

***New Life Ev. Lutheran Church
Lake Zurich, IL***

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

*Pastor Andrew Bauer
(847) 438-5018*

www.newlife-wels.org

+++++

**Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
October 22, 2017
“Joyful Generosity vs. Robbing God”**

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 basement 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 basement after our service this morning. And 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.

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.

Before Service Prayer: Today, Holy God, I plead for Your mercy for what I have omitted from my life. I confess I think that when I do what You forbid, that such a sin is serious, but when I fail to do what You command, it's no big deal. You will deal with all people both on the basis of sins of commission and sins of omission. Let the word You used with Your Old Testament people, the word “rob,” jolt me into an awareness of my responsibility, but especially remind me of my joyful privilege, of using what I possess—but, what belongs to You—for Your kingdom and glory. I ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

Today's Service: Service of All Creation, GIA, reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.

Today's Theme: Stop Robbing God!

Personal Preparation for Holy Communion: p. 156 in the front of the red hymnal

Opening Hymn CW 570 “O Christians, Haste”

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences

P: Because the LORD does not change His mind;

C: those who trust in Him are not destroyed, but are shown grace and mercy. *Malachi 3:6*

Confession and Absolution

P: Come, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: O merciful Lord, we confess that we are sinful by nature and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have not done the good Your law requires and we have done the evil Your law forbids. By our selfish lives we confess that we have robbed You of what belongs to You. But we are truly sorry for our sins and plead for Your mercy in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Fill us with faith to believe in Your forgiveness and turn our hearts by Your Spirit that we may amend our sinful ways, to love and serve You with all our heart, soul, mind, and body. Lord, have mercy upon us.

(Soloist sings through the refrain once; Congregation repeats the refrain; Soloist sings the verses and Congregation repeats the refrain as indicated throughout the song.)

Soloist: Refrain

Congregation: **Refrain**

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is in G minor (one flat) and 6/4 time. It contains the melody for the first two phrases: "Lord, have mer - cy." and "Christ, have mer - cy." The second staff is also in G minor and starts with a 5/4 time signature, then changes to 3/4 and finally 4/4. It contains the melody for the first phrase: "Lord, have mer - cy." The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Verse 1: God of all creation, earth and sea and sky, God of all eternity: hear us, hear us. **Refrain**

Verse 2: God of ev'ry nation, God of all who live, God of meek and lowly ones: hear us, hear us. **Refrain**

Verse 3: God of our salvation, God of grace and peace, God of wisdom and of love: hear us, hear us. **Refrain**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon You and has sent His only Son who suffered for you to forgive you all your 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.

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory to God (*Congregation sings the refrain; Soloist sings the verses*)

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.

1) Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.

Refrain

2) Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

Refrain

3) For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of the God, the Father. Amen! Amen!

Refrain

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Maker of heaven and earth, all things were made by You and belong to You. You have claim on all things and all people. Grant that Your people might acknowledge this truth and use what belongs to You in a way that brings glory and honor to You and also benefits those around us. We ask this in Jesus' name, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

The Word of God

First Lesson Malachi 3:6-12

⁶“I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from My decrees and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.

“But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’

⁸“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing You?’

“In tithes and offerings. ⁹You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing Me. ¹⁰Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. ¹¹I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the LORD Almighty. ¹²“Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD Almighty. (NIV 2011)

Gospel Acclamation (*Soloist sings the verses; Congregation sings the “Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of truth and life!”*)

Cantor:



1, 5. Praise the God of all cre - a - tion, God of
2. Tree of life and end-less wis - dom, be our
3. Liv - ing wa - ter, we are thirst - ing for the
4. Come, O Spir - it, kin - dle fire in the

All:



mer - cy and com - pas - sion:
root, our growth and glo - ry: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
life that you have prom - ised:
hearts of all your peo - ple:



lu - ia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

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

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.”

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find Him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship Him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. (NIV 2011)

(After the Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day CW 454 "I Gave My Life for Thee"

The Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in God, the Father 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.

Be Seated

Offertory

Gathering of Our Offerings and Offering Prayer

If you are not a member of New Life Lutheran Church, we do not want you to feel obligated to give an offering. (God wants us to be cheerful givers, not guilty givers!) We gather our offerings in church, *because the Bible teaches that giving is an act of worship*. May the Lord bless you. And may He use our gifts to be a blessing to many others.

Prayer of the Church and Lord's Prayer

C: 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 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 good and right so to do.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom You have appointed to be head over everything for that eternal kingdom that fills the entire world, and for whose sake You impart wisdom from above that makes us wise for salvation through faith in Your Son. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy

4

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,
God of pow - er, God of might, Hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. — Ho - san - na
in the high - est! — Bles - sed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord; — Ho - san - na in the high - est! —
— Ho - san - na in the high - est!

rit.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of six staves of music in G minor (one flat) and 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a 4-measure rest. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of pow - er, God of might, Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. — Ho - san - na in the high - est! — Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; — Ho - san - na in the high - est! — Ho - san - na in the high - est!'. The final staff includes a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking over the final notes.

Words of Institution

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: And His mercy endures forever.

P: Let us pray.

Thank You, God, for the mercy You have shown us in Christ Jesus, our Lord, and for Your affirmation in this Sacrament of that mercy secured by His once-for-all sacrifice on the cross. Use this resurrection food to strengthen the hearts of Your people as they look for ways to share Your mercy with others. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn CW 399 “To God be the Glory”

Announcements

Our Father’s Business in the Coming Week

Cleaning this Week: LaPlante

Today— Communion Service at 9:30 AM

Sunday School & Bible Class at 10:45 AM

Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup at Noon

Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

Tuesday—Tone Chimes at 7:00 PM

Wednesday—Men’s Bible Class at 11:30 AM

Next Sunday—New Life’s 30th Anniversary /

500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation

German Breakfast at 8:15 AM

Worship Service at 9:30 AM

Sunday School & Bible Class at 10:45 AM

Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

Adult Bible class is covering a video series entitled “Reformation: Grace, Faith, Scripture.” Today we will cover lesson seven entitled “Join and Sing to the Lord: Congregational Worship.” Bible class meets in the café at 10:45 AM.

Volunteers are needed to bring something to eat and drink for fellowship on Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board in the lower level.

A 55 passenger coach bus has been reserved for the Southeastern Wisconsin District Reformation Rally to be held at the Miller High Life Theatre in Milwaukee, WI on Sunday, November 5th. The service is at 3:30 PM. The bus will be shared with Christ the King in Palatine and St. John in Libertyville and will leave the church parking lot at 1:15 PM. Sign up for a seat on the bus on the sign-up sheet in the lower level. No cost will be charged for the bus ride, but donations can be given to defray the cost.

Plans are being made for the celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation and New Life’s 30th anniversary. The celebration will take place NEXT SUNDAY, October 29th. Plans are in the works to have a German breakfast prior to the festival service. John Landenberger has provided a suggested menu for the breakfast on the bulletin board in the basement. Please sign-up to bring something for this special day! Rev. Jim Naumann, former pastor of Christ the King in Palatine, will be the guest preacher.

Adopt-a-Highway will happen TODAY at noon. Members from New Life head over to an assigned stretch of Long Grove Road to pick up trash. A lunch will be served prior to the clean-up.

Thank you to those who helped with the outdoor clean-up day yesterday.

Congratulations to John and Evie Henkel who were blessed with the gift of a daughter this past Wednesday. Hazel Henkel weighs in at 6 lbs., 12 oz., and stretches the tape at 20.5 inches.

UNITED WAY

The United Way’s fall fund drive is underway right now, and many employers will match employee contributions. Tree of Life Lutheran Preschool is recognized by the United Way, so this is a great opportunity to help out with our education and community outreach efforts via the preschool. “10438331” is the ID number for Tree of Life. All contributions are greatly appreciated!

UP-COMING STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITY: PARKING LOT RESURFACING

The average lifespan of a parking lot such as ours is 15 years before major rehab is necessary. Through diligent maintenance efforts over the past 17 years, we have been able to keep the north lot in reasonable shape. However, we are reaching the point of diminishing returns with patching and sealing, and costs are only going to escalate over time. Mindful that good stewardship includes taking proper care of the things God has given, the Church Council has decided it’s time to start planning to reinforce the north lot.

This will be an expensive undertaking. We have received estimates from \$35,000, to grind off the top layers and resurface, to over \$60,000 to tear it all the way down and rebuild. The Council has decided to start a “Parking Lot Fund” (similar to the Building Fund established for the addition) for members to contribute directly to this effort.

More information will be forthcoming.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARTIN LUTHER NAILING THE 95 THESES TO THE DOOR OF THE CASTLE CHURCH IN WITTENBERG, GERMANY, ON OCTOBER 31, 1517, NEW LIFE WILL OFFER EVENING VESPERS ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 AT 7:00 PM. THE THEME FOR THE SERVICE WILL BE, "WALKING WITH GOD."

ON THE ANNIVERSARY, WE WILL WALK DOWN THE STREETS OF WITTENBERG, FROM THE WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY, DOWN COLLEGE STREET, PAST THE CITY SQUARE (MARKT) DOWN CASTLE STREET TO THE DOORS OF THE CASTLE CHURCH.

REFORMATION EVENING VESPERS

OCTOBER 31, 2017 AT 7:00 PM

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN LAKE ZURICH



Our Faithfulness to God's Word Last Sunday—61



