



Give to God the things that are God's.
Matthew 22:21

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

October 22, 2023

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

God Of Wonders

Lord of all creation
Of water earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high

Chorus

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness
I will call Your name by night

Repeat Chorus

Precious Lord, reveal Your heart to me
Father hold me, hold me
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy, holy, holy

Repeat Chorus

Marc Byrd | Steve Hindalong
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WELCOME – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

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 God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

All: Amen.

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

All: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

All: Amen.

OPENING SONG

Open The Eyes of My Heart

Chorus

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Repeat Chorus

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy

Repeat all

High and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy

Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You

Paul Baloche
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PRAYER – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

A: ¹Thus says the LORD to Cyrus, the LORD's anointed, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip rulers of their robes, to open doors before Cyrus—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96:1-9

Please read responsively.

A: ¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

All: ²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

A: ³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

All: ⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

A: ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

All: ⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

A: ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

All: ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

A: ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;

All: tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A: ¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that God has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for God's Son from heaven, whom God raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:15-22

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹⁵The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to Jesus, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then Jesus said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

SONG OF THE DAY

God With Us

Who are we
That You would be mindful of us
What do You see
That's worth looking our way

We are free
In ways that we never should be
Sweet release
From the grip of these chains

Like hinges straining from the weight
My heart no longer can keep from singing

Chorus

All that is within me cries
For You alone be glorified
Emmanuel, God with us
My heart sings a brand new song
The debt is paid these chains are gone
Emmanuel, God with us

Lord You know
Our hearts don't deserve Your glory
Still You show
A love we cannot afford

Like hinges straining from the weight
My heart no longer can keep from singing

Repeat Chorus

Such a tiny offering compared to Calvary
Nevertheless we lay it at Your feet (*repeat*)

*Repeat Chorus (with "**my** debt is paid")*

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: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

A: Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

A: Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion.
God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

A: Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering. Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; 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 – Bubba Flowers

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 How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice

Chorus

How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands
Beginning and the End, beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb

Repeat Chorus

Name above all names, worthy of all praise
My heart will sing, how great is our God (*repeat*)

Repeat Chorus

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves

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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

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.

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

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

All: Thanks be to God.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost: October 22

Traditional Worship: 8:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday School for Everyone: We have room for everyone, and you are welcome.

Class options at 9:15 AM include:

- Elementary Class (Kindergarten through 6th grade) – downstairs Fellowship Hall classrooms
- Confirmation Class (7th through 8th grade and parents) – conference room in office building
- High School Class (9th through 12th grade) – library in office building
- Adult Class – Fellowship Hall

Recycling Aluminum Cans: The High School Sunday School class is collecting aluminum cans for a recycling fundraiser project. Cans can be dropped off in the bin located in the office building entryway.

Bible Discovery Class: TODAY at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall (includes lunch). A time for 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students and their parents to discover about the Bible and receive a gift Bible from the church.

Blood Drive: TODAY from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Family Halloween Party: Saturday, October 28 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Activities, games, crafts, and food for kids and families. Candy donations are needed – please drop off Halloween candy in the narthex or church office!

Reformation Sunday Jazz and Lunch: Join us on Sunday, October 29 for special Jazz music in both the 8:00 and 10:30 AM worship services. Following the service we will have brats and hot dogs on the grill for a fellowship lunch and fundraiser for our youth attending camps next summer.

Commitment Sunday: Sunday, November 12 return your commitment card in worship at 8:00 or 10:30 AM.

Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)

Assisting Minister

Bryan Bradford

Communion Assistants

Tamsey Mims, Linda Hudgens

Ushers

Cathy Scott

Technology

Stephen Castillo

*Altar flowers are given by Cheryl Robinson
in honor of her parents' wedding anniversary.*