

The Spirit drove him into the wilderness.

Mark 1:12



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 10:30 AM

First Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion

February 18, 2024

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG - Houseband

WELCOME – Pastor Morgan Gates

GATHERING SONG *Your Grace is Enough*

Great is Your faithfulness, O God
You wrestle with the sinner's heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-chorus:

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Chorus:

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice, God
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Repeat Pre-chorus & Chorus 2 times

Your grace is enough
Heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing, Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me, for me

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

All: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

All: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

OPENING 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

PRAYER – Pastor Morgan Gates

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

A: ⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-10

Please read responsively.

A: ¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

All: ²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

A: ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

All: ⁴Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

A: ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

All: ⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

A: ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

All: ⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

A: ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

All: ¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22

A: ¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be Your glorious name

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:9-15

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the dominion of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON – Pastor Morgan Gates

SONG OF THE DAY *At the Cross (Love Ran Red)*

There's a place where mercy reigns and never dies
There's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide
Where all the love I've ever found
Comes like a flood, comes flowing down

Chorus

At the cross, at the cross I surrender my life
I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You
Where Your love ran red and my sin washed white
I owe all to You, I owe all to You, Jesus

There's a place where sin and shame are powerless
Where my heart has peace with God and forgiveness
Where all the love I've ever found
Comes like a flood, comes flowing down (*Repeat Chorus*)

Here my hope is found. Here on holy ground
Here I bow down, here I bow down
Here arms open wide. Here You saved my life
Here I bow down, here I bow (*Repeat Chorus*)

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jonas Myrin, Matt Armstrong, Matt Redman
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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 God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

A: God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God our help, you care for your beloved children. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

A: God our home, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are homebound, hospitalized, convalescing, or traveling. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. We remember with gratitude those who have lived and died in faith. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, 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 – Eliza Wishart

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

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: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

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

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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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. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

All: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Love the Lord

Love the Lord your God with all your heart
With all your soul, with all your mind
And with all your strength (*Repeat*)

With all your heart, with all your soul
With all your mind, with all your strength

Love the Lord your God with all your heart
With all your soul, with all your mind
And with all your strength

I will serve the Lord with all my heart
With all my soul, with all my mind
And with all my strength (*Repeat*)

With all my heart, with all my soul
With all my mind, with all my strength

I will serve the Lord with all my heart
With all my soul, with all my mind
And with all my strength

I will love You (I will love You)
I will praise You (I will praise You)
I will serve You (I will serve You)
I will trust You (I will trust You)

With all my heart, with all my soul
With all my mind, with all my strength (*Repeat*)

I will love you Lord with all my heart
With all my soul, with all my mind
And with all my strength (*Repeat 2x*)

Lincoln Brewster
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share your bread.

All: Thanks be to God.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today is the First Sunday in Lent: February 18

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

Midweek Worship During Lent: Every Wednesday evening (beginning February 21) we will gather for a community meal and fellowship followed by worship. Join us for soup supper at 5:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall (sign up sheets are in the narthex). At 7:00 PM we gather in the sanctuary for worship.

WELCA Brunch and Bunco: The Women of the ELCA are hosting a Brunch & Bunco event on Sunday, February 25 @ 12:00 PM. Please bring your favorite dish and if you would like to play bunco bring a \$15 gift to reserve your spot. All women (13 years old and up) are welcome! Please find Cheryl Robinson or Korie Williams for any questions.

First Communion Class: If your child is ready to begin receiving holy communion, make plans to join our upcoming class on Sunday, March 17 at 11:30 AM. Email Pastor Clayton to sign up (pastor@newlifelutheran.com).

Today's Worship Leaders (10:30 AM)

Assisting Minister

Evelyn Baldauf

Communion Assistants

Deanna Owens

Usher

Technology

*Altar flowers are given by Helen Beckman
to the glory of God with thanksgiving and praise.*