

LIVING BEYOND OURSELVES
SERVING THOSE IN NEED

MATTHEW 25:35-40

New Life Lutheran Church
Pastor Randy Whitehead

"Disciples of Jesus Growing Disciples of Jesus"

Office: 102 Main Ave W Rothsay, MN • (218) 867-6557 • newlife@rtelnet.net

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

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Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

**New Life Lutheran Church
November 26, 2023**

Pastor: Randy Whitehead
Organist: Joyce Peterson
Reader:



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin

that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming,

open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,

open our hands to serve your creation.

Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

Amen.



OPENING HYMN

Give to Our God Immortal Praise

LBW # 520



PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek 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 will 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. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.



Psalm: Psalm 95:1-7a [Leader-fine print, Congregation-Bold Print]

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

^{7a}For the LORD is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.



Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.



Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”





HYMN OF THE DAY

Crown Him with many Crowns

LBW # 170

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



OFFERTORY PRAYER (In unison)

Heavenly Father, you have given us riches beyond measure.
Bless our offerings and help us to use them wisely in your
service and for your glory. 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



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.



SENDING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

LBW # 328



BENEDICTION

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God, Sovereign, Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

Amen.



DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

November 26th - 8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany
9:00 am Coffee Hour at New Life
10:00 am Worship at New Life

November 28th - 10:30 am Bible Study

November 29th - 6:00 pm "Young" Women's fellowship
6:00 pm Confirmation
7:00 pm NLLC Council meeting

The NLLC Council meeting originally scheduled for December 13th has been rescheduled for **November 29th at 7:00 pm.**

November 30th - 3:30 pm Sunday School practice

December 2nd - 9:00 am Little Bethany Annual meeting at Little Bethany

December 3rd - 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
11:00 am Youth Service Event



Advent Candle Lighting

We are looking for a few people or family units to light the advent candle on the next few Sundays during worship. If you are interested please call or email the church office to get on the schedule. We look forward to hearing from you! 218-867-6557 or newlife@rtelnet.net

Poinsettias

Today is the last day to order poinsettia's!

The cost per Poinsettia is \$16.00.

Please find order forms on the table in the narthex.

"Young" Women's Fellowship

Wednesday, November 29th @ 6pm

We will be reading "You Matter More Than You Think" by Dr. Leslie Parrott.

The study is a "no-study-at-home" thing, which means we just do it at the meetings. I have found this works well for busy women. Also, it's a stress-free zone so no one feels they can't come because they haven't done the work. Most importantly it will be a time/place to chat and share life events with other women.

I hope you'll be able to come!

Attention Sunday School parents and students in 2nd thru 5th grades. We would like to have a Christmas program practice on Thursday, November 30th beginning at 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm. We will have rides available from the school, if needed, let Amy Meyer or the church office know if you need transportation. Please try your best to have your student attend, we are limited on practice time.



Who: You! (all ages welcome)

What: Supper at church

When: Wednesday, December 6
5:45-6:45pm

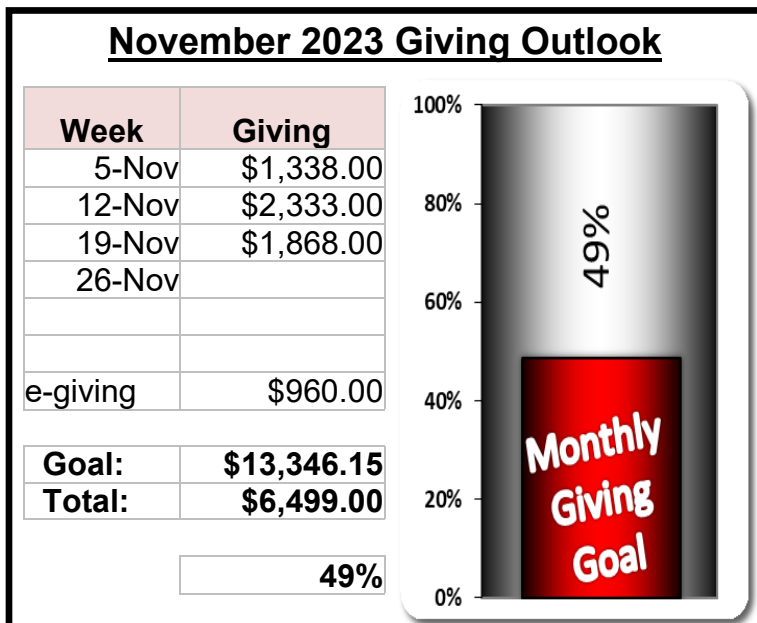
Why: To share a meal together

Cost: \$5 per person

What's for supper?
Baked mac and cheese bar
(homemade with your choice of toppings), tossed salad, breadstick, and Christmas goodies



Please RSVP by Friday, December 1. Email the church office at newlife@rtelnet.net or sign up on the form in the narthex.



Youth Service Event

December 3rd 11am - 1pm

Grades 7-12

We will be making cookies for someone meaningful in our lives and writing a letter of gratitude to go with them.

Christmas is coming fast!

The Community Care Committee is looking for donations of CHRISTMAS GOODIES for Christmas gift bags that we plan to deliver - with your help - to our Senior congregational members and others in our community that are living in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, as well as those living at home, to remind them that we care and wish them a blessed Christmas.

Please have your goodies to the church by our DEADLINE of Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023, when we will be putting the bags together after the church service for delivery during that week.

A sign up list will be in the hallway for contributing treats as well as a separate list to sign up to volunteer to help with the deliveries.

Join us Dec. 10 for fellowship and packing bags after church!