank you to Linda and her crew who made up and gave out 98 Easter baskets/buckets/bags for our youth, grandkids and friends. Thank you to Bob Leach for his donation and to Elaine Damewood for her Thrivent Action Team Card that helped fund this effort!



Fish Fry Proceeds: \$1,310

Thank you to all who help prep, cook, serve and purchase the dinners!



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) 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

