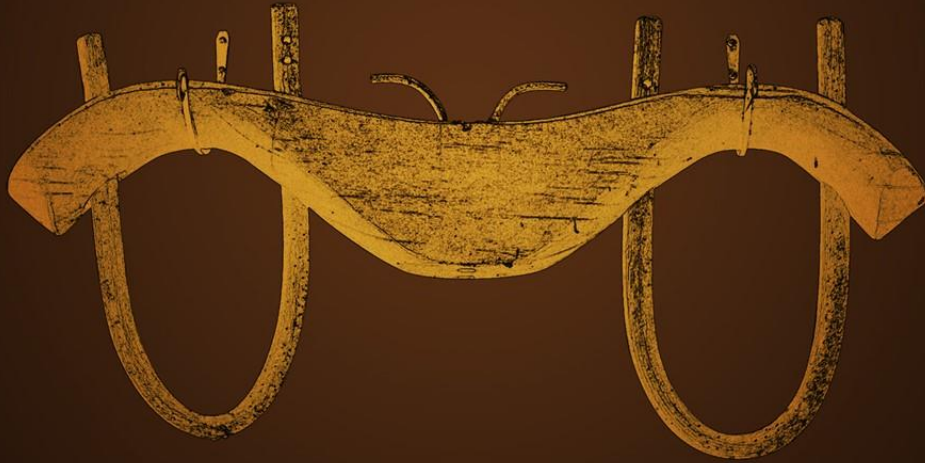


MY YOKE IS EASY

MATTHEW 11:30



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

July 9, 2023

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

Mighty to Save

Ev'ryone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Saviour
The hope of nations

Chorus

Saviour, He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever, Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender (*Repeat Chorus*)

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King (*Repeat Chorus*)

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King

WELCOME – Pastor Grant Housewright

GATHERING SONG

Those Who Trust

Those who trust in the Lord
Are a strong mountain
They will not, not be moved (*repeat*)

Chorus

Though the world moves like mad
You, O Lord, are faithful
Jesus you, you will not
Not be changed

Those who trust in the Lord
Are as Mount Zion
They will not, not be moved (*repeat*)

Repeat Chorus

Christ the King sets my feet
On a firm foundation
They will not, not be moved (*repeat*)

Repeat Chorus

Don Chaffer
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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

P: Merciful God,

All: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

P: Righteous God,

All: we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Better is One Day

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere
Than thousands elsewhere

One thing I ask and I would seek to see Your beauty
To find You in the place your glory dwells
For here my heart is satisfied within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

Repeat Chorus (without last line)

Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out
For You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You

Repeat Chorus

PRAYER – Pastor Grant Housewright

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Zachariah 9:9-12

A: ⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰The king will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:8-14 ***Please read responsively.***

A: ⁸The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**All: ⁹Lord, you are good to all, and your compassion
is over all your works.**

A: ¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

**All: ¹¹They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,**

A: ¹²that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**All: ¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your
dominion endures throughout all ages. You, Lord, are
faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

A: ¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall

All: and lifts up those who are bowed down.

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15 – 25a

A: ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my physical body another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my body. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

My heart and flesh cry out for You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen, come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶"To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.'" ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; ¹⁹the Son-of-Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by wise deeds." ²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious

will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal the Father. ²⁸"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON – Rebecca McDonald

SERMON – Grant Housewright

SONG OF THE DAY Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Refrain

Just a closer walk with thee
Grant it Jesus is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord let it be

I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee (*Repeat Refrain*)

Through this world of toil and snares
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee dear Lord, none but Thee (*Repeat Refrain*)

When my feeble life is o'er
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore (*Repeat Refrain*)

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: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: God of the covenant, you call ministers to proclaim your gospel of grace throughout the world. Inspire pastors, deacons, church musicians, and all ministers of your word as they carry out your work. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all creation, you reveal your goodness through all you have made: rivers and seas, plants and animals, and endangered species. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, botanical gardens, zoos, and wildlife sanctuaries. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God of the nations, you desire that all the peoples of the world live in peace. Guide government leaders at all levels—national, state/province, and local—to work for justice, mercy, and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God of compassion, you bring healing to those who are sick, consolation to those who are grieving, and well-being to those who are distraught. Send skilled caregivers to all in need, and make your presence known among all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God of rejoicing, you have brought us together this day to worship around word and sacrament. Encourage children in their learning and growing, and watch over those who are absent today. Lead us all to places of renewal and refreshment. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God of all faithfulness, through the witness of the faithful departed you reveal love in action. Embolden us by their example to build up the beloved community in all the contexts we encounter. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, 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 – Eliza Wishart

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

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

Softly and Tenderly



- 1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
- 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
- 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909

Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

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. We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Rebecca McDonald

BLESSING

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✚ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

All: Amen

SENDING SONG

I Am Free

Through You the blind will see
Through You the mute will sing
Through You the dead will rise
Through You all hearts will praise
Through You the darkness flees
Through You my heart screams I am free

Chorus

I am free to run (I am free to run)
I am free to dance (I am free to dance)
I am free to live for You (I am free to live for You)
I am free (I am free)
Yes I am free (I am free)

Repeat All

Repeat Chorus again

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

All: Thanks be to God.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: July 2

Traditional Worship: 8:00 AM

Bible Study with Pastor Clayton: 9:15 AM

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

WELCA Lunch Out: All Women of the church are welcome to join us for lunch at 888 Bistro (1325 Broadway St.) on Wednesday, July 12 at 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM.

Mary and Martha Bible Study: All women of the church are welcomed to join us for a Bible study in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, July 19 at 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM.

Vacation Bible School: July 30 – August 3, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Register at Newlifelutheran.com

God's Work, Our Hands Projects: On Sunday, September 10 we will observe "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. We are looking for service projects in the community. If you have a need or would like to nominate someone who has a need, send an email to office@newlifelutheran.com.

Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)

Assisting Minister

Peter Weber

Communion Assistants

Linda Hudgens and Cheryl Robinson

Usher

Jenaro and Max Castillo

Technology

Korie Williams

*Altar flowers are given by Cheryl Robinson
In appreciation of Pastor Grant Housewright.*