



“Son, go and work today  
in the vineyard.”

# **New Life Ev. Lutheran Church**

*Lake Zurich, IL*

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

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## **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 21**

### **October 1, 2023**

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.

<p><u><i>Before Service Prayer:</i></u> Holy Spirit, through the pen of James, the half brother of Jesus, You inspired these words, "Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly." (3:1) All who hold to the Christian faith will be judged more strictly by the world, labeled hypocrites if we deviate in the slightest way from what we profess to believe. Good! Help Your people, whom you have called to faith, to keep this in mind, so that every day we not only hear the Master's call to go work in the vineyard, but then actually do it. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.</p>
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*Today's Service:* Morning Praise, NPH; used with permission under the OneLicense.net copyright agreement #A-800156. The service is a revision of the historic Order of Matins. Matins (comes from the Latin matutinus meaning "of the morning") was the monastic service marking the beginning of the new day. In Morning Praise we sing back to God the message He has given us in His word.

## **THEME FOR THE SERVICE**

## **A STORY OF SPIRITUAL INSINCERITY**

You have maybe heard the accusation or perhaps even made it yourself: "He's so fake!" That charge claims someone's friendliness or kindness is a sham. Such insincerity bothers us. We would generally rather someone be honest about how they feel about us than be fake.

Through a story Jesus teaches us that God feels the same. God doesn't want us to simply go through religious motions like some sort of show. He sees right through that. God's desire is that our repentance would demonstrate sincere sorrow over sin. God wants us to see the grace and forgiveness He has shown us in Christ, and in response, to love Him back deeply and sincerely.

**OPENING HYMN CW 633 "Speak, O Lord" (CWS 735)**

## INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 68:1, 3, 19–20, 34–35*

P: May God arise, may His enemies be scattered; may His foes flee before Him.  
C: **But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful.**

P: Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens.  
C: **Our God is a God who saves; from the Sovereign LORD comes escape from death.**

P: Proclaim the power of God, whose majesty is over Israel, whose power is in the heavens.  
C: **You, God, are awesome in Your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power and strength to His people. Praise be to God!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and ask His gracious forgiveness.  
C: **We now confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and before one another, that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not always put God first and have too much followed the desires of our own hearts. We have used His holy name in ways that do not honor Him. We have been careless in our devotion and have not always honored those in authority over us. We have done violence to others in word and deed and have not always kept our thoughts, words, and deeds pure and honorable. We have taken what is not ours and have spoken that which is not helpful or true. We have wished for that which is not rightfully ours and have not put the best construction on all things and on all people. We pray God to have mercy on us, to forgive us all our sins, and to bring us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P: Spare them, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared in Jesus Christ, our Lord. The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**

## DIALOGUE FOR MORNING PRAISE

P: O Lord, open my lips.  
C: **And my mouth shall declare Your praise.**

P: Hasten to save me, O God.  
C: **O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

P: In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;  
C: **in the morning I lay my requests before You and wait in expectation.**

P: I will exalt You, my God the King;  
C: **I will praise Your name forever and ever.**

P: Every day I will praise You.

C: **and extol Your name forever and ever.**

P: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

C: **Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me.**

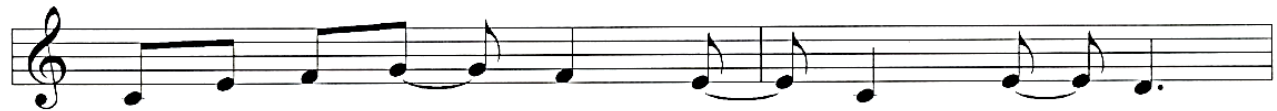
P: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

C: **May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

*(We sing words from Psalm 95 in a song called the "Venite." Please sing whatever part / parts you are comfortable singing.)*



Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!



Shout to the rock of our sal - va - tion!



Come, let us greet him with a song of praise, for



great is our God, the King of all kings!



Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

Let us bow down and worship the Lord;

Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

For this is our God whose people we are:

**Women:** Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

**Men:** Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

**Refrain**

Great is the Lord and worthy of praise:

Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

Sing to the Lord and bless His name:

**Women:** Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

**Men:** Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

### Refrain

All that has life and breath shall rejoice:

Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

The great and the small, all creatures of God:

**Women:** Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

**Men:** Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

### Refrain

Heaven and earth, rejoice in His name:

Come let us sing with joy to the Lord!

He governs the world with justice and truth:

**Women:** Come let us sing with joy to the Lord!

**Men:** Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

### Final Refrain

Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

Shout to the rock of our sal - va - tion!

Come, let us greet him with a song of praise, for

great is our God, the King of all kings!

Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!

Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord!



**OLD TESTAMENT READING    Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32** – The prophet Ezekiel gives a strong warning to Christians who have grown dismissive of their sin. God wants sincere repentance that leads to true obedience.

The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup> “What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel:

“‘The parents eat sour grapes,  
and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?

<sup>3</sup> “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup> For everyone belongs to Me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to Me. The one who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup> “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is My way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? <sup>26</sup> If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. <sup>27</sup> But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. <sup>28</sup> Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. <sup>29</sup> Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are My ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?

<sup>30</sup> “Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. <sup>31</sup> Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? <sup>32</sup> For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live! (NIV 2011)

P: The word of the Lord.

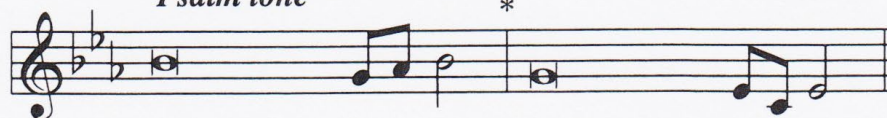
C: **Thanks be to God!**

*Refrain*



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.

*Psalm tone*



To you, O LORD, I lift <sup>ú</sup> my soul;\*  
in you I trust, <sup>Ó</sup> my God.

Remember, O LORD, your great <sup>é</sup> mercy and love,\*  
for they are <sup>é</sup> from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my <sup>é</sup> rebellious ways;\*  
according to your love remember me,  
for you are <sup>é</sup> good, O LORD.

*Refrain*

Turn to me and be <sup>é</sup> gracious to me,\*  
for I am lonely and afflicted.

Look upon my affliction and <sup>é</sup> my distress\*  
and take away <sup>é</sup> all my sins.

Guard my life and <sup>é</sup> rescue me,\*  
for I take <sup>é</sup> refuge in you.

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

*Refrain*

**EPISTLE      Philippians 2:1-11** – Moved by Christ’s love and empowered by the Spirit, we sincerely attempt to imitate the selflessness and humility of Jesus.

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, He made Himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
He humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place  
and gave Him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father. (NIV 2011)

P:      The word of the Lord.

C:      **Thanks be to God!**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL SING      CW 365** “Lord, You Were Rich Beyond All Splendor”  
(The kids will sing verses one and two. Please sing verse 3.)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

P:      Alleluia. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart You will not despise.  
Alleluia.



*Stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL**     **Matthew 21:23-32** – Through a story Jesus teaches that sincere love for God involves not just saying what God wants to hear but doing what God wants done.

P:     The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C:     **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup> Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while He was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him. "By what authority are You doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave You this authority?"

<sup>24</sup> Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer Me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>25</sup> John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?"

They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?'" <sup>26</sup> But if we say, 'Of human origin'—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet."

<sup>27</sup> So they answered Jesus, "We don't know."

Then He said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup> "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.'

<sup>29</sup> "'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

<sup>30</sup> "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go.

<sup>31</sup> "Which of the two did what his father wanted?"

"The first," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup> For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him. (NIV 2011)

P:     The Gospel of the Lord.

C:     **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    **CWS 751** "Word of God, When All Was Silent"

**THE SERMON**

(After the sermon, we sing the "Te Deum," an ancient and majestic canticle of the Christian church, a confession of faith, a mighty hymn of praise to God. Luther loved the Te Deum and referred to it as a fine creed.)

## TE DEUM CANTICLE



1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,  
2 The band of the a-pos-tles in glo-ry sing Your praise;  
3 You, Christ, are King of glo-ry, the ev-er-last-ing Son,  
4 You sit in splen-did glo-ry, en-throned at God's right hand,



The Fa-ther ev-er-last-ing, by all the earth a-dored.  
The fel-low-ship of proph-ets their death-less voic-es raise.  
Yet You, with bound-less love, sought to res-cue ev-'ry-one:  
Up-hold-ing earth and heav-en by forc-es You com-mand.



To You all an-gel pow-ers cry a-loud, the heav-ens sing,  
The mar-tyrs of Your king-dom, a great and no-ble throng,  
You laid a-side Your glo-ry, were born of vir-gin's womb,  
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi-nal day,



The cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim their prais-es to You bring:  
Sing with the ho-ly Church through-out all the world this song:  
Were cru-ci-fied for us and were placed in-to a tomb;  
So help Your ser-vants You have re-deemed by blood, we pray;



"O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth;  
"O all-ma-jes-tic Fa-ther, Your true and on-ly Son,  
Then by Your res-ur-rec-tion You won for us re-prieve—  
May we with saints be num-bered where prais-es nev-er end,



Your maj-es-ty and glo-ry fill the heav-ens and the earth!"  
And Ho-ly Spir-it, Com-fort-er— for-ev-er Three in One!"  
You o-pened heav-en's king-dom to all who would be-lieve.  
In glo-ry ev-er-last-ing. A-men, O Lord, a-men!

## OFFERINGS

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.



## THE KYRIE

P: In the morning, O Lord, I call to You; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### CLOSING PRAYER

P: Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage and a hope that cannot be extinguished, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us, Your love supporting us and Your Son abiding with us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us praise the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## THE BLESSING

P: The Lord bless and keep you.

C: **Amen.**

P: The Lord's face ever shine upon you.

C: **Amen.**

P: The Lord grant you peace for all your days.

C: **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN CW 598 "Now Thank We All Our God" (CW93 610)

## Our Father's Business in the Coming Week

### *Cleaning this Week:*

**Today**—Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 21 Worship Service at 9:30 AM

Preschool and Sunday School kids sing for the Sunday Service

Fellowship at 10:30 AM

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 10:45 AM

Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

**Monday**—Church Council at 7:00 PM

**Friday**—Men's Bible Class at 11:30 AM

**Sunday**—Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 22 Communion Service at 9:30 AM

Fellowship at 10:30 AM

Sunday School and Bible Class at 10:45 AM

Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

**Monday**—Columbus Day (No Preschool)

### **FELLOWSHIP**

A new fellowship sheet has been posted. If you'd like to bring something to eat and drink after the service on Sunday, use the sign-up sheet to reserve a Sunday.

### **BIBLE CLASS**

**Sunday**—Sunday morning Bible Class is studying the life and ministry of Jesus making use of the "Chosen" video. Bible class begins in the New Life Café at 10:45 AM. Today we look at the account of Jesus raising the daughter of Jairus.

**Friday**--Men's Bible class meets on Fridays at 11:30 AM. The Men's Bible Class is working through a study called, "Working for the Man Upstairs."

### **PRESCHOOL AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SING**

Thanks to the preschool and Sunday School kids for singing. During the school year, the kids are scheduled to sing every first Sunday of the month.

### **OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP DAY**

The fall outdoor clean up day is set for Saturday, October 14 from 9:00 AM to noon.