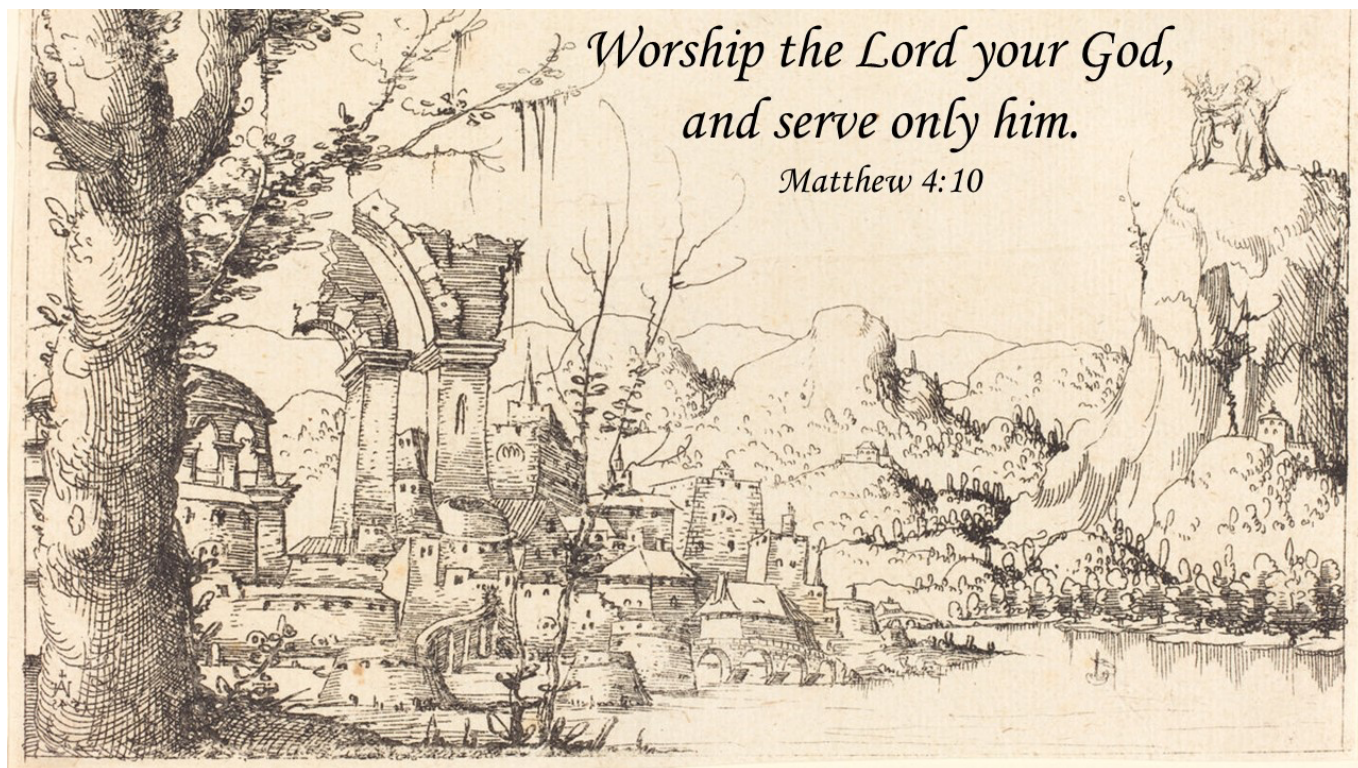




*Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.*

Matthew 4:10

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

First Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion

February 26, 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 *Messiah*

1. Someone's shouting from the desert,
someone's shouting from the sea.
Someone's shouting from the mountain,
someone's shouting from the valley.

Refrain: Messiah, Messiah, come and be our King.
Messiah, Messiah, come and be our King.

2. Someone's shouting from the city,
I am young, I am cold.
Someone's shouting from the country,
I am lonely, I am old. *Refrain*

3. Someone's shouting I am broken.
Someone's shouting make me whole.
Someone's shouting come and change me,
someone's shouting save my soul. *Refrain*

Text: Larry Olson
©1989 Dakota Road Music

HOLY BAPTISM OF THEO LANE BRADFORD

P: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Theo baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

P: As you bring Theo to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:
to live with them among God's faithful people,
bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in their hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture them in faith and prayer,
so that your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

P: Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

P: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Theo in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

P: People of God, do you promise to support Theo and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

All: We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism and the assembly as all join together in the responses.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

All: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

All: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

All: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All: 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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Water may be poured into the font during the thanksgiving.

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

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

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

BAPTISM

*The presiding minister baptizes each candidate.
Water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:*

P: Theo, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Clothed with Christ in baptism, the newly baptized receives a baptismal cloth.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each:

P: Sustain Theo with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

All: Amen.

*The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized.
As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:*

P: Theo, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

All: Amen.

WELCOME

A lighted candle may be given to the newly baptized as the assisting minister says:

A: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

A: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

GATHERING SONG *Come As You Are*

1. Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let the rescue begin
Come find your mercy Oh, sinner, come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

Refrain

**So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
Oh, wanderer come home you're not too far
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are**

2. There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure. ***Refrain***

3. Come as you are now; you're never too lost
Fall in His arms at the foot of the cross
Joy for the morning, Oh sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal. ***Refrain***

PRAYER – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

A: ¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." ^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. The serpent said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, "'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32

Please read responsively.

A: ¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**All: ²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

A: ³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**All: ⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

A: ⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

All: ⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

A: ⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

All: ⁸"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

A: ⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

All: ¹⁰Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

A: ¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;

All: shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

A: ¹²Just as sin came into the world through one human being, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the trespass of one human, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one human, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the sin of one human being. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the trespass of one, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore just as the trespass of one person led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one

person leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the disobedience of one the many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one the many will be made righteous.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame

All who are broken lift up your face

Oh, wanderer come home you're not too far

So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:1-11

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But Jesus answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took Jesus to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'God will give you into the angels' charge,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to the devil, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the realms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to the devil, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God; serve God alone.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner *"Belonging: Born Identity"*

SONG OF THE DAY *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all 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

Behold the Man upon a 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

I will not boast in anything
No gifts no pow'r 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

*Words and Music: Stuart Townend
© 1995 Thankyou Music*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church,
the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration. Guide our church in finding an administrative assistant. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards, that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: You are a hiding place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants, especially children who travel alone. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Care for those who tend to the needs of others, including our ushers, coffee hour hosts, and audio/video technicians. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

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.

P: 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 receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

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 *Just As I Am, without One Plea*



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict,
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

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. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

BLESSING

P: God, the giver of love, ☩ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

All: Amen.

SENDING SONG ***You're Worthy of My Praise***

I will worship (I will worship)
With all of my heart (with all of my heart)
I will praise You (I will praise You)
With all of my strength (all my strength)
I will seek You (I will seek You)
All of my days (all of my days)
And I will follow (I will follow)
All of Your ways (all Your ways)

Chorus: I will give You all my worship
I will give You all my praise
You alone I long to worship
You alone are worthy of my praise

I will bow down (I will bow down)
Hail You as king (hail You as king)
And I will serve You (I will serve You)
Give You everything (give You everything)
I will lift up (I will lift up)
My eyes to Your throne (my eyes to Your throne)
And I will trust You (I will trust You)
I will trust You alone (trust You alone) **Chorus**

Words and Music: David Ruis
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

All: Thanks be to God.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the First Sunday in Lent: February 26

Traditional Worship: 8:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

Senior Lunch: Join us Wednesday, March 1 at noon for a Go Texan celebration with brisket for lunch. Please bring a side dish or dessert for our potluck lunch.

"Belonging" Sermon Series: During Lent, our Sunday sermon series will be "Belonging." Together we will ponder what it means to belong to and participate in the body of Christ.

Midweek Worship During Lent: Every Wednesday evening (beginning March 1) we will gather for a community meal and fellowship followed by Bible study and worship. Join us for soup supper at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall (sign up sheets are in the narthex). At 7:00 PM we gather in the sanctuary for worship.

First Communion Class: If your child is ready to begin receiving holy communion, make plans to join the class on Sunday, April 2 at 11:30 AM.

Children's Easter Party: Everyone is invited to the Easter Party on Saturday, April 8 at 11:00 AM. Candy donations are appreciated!

GriefShare Support Group: This support group will take place on Mondays at 6:00 PM. It's not too late to join. Cost for registration and workbook is \$20.

We're Hiring: The church is hiring an administrative assistant. This job is a part time position at 20 hours per week (Monday through Thursday, 5 hours per day). If you know a person you think would be good candidate, please share the news.

Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)

Assisting Minister

Communion Assistants

Usher

Technology

Lisa Hitchcock-Weber

Merideth Oliver, Nancy Bryars

Jenaro and Max Castillo

Korie Williams

*Altar flowers are given by Roland and Nancy Bryars
in celebration of Nancy's birthday on Feb. 25
and in thanksgiving for all of God's good gifts.*