



“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



September 10
2023

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 9:30 AM

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

September 10, 2023

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my soul's shelter and Thou my high tower
Raise Thou me heavenward, O power of my power

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise
Thou my inheritance now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art

O Lord be my vision, O Lord be my light
Shine down Your light of heaven
Breaking through my darkest night (*Repeat*)

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all

Traditional Irish hymn & melody, arr. John Wasson
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WELCOME – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

GATHERING SONG

God's Work, Our Hands

God's work, our hands: working together,
building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,
following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom,
running the race with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our voice: singing together,
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice,
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Holy One, you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen

WORD

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:15-20

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said:] ¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸"Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

SONG OF THE DAY

Bind Us Together

Refrain

Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together in love

There is only one God
There is only one King
There is only one Body
That is why we can sing

Repeat Refrain

Made for the glory of God
Purchased by His precious Son
Born with the right to be clean
For Jesus the victory has won

Repeat Refrain

You are the family of God
You are the promise divine
You are God's chosen desire
You are the glorious new wine

Repeat Refrain

Bob Gillman
©1977 Thankyou Music

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Gathered into God's embrace, let us lift our voices on behalf of a weary and wounded world.

A brief silence.

A: God of love, send us out filled with your love and life. Be known in our daily living, that your love may be known through our proclamation. God, we pray,

All: open our hands in love.

A: God of creation, remind us to be good stewards of your diverse and beautiful world. God, we pray,

All: open our hands in love.

A: God of peace, fill the hearts of those who rule, govern and lead. Give them and us compassion to guide the peoples of this world in the ways of truth, justice, equity and peace. God, we pray,

All: open our hands in love.

A: God of healing, visit those who yearn for your wholeness, especially those whose names and needs we lift up now. *(A brief silence.)* Encourage all those who bear another's burdens. Give wisdom and perseverance to all who work in health care professions. God, we pray,

All: open our hands in love.

A: God of service, give us strength and humility. In our service to those near and far, whose needs are visible or invisible, may we find you in the faces of our neighbors. God, we pray,

All: open our hands in love.

Here other intercessions may be added.

A: Everlasting God, support us in this life. As we remember those who have gone before as examples of faithful living and honor those whose faith was known only to you, inspire us to follow their example of baptismal life until we join with them in worship. God, we pray,

All: open our hands in love.

P: Into your wounded hands of love, O God, we place all our prayers, trusting in your mercy through the Crucified and-Risen One Jesus.

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 Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into
the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, 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.

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: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

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

One Bread, One Body

Refrain



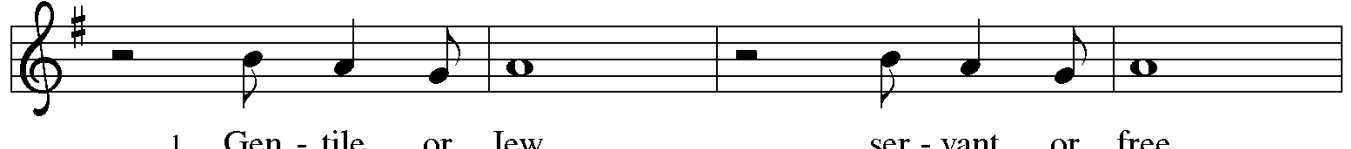
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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COMMUNION SONG

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Repeat Chorus 2x

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio
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(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION OF VOCATION

P: We are called to proclaim the good news:

All: God is at work!

P: This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:

All: God is at work in the world still today!

P: In us and through us, God is glorified in our work. When we offer a helping hand, God is praised. When we share of our abundance, God is known in the world.

All: God is at work in us!

P: In our service today, and in our daily lives, let us live out what God has called us to in baptism.

All: God is at work through our hands!

BLESSING

P: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!

All: Thanks be to God.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: September 10

One Worship Service: 9:30 AM

Following worship, we will participate in various service projects.

Service Projects Today:

- choir room cleaning/organization – Cheryl, Nancy
- office cleaning/organization – Kate
- quilt room cleaning/organization – Karen
- narthex cleaning/organization – Cathy
- pew rack organization – Pastor Clayton
- nursery cleaning/organization – Lynn
- aluminum can recycling – Helen
- outdoor projects – Diane, Doug
- hymn sing at Trinity Oaks – Rebecca

Congregational Meeting: On Sunday, September 24 we will gather for one combined worship service at 9:30 AM. Following the service, the members of New Life will meet to conduct the business of the church. The agenda includes approving the minutes from the previous congregational meeting, hearing from the Nominating Committee about new council nominees, voting on new council members, discussing a proposal for a Reserve Fund to help manage the church's finances, and hearing a report from Pastor Clayton.

Family Retreat at Lutherhill: Friday evening, October 13 through Sunday morning, October 15 at Camp Lutherhill in La Grange. A gathering for your family to rest, play, and reconnect. Make space to rest as you relax in a hammock, sneak in an afternoon nap or take in the epic Lutherhill sunset. Make space to play as you tackle the ropes course, take aim at the sling shot range or sing silly songs around the campfire. Make space to reconnect with the ones you love and our loving God. Cost is \$110 per Adult (ages 13+) and \$80 per Child (ages 3-12). Ages 2 and under: Free. Family Maximum: \$360. Contact Pastor Clayton for more details (pastor@newlifelutheran.com).

Today's Worship Leaders (9:30 AM)

Assisting Minister	Lisa Hitchcock-Weber
Communion Assistants	Nancy Bryars, Linda Hudgens
Usher	Jenaro Castillo
Technology	John Gestl
Acolytes	Max Castillo, Emily Weber
Greeter	Diane Tanksley

Altar Flowers are given by Deanna Owens in celebration of Grandparents Day! Happy Grandparents Day to George and Ruby Owens, Leonidas and Mildred Brown, and all grandparents!