



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

Worship at 9:30 AM

Second Sunday After Epiphany

Holy Communion

January 18, 2026

*Our mission is to raise disciples planted in God's love,
growing in faithfulness and nourishing the world.*

GATHERING

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

WELCOME – Pastor Kim Little-Brooks

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

P: Merciful God,

All: You speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways.

Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *As with Gladness Men of Old (ELW 302) Vs. 1-3*

¹ As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led by thee.

² As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy seat.

³ As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

GREETING

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE *You Are Holy (ELW 525)*

¹ You are holy, you are whole.
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.

² Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.

³ You are holy,
you are wholeness,
you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!

⁴ Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

A: ¹ Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God."
⁵ And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

A: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM : Psalm 40:1-11 *Please read responsively by whole verse.*

A: ¹I waited patiently up on the LORD, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

All: ²The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.

A: ³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

All: ⁴Happy are they who trust in the LORD! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.

A: ⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

All: ⁶Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.

A: ⁷And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

All: ⁸'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.'

A: ⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

All: ¹⁰I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.

A: ¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

A: ¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (ELW 172)

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah.

Hal-le-lu-jah. hal-le-lu-jah.

GOSPEL READING: John 1:29-42

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ²⁹ John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi", "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah". ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas".

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – Pastor Kim Little-Brooks

HYMN OF THE DAY Christ, Be Our Light (ELW 715)

¹ Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

² Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. **Refrain**

³ Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. **Refrain**

⁴ Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. **Refrain**

⁵ Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. **Refrain**

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: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

A: Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters (current situations may be named). Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, oppression, or illness (especially). Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community (local ministries may be named). Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus 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 – Travis Lairson

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

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

P: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

All: Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN (ELW p. 154)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (ELW 310)*

¹ Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar,
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

² Manifest at Jordan's stream,
prophet, priest, and king supreme;
and at Cana wedding guest
in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in pow'r divine,
changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

³ Manifest in making whole
weakened body, fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

⁴ Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
present in thy holy word;
grace to imitate thee now
and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we might become like thee
at thy great epiphany,
and may praise thee, ever blest,
God in flesh made manifest.

COMMUNION HYMN *Here I Am, Lord (ELW 574)*

¹ "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

² "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" **Refrain**

³ "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" **Refrain**

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN Arise, Your Light Has Come! (ELW 314)

¹ Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.

² Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

³ Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

⁴ Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

All: Thanks be to God.

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UPCOMING EVENTS Jan. 18, 2026

Annual Meeting Reports: Please submit your Committee Reports tomorrow- Monday Jan. 19th.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Jan. 25th, Held after the 9:30am Service. Submit your annual reports tomorrow. Monday Jan. 19th.

Marjorie Schooley Memorial Service: Jan. 24th 1:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Super Bowl of Caring: We are now collecting non-perishable food items for the Super Bowl of Caring on Feb. 8th and we will be donating it to *Christian Helping Hands*.

Quilters: Tues. 9:30AM, Come help us make Quilts for the *Lutheran World Relief*. Join us for fellowship and potluck.

Crocheters and Knitters Needed: Please help us knit or crochet *Prayer Shawls* for our ministry.

Fundraiser: Please bring Aluminum Cans for the Youth, raising funds for their ongoing projects.

New 2026 Altar Flower Chart: Price for flowers is \$50.00 per arrangement. Take them home after the service! Sign up ahead of time to honor your event. Chart is located in the Narthex.

Fellowship Hall Rental: Receptions and Other Events: Call or Email the office for more Information: 281-485-1818, office@newlifelutheran.com

Council Connections: Feel free to write the Council with ideas, suggestions, or concerns to president@newlifelutheran.com

Today's Worship Leaders (9:30 AM)

Assisting Minister	Nancy Bryars
Communion Assistants	Elna Ritter, Deanna Owens
Ushers	Charlie Gaevert
Greeter	Donna Patschke
Tech Booth	Ryan Stickland

Altar Flowers are given by Nancy Bryars in Celebration of Rolands Birthday.

(Altar Flowers signup sheet is located in the Narthex. Please reserve your favorite date!)