

Ten
bridesmaids
took their
lamps

Matthew 25:1



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

November 12, 2023

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord

We will wait upon the Lord

We will wait upon the Lord *(Repeat)*

Pre-Chorus

Our God, You reign forever

Our Hope, our strong Deliverer

Chorus

You are the everlasting God

The everlasting God

You do not faint

You won't grow weary

You're the defender of the weak

You comfort those in need

You lift us up on wings like eagles

Repeat ALL

Repeat Pre-Chorus and Chorus

Brenton Brown | Ken Riley
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WELCOME – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

GATHERING SONG Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine
O what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood

Perfect submission, perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love

Chorus

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

Perfect submission, all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest
Watching and waiting, looking above
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love

Repeat Chorus

This is our story, this is our song
Praising you, Jesus, all the day long
This is our story, this is our song
Praising you, Jesus, all the day long
Praising you, Jesus, all the day long

Fanny Jane Crosby | Phoebe Palmer Knapp | arr. John Wasson
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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

All: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

All: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

All: Amen.

OPENING 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: Amos 5:18-24

A: ¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; ¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. ²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM – New Life Choir

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A: ¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For that very Lord, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 25:1-13

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"Then the dominion of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Sir, sir, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

STEWARDSHIP TEMPLE TALK – Austin Tatuaca

SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

SONG OF THE DAY

Give Me Your Eyes

Look down from a broken sky, traced out by the city lights
My world from a mile high, best seat in the house tonight
Touch down on the cold black top, hold on for the sudden stop
Breathe in the familiar shock of confusion and chaos
All those people going somewhere
Why have I never cared

Chorus

Give me Your eyes for just one second, give me Your eyes so I can see
Everything that I keep missing, give me Your love for humanity
Give me Your arms for the broken-hearted
The ones that are far beyond my reach
Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten
Give me Your eyes so I can see

Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah

Step out on the busy street, see a girl and our eyes meet
Does her best to smile at me, to hide what's underneath
There's a man just to her right, black suit and a bright red tie
Too ashamed to tell his wife he's out of work he's buying time
All those people going somewhere
Why have I never cared

Repeat Chorus

I've been here a million times, a couple of million eyes
Just move and pass me by, I swear I never thought that I was wrong
Well I want a second glance, so give me a second chance
To see the way You've seen the people all along

Repeat Chorus 2x

Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah

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: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A: O God for whom we wait, come quickly to your people, bring your salvation, and center us in hope found only in you. Deepen our faith through meaningful worship and send us out with your justice and truth. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: O God for whom we watch, we glimpse your power in rushing water and your beauty in the darkening night. Restore this creation, and provide clean water to all people and animals. Turn us away from foolish, wasteful living. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: O God for whom we long, let justice roll down like waters on all nations. Bless citizens with wise leaders; save your children from war, especially in Ukraine, Palestine, and Israel. We pray for the veterans of this community, that they are supported and loved. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: O God, in whom we hope, we pray for all who are in need. Provide for those who experience homelessness or hunger, support the under- or unemployed, and comfort any who are suffering this day. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: O God for whom we listen, inspire the music ministry of our congregation. Fill our worship with songs to proclaim your greatness. Help us to sing and dance with joy and tell boldly of your salvation. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: O God, in whom we remain, we remember our loved ones who have died and now live in you. Bring comfort and the assurance of new life to all who grieve. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

P: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

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 all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

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: There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

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 Breathe

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence living in me

This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me

Chorus

And I, I'm desperate for You
And I, I'm lost without You

Repeat ALL

Repeat Chorus

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe

Marie Barnett
© 1995 Mercy / Vineyard 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. Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a
banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the
least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous
hearts as we meet you on the way.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

All: Amen.

SENDING SONG Slumber

Days they force you back under those covers
Lazy mornings they multiply
Glory's waiting outside your window
Wake on up from your slumber and open up your eyes

Tongues are violent, personal and focused
Tough to be with your steady mind
Hearts are stronger after broken
So wake on up from your slumber and open up your eyes

Chorus

All these victims stand in line for
Crumbs that fall from the table
Just enough to get by
All the while your invitation
Wake on up from your slumber and open up your eyes
Wake on up from your slumber and open up your eyes

Take from vandals all you want now
Please don't trade it in for life
Replace your feeble with the fable
Wake on up from your slumber and open up your eyes

Repeat Chorus 2x

Wake on up from your slumber
And open up your... eyes

Bear Rinehart | Bo Rinehart
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DISMISSAL

A: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost: November 12

Traditional Worship: 8:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

Stewardship Campaign Commitment Cards: Thank you for your pledge of commitment to God's mission here at New Life. You can place your commitment card in the offering plate today. Our goal is to receive 40 commitment cards this year!

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.

Meals on Wheels: We are looking for new volunteers to bring food to those in our local community. Our next week of delivery is November 13-17 and if we have enough volunteers you only have to help one of the days. Delivery is done as a team to make the process easier. To be added to the team or for questions contact Barbara Flowers, barbaraflowers_55@yahoo.com.

Mary and Martha Bible Study: All women of the church are welcome to join us for a Bible study in the fellowship hall on Wednesday, November 15 at 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM.

WELCA Sunday: On Sunday, November 19 we will have a special guest preacher in worship: Deacon Beth Hartfiel! Women are encouraged to bring your thankoffering to support the ministry to women in the ELCA.

Greening/Decorating for Advent: Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 AM. Please lend a hand!

Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)

Assisting Minister

Evelyn Baldauf

Communion Assistants

Barbara Flowers, Tamsey Mims

Ushers

Technology

Eliza Wishart

*Altar flowers are given by Mark & Susan Wellman
in honor of their 29th wedding anniversary on November 5th.*