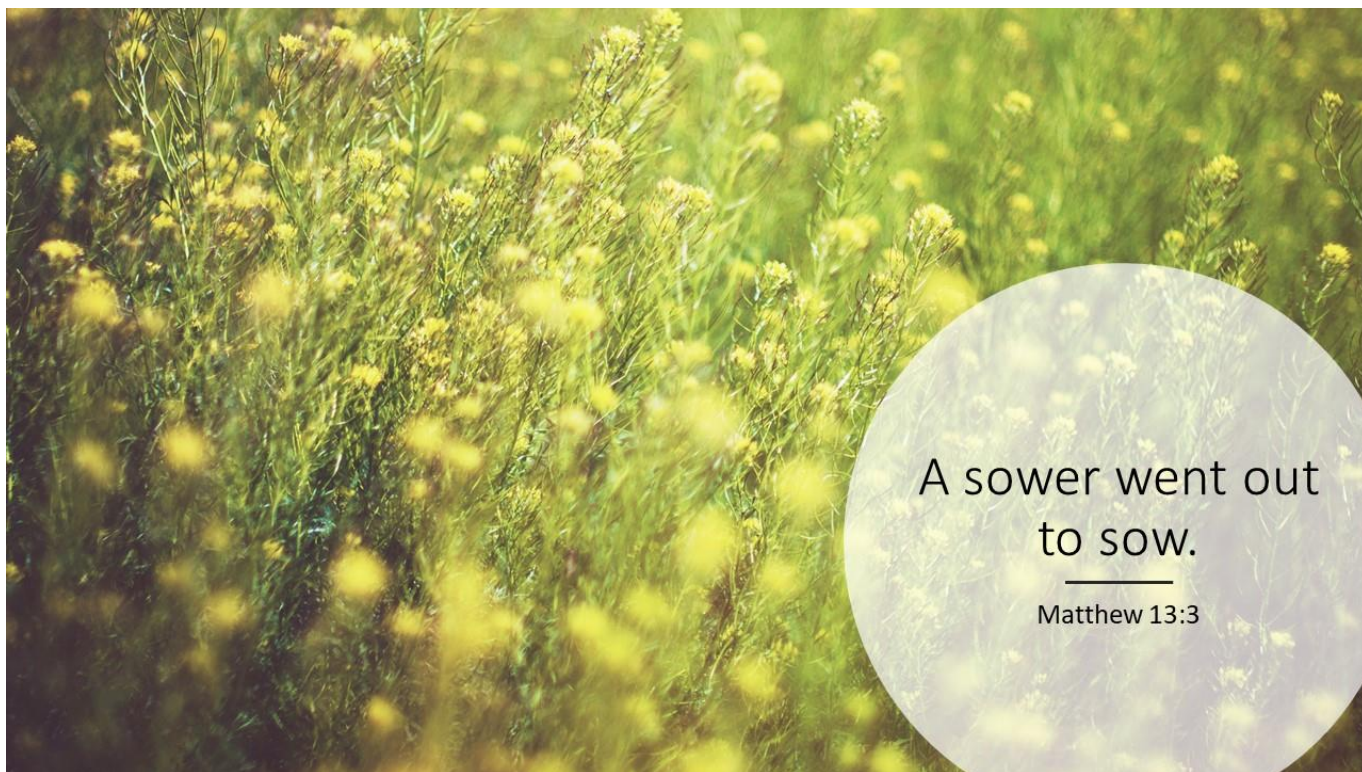




NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

July 16, 2023

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

Song of Hope

All things bright and beautiful You are
All things wise and wonderful You are
In my darkest night You brighten up the skies
A song will rise

Chorus 1

I will sing a song of hope, sing along
God of heaven come down
Heaven come down
Just to know that You are near is enough
God of heaven come down
Heaven come down

All things new I can start again
Creator God, calling me Your friend
Sing praise my soul to the Maker of the skies
A song will rise

Chorus 2

I will sing a song of hope, sing along
God of heaven come down
Heaven come down
Just to know You and be loved is enough
God of heaven come down
Heaven come down

Hallelujah, sing
Hallelujah, sing, sing
Oh hallelujah, sing

Repeat Chorus 1, Chorus 2

Heaven come down

WELCOME – Pastor Grant Housewright

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

Pre-Chorus

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say

Chorus

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 (*Repeat Pre-Chorus & Chorus*)

Bridge

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name (*Repeat Bridge & Chorus*)

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

Shout to The Lord

My Jesus, my Saviour
Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

Repeat ALL

Nothing compares to the promise I have in You
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

Darlene Zschech
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PRAYER – Pastor Grant Housewright

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

A: ¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65:9-13 ***Please read responsively.***

A: ⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

All: ¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

A: ¹¹You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

All: ¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.**

A: ¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

All: let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

A: ¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: sending God's own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through this Spirit dwelling in you.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And in the sowing, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!" ¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the dominion of heaven and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON – Rebecca McDonald

SERMON – Grant Housewright

SONG OF THE DAY Word of God, Speak

I'm finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is, it's okay
The last thing I need is to be heard
But to hear what You would say

Chorus

Word of God, speak
Would You pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty
To be still and know
That You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest
In Your holiness
Word of God, speak

I'm finding myself in the midst of You
Beyond the music, beyond the noise
All that I need is to be with You
And in the quiet hear Your voice

Repeat Chorus 2x

I'm finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is, it's okay

Bart Millard | Pete Kipley
© 2002 Songs From The Indigo Room; Simpleville Music; Curb Wordspring Music

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: Guide your church, O God, to sow seeds of forgiveness and righteousness on good soil. Direct your people to proclaim your love in this congregation and throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: Sustain your creation, O God, by sending favorable weather, causing trees and fields to grow, protecting waterways from pollution, and instilling in all people the need to be good stewards. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: Maintain peace among all people, O God, and raise up lawyers to work for justice in the courts, advocates to speak for the downtrodden, and politicians to work on behalf of the common good. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: Heal those who are sick, O God. Guide health care workers to care for those who suffer, scientists to conduct lifesaving research, and counselors to care for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: Answer the prayers of those gathered in worship, O God. Protect those who travel near and far, accompany visitors to this congregation, and nurture our faith. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Inspire us by the faithful departed, O God, examples of your embodied love, whose confidence in the resurrection guides us in living lives worthy of the gospel. 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 – Houseband

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

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God
Fall fresh on me
Spirit of the Living God
Fall fresh on me

Melt me mold me
Fill me use me
Spirit of the Living God
Fall fresh on me

Daniel Iverson © 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music

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

My Redeemer Lives

I know He rescued my soul
His blood has covered my sin
I believe, I believe
My shame He's taken away
My pain is healed in His name
I believe, I believe
I'll raise a banner
'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave

Chorus

My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives

Repeat all

You lift my burdens
I'll rise with You
I'm dancing on this mountaintop
To see Your kingdom come

Repeat Chorus 2x

Reuben Morgan
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

All: Thanks be to God.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: July 16

Traditional Worship: 8:00 AM

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

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

Evelyn Baldauf

Communion Assistants

Linda Hudgens and Barbara Flowers

Usher

Cathy Scott

Technology

Korie Williams

*Altar flowers are given by Nancy Bryars
In celebration of their 30th Anniversary.*