



The righteous will shine like the sun

Matthew 13:43

## **NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Pearland, TX**

**Worship at 10:30 AM**

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

July 23, 2023



## **GATHERING**

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

### **GATHERING SONG - House Band**

#### **WELCOME – Pastor Clayton Faulkner**

### **GATHERING SONG      All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises**

#### *Chorus*

You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise  
You did, You're alive  
You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again  
I know You will and all the earth will sing Your praises

You took, You take our sins away oh God  
You give and gave Your life away for us  
You came down, You saved us through the cross  
Our hearts are changed because of Your great love

#### *Repeat Chorus*

No one, no name can rise above You Lord  
One hope, One life will shine forever more  
Your kingdom in heaven and on earth  
Your children stand to sing of Your great worth

#### *Repeat Chorus*

All the earth will sing Your praises  
All the earth will sing Your praises

Paul Baloche  
© 2003 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

## **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      Take My Life, That I May Be**

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad,  
y hazla tuya, nada mas;  
toma, si, mi corazón  
y tu trono en el tendrás.

Take my silver and my gold,  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use  
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King;  
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad,  
y hazla tuya, nada mas;  
toma, si, mi corazón  
y tu trono en el tendrás.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adap.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955

## **PRAYER – Pastor Clayton Faulkner**

## WORD

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

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8**

**A:** <sup>6</sup>Thus says the LORD, the Sovereign of Israel, and Israel's Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. <sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. <sup>8</sup>Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there besides me any other deity? There is no other rock; I know not one.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 86:11-17**      ***Please read responsively.***

**A:** <sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

**All: <sup>12</sup>I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.**

**A:** <sup>13</sup>For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

**All: <sup>14</sup>The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

**A:** <sup>15</sup>But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

**All: <sup>16</sup>Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

**A:** <sup>17</sup>Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;

**All: because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25**

A: <sup>12</sup>So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with Christ so that we may also be glorified with Christ. <sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

A: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad,  
y hazla tuya, nada mas;  
toma, si, mi corazón  
y tu trono en el tendrás.

## **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: <sup>24</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The dominion of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field;<sup>25</sup>but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup>He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' <sup>29</sup>But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." <sup>37</sup>Jesus answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son-of-Man; <sup>38</sup>the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of God's dominion; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son-of-Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his dominion all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the dominion of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner**



## **SONG OF THE DAY**

## **As the Grains of Wheat**

### *Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.

As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*

Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.,

## **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: O God, you call your church to announce the gospel of reconciliation and truth both near and far. Guide your church as it seeks your wisdom and shares it, trusting your Spirit bearing witness among us. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

A: You brought forth all creation and called it good. Direct policymakers to protect lands and seas. Bring rain to sun-parched fields and protect areas impacted by natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

A: You desire peace among nations and peoples. Guard our neighborhoods from hatred, watch over police officers and firefighters, and teach us to advocate for those who live in fear. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

A: You are gracious and merciful, comforting those who suffer any affliction. Sustain your people living with illness, provide shelter for all who are unhoused, and release any who are unjustly imprisoned. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

A: You name each of us as your children. Guide our hospitality ministry to welcome all, our education ministry to equip us for faithful living, and our outreach ministry to enact the gospel in our community. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: You send faithful people to proclaim freedom from bondage and to renew your church. Encourage us by the witness of the faithful departed, so that we live into that same hope. 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**

## **You Are So Good To Me**

You are so good to me  
You heal my broken heart  
You are my Father in heaven (*repeat*)

### *Chorus*

You are beautiful, my sweet sweet song  
You are beautiful, my sweet sweet song  
You are beautiful, my sweet sweet song  
I will sing again

You ride upon the clouds  
You lead me to the truth  
You are the Spirit inside me (*repeat*)

### *Repeat Chorus*

### *Bridge*

You are my strong melody  
You are my dancing rhythm  
You are my perfect rhyme  
And I want to sing forever

You poured out all your blood  
You died upon the cross  
You are my Jesus who loves me (*repeat*)

### *Repeat Chorus & Bridge*

You are my Father in heaven  
You are the Spirit inside me  
You are my Jesus who loves me

## **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**

### **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**

## **Days of Elijah**

These are the days of Elijah  
Declaring the Word of the Lord  
And these are the days of Your servant Moses  
Righteousness being restored  
And these are the days of great trials  
Of famine and darkness and sword  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord

### *Chorus*

Behold He comes  
Riding on the clouds  
Shining like the sun  
At the trumpet call  
So lift your voice  
It's the year of Jubilee  
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel  
The dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days of Your servant David  
Rebuilding a temple of praise  
And these are the days of the harvest  
The fields are as white in Your world  
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard  
Declaring the Word of the Lord

### *Repeat Chorus*

There is no god like Jehovah  
There is no god like Jehovah  
There is no god like Jehovah  
There is no god like Jehovah  
*Repeat 2x (Repeat Chorus)*

Out of Zion's hill salvation comes, out of Zion's hill salvation comes

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: July 23

Traditional Worship: 8:00 AM

Bible Study with Pastor Clayton: 9:15 AM

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

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

Rally Day is Sunday, August 13: Both services that day will include a backpack blessing for all that are headed back to school. At 9:15 AM that day we will gather in the fellowship hall to meet Sunday School teachers. Sunday School classes will begin the following week on August 20.

High School Pool Party: Students in 9th-12th grade will gather for a pool party on Sunday, August 13 from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Tatuaca's house.

National Youth Gathering Info Meeting: The NYG is scheduled for July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans (<https://www.elca.church/gathering>). We will be taking a group from New Life! All students entering 8th-12th grade this fall are eligible to participate. An event this big takes lots of planning and fundraising. An information meeting for parents and students will take place on Sunday, August 27 at 11:30 AM in the fellowship hall (lunch included). We will learn more about the Gathering, you can ask questions, and we will discuss all the trip options.

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](mailto:office@newlifelutheran.com).

#### **Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)**

Assisting Minister

Bryan Bradford

Communion Assistants

Barbara Flowers and Nancy Bryars

Usher

Jenaro and Max Castillo

Technology

Korie Williams and Eliza Wishart

*Altar flowers are given by Cheryl Robinson  
in memory of her fathers Charle's birthday on July 28.*