



**“The people all responded together, “We will do everything the Lord has said.”**

**Exodus 19:8a**

# New Life Ev. Lutheran Church

Lake Zurich, IL

*...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.*

Vacancy Pastor Steve Radunzel / Pastor Thomas Schultz

(847) 438-5018

[www.newlife-wels.org](http://www.newlife-wels.org)

+++++

## Fifth Sunday after Pentecost February 8, 2026

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entry way of the church or on the coat rack downstairs. The bathrooms are located in the lower level of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the fellowship hall after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon. The service is also simulcast on the church's Facebook page.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

### Before Service Prayer:

Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Today's Service:* Service of Word and Sacrament, NPH; used with permission under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.

### Today's Theme

## Identity Revealed: Jesus Calls You Salt and Light

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us that form and function are closely connected. That means that who we are influences what we do. When God called us to faith, he declared that we were something new: light, salt, his children. Jesus encourages us to be what God says we are as a way of blessing the world through us.

### Pastor's Welcome

Opening Hymn: CW 630 "Thy Strong Word" Verses 1-4 (CW93 280)

### Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ~~the~~ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

P: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

**C: sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!**

P: Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!"

**C: All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name."**

P: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard.

**C: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!**

P: Full of splendor and majesty is His work,

**C: and His righteousness endures forever.**

### *Confession and Absolution*

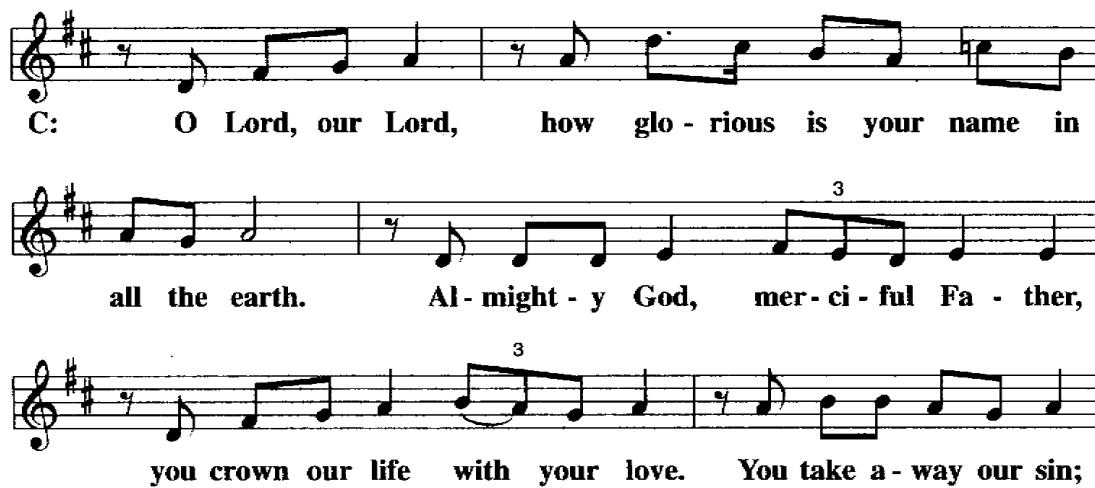
P: As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy. Humble yourselves before God; confess your sins to Him and implore His forgiveness.

**C O** almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed, I have continually transgressed Your Law. Too often I have sought the easy road of ignoring the needs of others and considered only myself and my wants. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.

P: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **¶** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: As God's forgiven people, we join confidently in a sung prayer to our gracious God.



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in  
all the earth. Almighty God, merciful Father,  
you crown our life with your love. You take away our sin;

*(continued on next page)*

you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and  
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,  
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,  
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,  
you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;  
you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the  
King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,  
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

### The Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You called us out of darkness into light so that we will show forth Your praise in all the world. Direct the discipline of our devotion to Jesus, our radiant King, as we live out our lives day by day to reflect Your glory through the working of the Holy Spirit in us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### The First Lesson: Exodus 19:1-8 – God made something special out of Israel, a nation of slaves.

**19** On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai. **2** After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

**3** Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: **4** ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. **5** Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, **6** you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

**7** So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the Lord had commanded him to speak. **8** The people all responded together, “We will do everything the Lord has said.” So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord. (NIV 2011)

P: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 103

*Refrain*



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

*Psalm tone*



Praise the LORD, O my soul;\*  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

He forgives all your sins\*  
and heals all your diseases;  
he redeems your life from the grave\*  
and crowns you with love and compassion.

*Refrain*

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,\*  
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve\*  
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,\*  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,\*  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

*Refrain*

As a father has compassion on his children,\*  
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

for he knows how we are formed,\*  
he remembers that we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;\*  
the wind blows over it and it is gone.

But the LORD's love is with those who fear him\*  
from everlasting to everlasting.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\***  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Refrain*

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:9-12 – St. Peter encourages us to be what God has declared us to be.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup> Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. (NIV 2011)

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

P: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Stand*

Gospel Lesson: **Matthew 5:13-20** – Jesus explains that his disciples are blessings to this dark, decaying world.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**C: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven. (NIV 2011)

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise be to You O Christ!**

*Be Seated*

Hymn of the Day: CW 854 “Church of God, Elect and Glorious” (CWS 774)

Sermon: Exodus 19:1-8a – “We Will Do Everything the Lord Has Said”

The 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

## Offering

The ushers will gather the offering which will then be placed on the Lord's Altar. Offerings can also be given electronically by using your smart phone and the QR code which takes you to the donation part of New Life's website.



## Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Give counsel and aid, O Lord, for Your people cry to You in weakness and in need. Bless and prosper Your Church according to Your purpose, that she may be salt and light, giving bold witness to the redemption You have provided in Jesus Christ and giving shape to Your love by showing compassion to all in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: O God, give Your blessing to our homes, to husbands and wives, to the children in their care, and to extended family. Guide us to serve each other in love. Make our homes places of blessing and peace where Your Word is spoken, forgiveness is shown and love is demonstrated in word and deed. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Holy God, according to Your wisdom You establish rulers of this age for a time. Remember our president; our governor; and all those You have placed in authority, that they might fulfill their duties with wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Merciful Lord, give healing to the sick, relief to the suffering, comfort to the grieving and peace to the dying. According to Your will, deliver them from their afflictions, sustain them in their struggles and give them patience in their adversities. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, in Christ Your righteousness goes before us and Your glory is our rearguard. Answer our pleas for mercy this day in the gift of Christ's body and blood, and prepare all those who commune to receive Him worthily and joyfully. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Almighty God, endow us with the mind of Christ by the work of Your Spirit, that we do not dismiss Your gifts as folly, but judge and discern all things according to Your wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of Your mercy. Supply us with all things needed and beneficial to us and to our faith, and keep from us all things harmful, that we may rest our fears in You and be granted a clear conscience and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## The Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our merciful God who desires that all might be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. We praise and thank You that, in Your infinite mercy, You sent Your one and only Son, Jesus, to die for the sins of the world. It is through Him, the mediator between God and man, that we come to You in boldness and confidence, knowing that You hear us and will respond to our prayers according to Your good and gracious will. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You graciously invite us to be the people who proclaim the salvation that is in Christ alone. Gathered at Your Table, we ask that you grant us to receive His blessed body and blood, fully trusting in the promises that are fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Unite us to Christ, our Savior, that we may live and respond to the opportunities for service and witness brought to us by the Holy Spirit and bring us at last to Your eternal kingdom.

C: Amen.

Words of Institution (Spoken by the Pastor.)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

## Our Communion Practice

New Life Lutheran Church practices “close communion.” We ask that only members of New Life or other WELS or ELS churches partake of the sacrament. We ask our visitors to please respect our communion practice.



The Distribution Hymn: CW 661 “Draw Near and Take the Body of Your Lord” (CW93 543)

### Thank the Lord

C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev'-ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.

He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

P: Heavenly Father, we bless You for having fed us with Your life-giving food. Strengthen us through the same; help us to rejoice in Your mercies that we may grow daily and reach out with Your love in every situation. Finally, in Your mercy, grant us a portion with the saints in light eternal. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God, world without end.

**C: Amen.**

*The Blessing*

P: The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—be with you.

**C: Amen.**

*The Closing Hymn:* **CW 695** “Take My Life and Let it Be” (CW93 469)

*Announcements*

**Our Father’s Business in the Coming Week**

*Cleaning this Week:* *Daugherty and Dundore*

**Today**—Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Communion Service at 9:30 AM

Fellowship at 10:30 AM

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 10:45 AM

No Confirmation Class (Super Bowl Sunday)

**Tuesday**—Ladies Night Out at North Point Kitchen at 6:00 PM

**Friday**—Green Team at 6:30 PM

**Next Sunday**—Transfiguration Sunday Divine Service at 9:30 AM

Fellowship at 10:30 AM

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 10:45 AM

Zoom Confirmation Class at 5:00 PM

**FELLOWSHIP SIGN-UP SHEET**

A new sign-up sheet has been posted to provide something to eat and drink after the Sunday service. The sheet covers February and March.

**LADIES NIGHT OUT**

The Branch Connection is hosting a Ladies Night Out this Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. They will be meeting at North Point Kitchen located at 24238 N. Lakeside Drive in Lake Zurich. A sign-up is posted in the fellowship hall. All ladies are welcome to attend. Feel free to invite friends as well!

**GREEN TEAM**

Green Team will be meeting this Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM. The children will continue their study of “Great Inventors” as they learn about Sir Isaac Newton and the concept of gravity. They will also work more on their papier mâché globes that they created at their last meeting.

## **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Pastor Radunzel is leading a Bible study on the book of Psalms. The Adult Bible Class meets upstairs in the Café area starting at 10:45 AM.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Our Sunday School is utilizing a rotation of teachers to teach Sunday School this year. A new sign-up sheet for the months of February and March has been posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up for this opportunity, even if you can only commit to the occasional Sunday. All teaching materials and lesson plans are provided. We have a small class this year, so the time commitment is minimal.

## **CALL MEETING**

New Life held her third call meeting for a new pastor on Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. After a discussion and vote, a call was sent to Pastor Patrick Feldhus. He is currently serving the Lutheran Home Association as both a Chaplain and Jesus Cares Consultant at Hope Residence in Belle Plaine, Minnesota. He is also a halftime pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Le Sueur, Minnesota. There is both a letter and brief biography of him posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please pray for Pastor Feldhus and his family as they deliberate this divine call.

## **VACANCY**

During the vacancy Pastor Steve Radunzel will be here on Sundays and Pastor Tom Schultz will cover any ministry needs that arise during the week.

## LENTEN SERVICES

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026. ***However, please note that our Ash “Wednesday” service will be on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. We WILL have a Lenten meal on this day only.*** The Lenten Meal will start at 5:45 PM, with the service following at 6:30 PM.

The five remaining midweek Lenten services will be on ***Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. There will be no Lenten meals on these days.*** Please note the following service schedule and devotion texts and themes for Lent and Easter Sunday.

In our devotions this Lenten season we are going to consider a number of readings from the 1<sup>st</sup> Letter of the Apostle Peter. We of course remember in Lent that Peter, first named Simon, denied knowing Jesus three times during Jesus’ trial. He repented of his sin, and Jesus restored him as one of his disciples. Peter went on to mature and grow strong as a faithful apostle of Jesus Christ. We see his faithfulness and maturity in his 1<sup>st</sup> Letter that the Holy Spirit inspired him to write. The theme for our Lenten devotions is **“Simon to Peter: Denier to Defender - Lessons from the 1<sup>st</sup> Letter of Peter.”**

### Wednesday Lenten Services of Devotion and Prayer

**All Evening Service Times 6:30 p.m.**

*Simon to Peter: Denier to Defender  
Lessons from the 1<sup>st</sup> Letter of Peter*

**Tuesday, February 17 – (Ash “Wednesday”) with a Lenten Meal starting at 5:45 PM, the service starts at 6:30 PM** - 1 Peter 4:7-11 - *The End of All Things Is Near*

**No Lenten Meals for the following services. Services start at 6:30 PM:**

**Wednesday, February 25** - 1 Peter 2:4-10 - *The Living Stone and a Chosen People*

**Wednesday, March 4** - 1 Peter 3:13-17 - *Always Be Prepared to Give an Answer*

**Wednesday, March 11** - 1 Peter 3:18-22 - *He Went and Preached to the Spirits in Prison*

**Wednesday, March 18** - 1 Peter 4:12-19 - *If It Is Hard for the Righteous to Be Saved . . .*

**Wednesday, March 25** - 1 Peter 5:6-11 - *Cast All Your Anxiety on Him*

**Thursday, April 2 - (Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion)** - 1 Peter 1:13-21 - *Not with Perishable Things Such as Silver and Gold*

**Friday, April 3 - (Good Friday)** - 1 Peter 2:22-25 - *He Himself Bore Our Sins in His Body on the Tree*

**Sunday, April 5 at 9:30 AM - (Easter Sunday)** - 1 Peter 1:3-9 - *A Living Hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead*



