



HOPE

New Life Lutheran Church
Pastor Randy Whitehead

"Disciples of Jesus Growing Disciples of Jesus"

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Deadlines: Sunday announcements - Tuesday A.M., Newsletter - 15th of month

Website: www.newlifeparish.net

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION for Pastor Randy:
701-238-1863

Email: PastorRandy@newlifeparish.net

Office Manager: Patrice Ziegler - newlife@rtelnet.net

Hours: Monday - Thursday 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

New Life Lutheran Church

December 1, 2024

Pastor: Randy Whitehead

Reader: Cora Honer

Organist: Joyce Peterson



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS [Leader-fine print, **Congregation-Bold Print**]

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.

Amen.



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE The Schmidt Family

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.



OPENING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

LBW # 26



PRAYER OF THE DAY (In unison)

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**



FIRST READING: MALACHI 4:5-6

⁵ See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. ⁶ He will turn the hearts of parents to their children and the hearts of children to their parents, so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse.



PSALM 13 [Leader-fine print, **Congregation-Bold Print**]

¹ How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

² **How long must I bear pain in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

³ Consider and answer me, O Lord my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

⁴ **and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.**

⁵ But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

⁶ **I will sing to the Lord because he has dealt bountifully with me.**



Gospel: **Luke 1:5-25**

⁵ In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸ Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, ⁹ [Zechariah] was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. ¹⁰ Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹ Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.

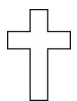
¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴ You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." ¹⁹ The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰ But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

²¹ Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delay in the sanctuary. ²² When he did come out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. ²³ When his time of service was ended, he returned to his home.

²⁴ After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, ²⁵ "This is what the Lord has done for me in this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."



CHILDRENS SERMON



SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

LBW # 34

OFFERING (Offering will be received during the hymn of the day)
You can use the QR code to give online



OFFERTORY PRAYER (In unison)

God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.
Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
Amen.



APOSTLES' CREED (In unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.



THE PRAYERS



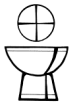
HOLY COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION



THE LORD'S PRAYER (In unison)

**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.**



THE DISTRIBUTION



SENDING HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

LBW # 55



BENEDICTION

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
bless and keep you now and forever.
Amen.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
Thanks be to God.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

December 1st - 8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee Hour at New Life

10:00 am Worship at New Life

December 2nd - 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan

December 3rd - 10:30 am Bible Study

December 4th - 7th Private event in Heritage room & Fellowship hall

December 4th- 6:00 pm Confirmation

December 5th - 3:00 pm Communion in Pelican Rapids

December 6th - 3:30 pm Sunday School practice

December 8th - 8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee Hour at New life

9:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship at New Life - **Sunday School Program**

Sunday School Program Practice for grades 3rd - 5th will be held on December 6th from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

If you need assistance getting your child to the church after school, please contact Amy Meyer at 701-306-0568.



Sunday School Program

The Sunday school program will be held on Sunday, December 8th at 10:00 am, during our normal worship time at New Life.

Come and support our Sunday school students!

Christmas Choir

Sign up for the Christmas choir performing on the 22nd during the 10am service and the Christmas Eve service on the 24th. Participate in both services or either one if your family has other plans.

Rehearsals will be December 8th and 15th following worship at 11am if we need to add an audition practice that will be planned with those involved.

There will be a sign up sheet outside the sanctuary.

CHRISTMAS BAGS!

The CARE Committee will be delivering Christmas Bags again this year! Looking for volunteers to bake goodies to put in the bags and help pack. Also, volunteers help deliver. A sign-up sheet will on table outside Fellowship Hall. **WILL BE PACKING DEC. 8 AFTER CHURCH SERVICES.**

Please place goodies on the table in the Heritage room

- Thank-you Care Committee Team.

Youth Events

Blanket Tying and Movie night!

December 11th 6:30-8pm

6-12 grade welcome

Bring a snack or drink and Jess will provide the fabric and scissors!

Birthday Party for Jesus!

December 22nd 2:30-4:00pm

6-12 grade welcome

Gift ball, Christmas themed Games, white elephant exchange and sock/hat/glove drive.

Bring a white elephant gift to exchange and if you're able socks/hats/gloves to be donate to shelters!

Christmas Eve Candlelight worship will be
at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24th.