



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pearland, TX

God's Work Our Hands

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion
Contemporary Service
April 26, 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.

GATHERING 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**

WELCOME – Pastor Kim Little-Brooks

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

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

All: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Opening Hymn *Blessed Be Your Name*

¹ Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

² 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

³ 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

⁴ 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

Beth Redman | Matt Redman
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray. O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:7-15

A: ⁷Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ⁸As I live, says the Lord GOD, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep, ⁹therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ¹⁰Thus says the Lord GOD: I am against the shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

¹¹For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. ¹²As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 23 *Please read responsively.*

A: ¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

All: ²The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

A: ³You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

All: ⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

A: ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

All: ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SECOND READING: *1 Peter 2:19-25*

A: ¹⁹It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Thy Word*

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

14301, Amy Grant | Michael W. Smith,
CCLI Song © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company; Vinny Mae's Girl

GOSPEL READING: *John 10:1-10*

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹ Jesus said “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON – Pastor Kim Little-Brooks

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

¹ 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

² 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 **Chorus**

³ 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 **Chorus**

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jonas Myrin, Matt Armstrong, Matt Redman ©
Countless Wonder Publishing, Universal Music

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

A:Merciful God,

All:.....Receive our Prayer

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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 MUSIC – TRAVIS LAIRSON

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

All: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

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 our thanks and praise.

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.

All: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

COMMUNION

P: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **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. Then return to your pew down the side aisle.

1 COMMUNION HYMN *On Eagle's Wings ELW 787*

- ¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

- ² The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. **Refrain**

- ³ You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. **Refrain**

- ⁴ For to the angels God's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Final refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957
Text © 1979 OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213

2 COMMUNION HYMN *The Table*

¹ I will feast at the table of the Lord
I will feast at the table of the Lord
I won't hunger anymore at His table

Repeat

Chorus Come all you weary come and find
His yoke is easy His burden is light
He is able He will restore
At the table of the Lord

² There is peace at the table of the Lord
There is peace at the table of the Lord
I won't worry anymore at His table

³ There is healing at the table of the Lord
There is healing at the table of the Lord
Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table

Repeat Chorus

Bridge I know He has a place for me
Oh what joy will fill my heart
With the saints around the mercy seat of God

Repeat Chorus

⁴ I'm invited to the table of the Lord
I'm invited to the table of the Lord
He says come just as you are to His table

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Wayne Jolley © 2014 Capitol CMG Paragon

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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
All: Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ☩ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Shout To The Lord*

¹ My Jesus, my Saviour
Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love

² My comfort, my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You

³ Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name

⁴ I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

Repeat ALL

Nothing compares to the promise I have in You
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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Today's Worship Leaders (9:30 AM)

Assisting Minister	Cheryl Robinson
Communion Assistants	Barbara Flowers, Nancy Bryars
Ushers	
Tech Booth	Ryan Stickland

Altar Flowers today are in honor of Gordon and Tina Meyers 47th Wedding Anniversary!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS April, 26 2026

Adult Sunday School: We will be watching and discussing the Martin Luther video.

Game Night: Sat. Apr. 25th, 5:00-8:00pm. All ages are welcome and pizza will be served. Please join us for the Fun !!!!

Gods Work Our Hands: This Sun. Apr. 26th, Volunteering starts after service. Sign up sheets in the Narthex. Singing at *Brookdale Senior Living*, Assemble *Health Care Kits here at church*, Tie knots in Quilts here at church, Plant a Tree or/and Bushes here at Church.

Lutheran World Relief : Please continue to bring items for *Lutheran World Relief* personal care kits. (Towels, Bars of Soap, Nail clippers, and Combs.)

Mother's Day Flowers: Please bring *bud* vases to help our youth make flower arrangements to sell on Mother's Day.

Women's Luncheon: Sunday May 31st, 11:00am, Luau Theme Save the date.

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. Please contact Julie Watkins. auntjuliesings@yahoo.com

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. 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