



“Blessed are you...”

Matthew 5:11

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion

January 29, 2023

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING SONGS - New Life House Band

WELCOME – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

GATHERING SONG *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

Chorus

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

Rick Founds

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

All: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Blessed Be Your Name*

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name, when I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

Chorus

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name, when the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name (*Chorus*)

You give and take away, you give and take away
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be your name. (*Chorus*)

Text: Matt and Beth Redman
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PRAYER – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

A: ¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with the chosen people, and the LORD will contend with Israel. ³O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before God with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸The LORD has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 15

Please read responsively

A: ¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**All: ²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

A: ³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**All: ⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those
who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back
their word.**

A: ⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

All: Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

A: 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. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰God is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll

Turn back to praise

When the darkness closes in Lord

Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:1-12

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain and sat down; and his disciples came to him. ²Then Jesus began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the dominion of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the dominion of heaven. ¹¹Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

SONG OF THE DAY ***You Are the Light of the World***

You are the light of the world,
you are the light of the world.
So shine, shine, shine where you are,
you are the light of the world.

You are a city on a hill,
you are a city on a hill.
So shine, shine, shine where you are,
you are a city on a hill.

You are a candle in the night,
you are a candle in the night.
So shine, shine, shine where you are,
you are a candle in the night.

You are the light of the world,
you are the light of the world.
So shine, shine, shine where you are,
you are the light of the world.
So shine, shine, shine where you are,
you are the light of the world.

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Joining together let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Remind us of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross of Christ as the center of our life together. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

All: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

The ministry of New Life Lutheran Church is made possible through the tithes, gifts, and offerings of the people. We encourage you to give as an act of worship today. You can offer a gift by texting to 281.864.3278, adding a dollar amount to the message box, and send. A link will appear for a one time set up. Once it is set up, it takes seconds to give again. You can also give through our website by scanning the QR code on the pew.

OFFERTORY – New Life Houseband

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

All: Amen. Thanks be to God.

SHARING THE MEAL

Everyone is welcome to receive Jesus in bread and wine. This is Jesus' table and he welcomes all. Pre-filled communion packets are available in the Narthex if you would prefer to receive communion that way. Everyone else is invited to come down the center aisle maintaining two continuous lines. You will receive a piece of bread with the words, "The body of Christ given for you," and you can respond with, "Amen." Remain on the side of the section of pews you are sitting in. You will receive an individual cup of either wine (red) or grape juice (clear) with the words, "The blood of Christ shed for you," and you can respond with, "Amen." There is a basket available for your empty cup. You will then return to your pew from the side aisle.

COMMUNION SONG *Amazing Love (You Are My King)*

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken,
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
I am alive and well, Your spirit is within me,
Because You died and rose again.

Chorus

Amazing love, how can it be?
That You, my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true.
It's my joy to honor You,
In all I do, I honor You. *(Repeat verse, Chorus x2)*

You are my King

Jesus You are my King *(Repeat x4, Chorus)* Billy Foote © 1996 worshiptogether.com songs

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you, strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.

All: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

All: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

BLESSING

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

All: Amen.

SENDING SONG

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave his light to me, I'm gonna let it shine.

Jesus gave his light to me, I'm gonna let it shine.

Jesus gave his light to me, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Let it shine till Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine till Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine till Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

African American spiritual
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany: January 29

Traditional Worship: 8:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

New Member Class: Today at 11:30 AM.

GriefShare Support Group: Monday, January 30 at 6:00 PM. This 13-week support group will take place on Mondays at 6:00 PM, beginning on January 30. It will be co-led by Aimee Castillo and Pastor Clayton. Cost for registration and workbook is \$20.

2023 Flower Chart: A new flower calendar is available on the Narthex door. If you'd like to sponsor flowers for a special occasion or in honor of someone, please add your name to the chart.

Shrove Tuesday: Tuesday, February 21. Pancake Dinner at 6:00 PM.

Ash Wednesday: Wednesday, February 22. Worship at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)

Assisting Minister

Nancy Bryars

Communion Assistants

Barbara Flowers, Merideth Oliver

Usher

Jenaro and Max Castillo

Acolyte

Jocelyn and Emily Weber

Technology

Korie Williams

*Altar flowers are given by Judy Foucheaux
celebrating Foster's birthday today and all with January birthdays.*