



## RESPONSIBLE LIVING - JOYFUL GIVING

*Redefining Stewardship as "Whole Life" Stewardship*

**Easter 5**

**May 2, 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 image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

## Gathering Songs

New Life House Band

## WELCOME &amp; NEWS

## How Great Is Our God

1. The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty  
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice  
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide  
it trembles at his voice, trembles at his voice

## CHORUS

How great is our God, sing with me  
How great is our God, and all will see  
How great, How great is our God



2. And age to age He stands and time is in His Hands  
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End  
The Godhead, three in one Father, Spirit, Son  
the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

CHORUS

## BRIDGE

NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES!

(How great \_\_\_\_\_ is our God! \_\_\_\_\_ Sing with me: )

WORTHY OF ALL PRAISE!

(How great \_\_\_\_\_ is our God! \_\_\_\_\_ And all will see: )

MY HEART WILL SING: HOW GREAT \_\_\_\_\_ IS OUR GOD

(How great, \_\_\_\_\_ How great \_\_\_\_\_ is our God! \_\_\_\_\_) **REPEAT**

## CHORUS

## 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: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, 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 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*Here ends the reading.*

**Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21**

*(Bold - verse for FAITH5)*

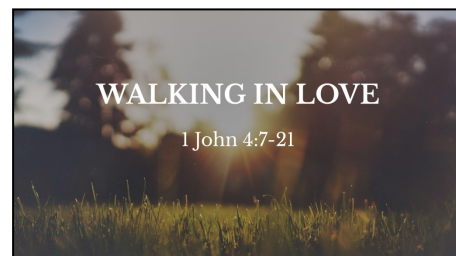
<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>**The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.**

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 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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: God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*



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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](http://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: \\$21,807.61](#)  
[Needed for Monthly Budget: \\$25,974 for 84%](#)  
*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 rising 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."



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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.**

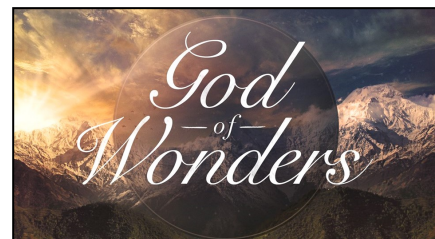
### FAITH5 - BLESS

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

## God Of Wonders



Lord of Heaven and Earth.  
Lord of Heaven and Earth.

Lord of all creation, of water, earth and sky.  
The heavens are your Tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on high!

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are Holy, Holy.  
The universe declares Your majesty, You are Holy, Holy.

Lord of Heaven and Earth  
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.  
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call your name by night

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are Holy, Holy.  
The universe declares Your majesty, You are Holy, Holy.

Lord of Heaven and Earth  
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth (3x)

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are Holy, Holy.  
Precious Lord, reveal your heart to me, You are Holy, Holy.  
The universe declares Your majesty, You are Holy, Holy.

Lord of Heaven and Earth  
Lord of Heaven and Earth

*Lyrics by Chris Tomlin*

## 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 5**

**May 2, 2021**



# All are Welcome

## NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEARLAND, TEXAS

### UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITY & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Easter 5 - May 2nd - 8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship**

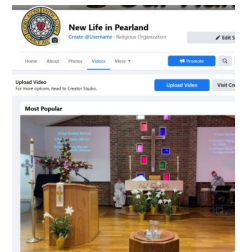
**Mother's Day - Easter 6 - May 9th**

**8:00 am & 10:30 am In-Person & Livestream Worship**

**To help raise money for Lutherhill Camp Scholarships, flower arrangements will be available for sale before and after services.**



**Previous weeks Services can be found under "videos" on the NewLifeinPearland Facebook page.**



**The New Life Choir practices every Wednesday at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary.**



**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

**Pastor Bill** hosts an online *Zoom* virtual

**Adult Christian Education** each **Sunday at 9:30 am**. Each 30-minute session will feature a study and discussion of the Gospel Reading of the day.

#### **Gospel Bible Study**

