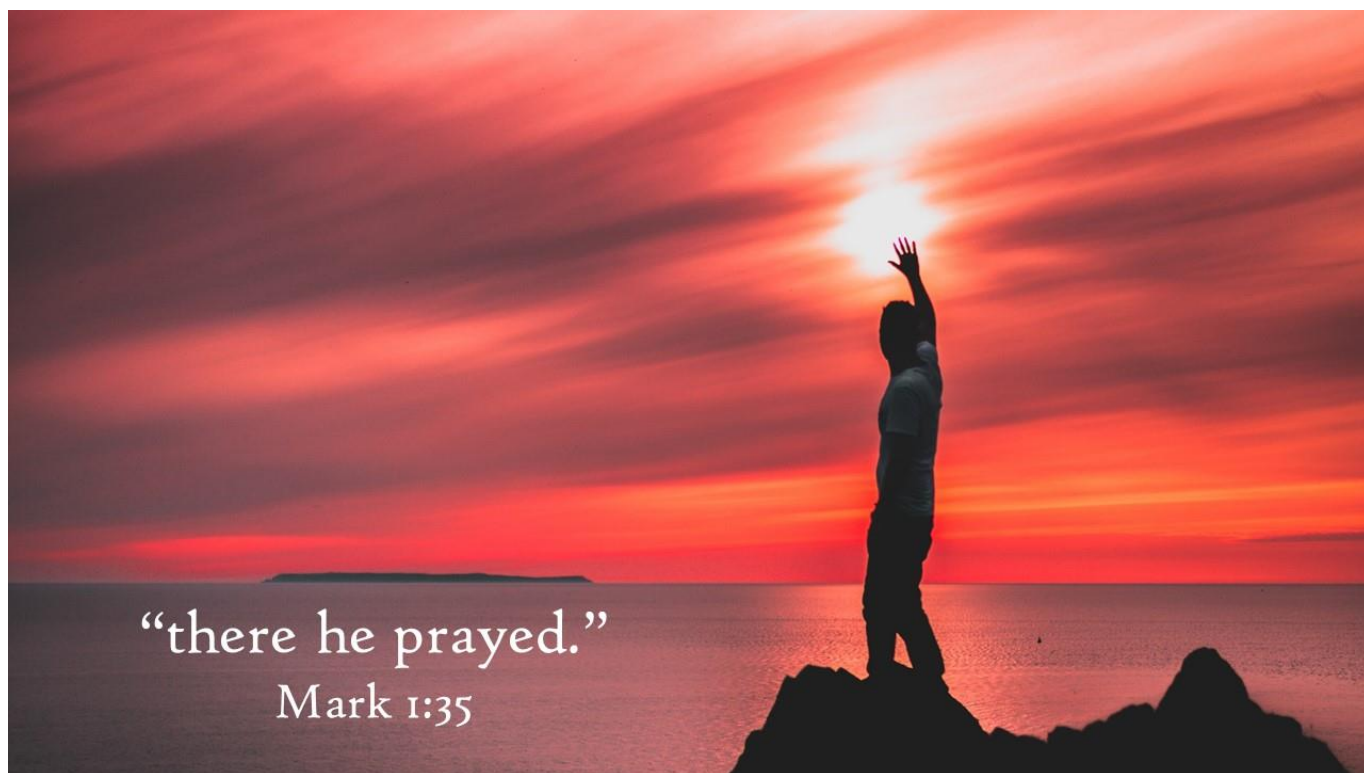




NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion

February 4, 2024

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG – Houseband

WELCOME – PASTOR CLAYTON FAULKNER

GATHERING SONG *Siyahamba (ELW 866)*

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

Siyahamba (hamba, siyahamba, hamba)
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'
Siyahamba (hamba, siyahamba, hamba)
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God

We are marching (marching, we are marching, marching)
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching (marching, we are marching, marching)
We are marching in the light of God

We are praying...

We are dancing...

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

All: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our rock and refuge,

All: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

All: Amen.

OPENING 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

PRAYER – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

A: ²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is God who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings the great to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when God blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? The one who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because God is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. The LORD does not faint or grow weary; the understanding of God is unsearchable. ²⁹The LORD gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:1-11, 20c

Please read responsively.

A: ¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

All: ²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.

A: ³The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

All: ⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

A: ⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

All: ⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

A: ⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

All: ⁸who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.

A: ⁹God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

All: ¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,

A: ¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love.

All: ^{20c}Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

A: ¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jewish people I became as a Jew, in order to win the Jewish people. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again
I know You will and all the earth will sing Your praises

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:29-39

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ²⁹As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹Jesus came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to Jesus all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸Jesus answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON – Pastor Clayton Faulkner

SONG OF THE DAY *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
© 2005 Thankyou Music

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these new members, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these new members and siblings in Christ, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

All: Amen.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

All: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

All: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

All: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All: 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.**

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:
to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

New members: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support these new members and pray for them in their life in Christ?

All: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in Raynold, Gloria, Reggie, and Zachary the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

All: Amen.

A: Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ.

All: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

A: God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

A: God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak, the oppressed, and all in need. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

A: God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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. Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

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: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.

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

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Chorus

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Repeat Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Repeat Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Repeat Chorus

Worship Your holy name
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman
© 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, worshiptogether.com songs

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. Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we
are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of
all and to your glory, now and forever.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ☩ bless you and remain with you always.

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

Jon Egan © 2004 Integrity Worship Music

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

All: Thanks be to God.

Copyright permission: CCLI #3220202 and One License A-740956. From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany: February 4

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

Senior Lunch: Wednesday, February 7 at 12:00 PM. Adults 55+ please join us for a potluck lunch and fellowship.

Souper Bowl of Caring: Help us support the Christian Helping Hands food pantry by bringing your shelf-stable food donations on Sunday, February 11.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner: Join us for a meal and fellowship before the start of Lent on Tuesday, February 13 from 6:00-8:00 PM.

Youth Fundraiser: Our students will be selling floral arrangements for Valentine's Day at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on February 13. If you have empty vases at home, you can bring them to the church to be reused for this fundraiser.

Ash Wednesday: Join us for Ash Wednesday worship with the imposition of ashes on February 14. We have two services at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)

Assisting Minister

Cheryl Robinson

Communion Assistants

Barbara Flowers

Usher

Mary Ann Marcha

Technology

Eliza Wishart

Altar flowers are given by Tamsey Mims in celebration of her nephews' birthdays, Brian and Eric Johnson.