

April 27, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter /  
Confirmation Sunday



be with you.  
As the Father has  
sent me,  
so I send you."

John 20:21, NRSV

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*

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

**New Life Lutheran Church**

**April 27, 2025**

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Pastor: Randy Whitehead  
Readers: Confirmation Students  
Organist: Joyce Peterson



**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

- C:** Dear God, for the day you have given us, with all its possibilities, we thank you. For your gifts of life and love, of labor and rest, we praise your holy name. Forgive us that too often we are unappreciative while your goodness surrounds us; that we feel alone when there are many who love us; that we despair when your strength is near at hand. Tear down the walls that isolate us, make strong the ties that bind us, and help us to walk together with joy in all your ways; through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of your Spirit. Amen
- L:** The good news is that God forgives us and gives us Christ to be living water and true bread. Let us accept with joy these precious gifts of abundant life. Amen



**OPENING HYMN**

*How Great Thou Art*

**LBW # 532**



**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (In unison)

**O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



## First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

Jessica Nelson

<sup>27</sup> When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup> saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” <sup>29</sup> But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”



## Psalm: Psalm 150

Sophie Schmidt

- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple;  
praise God in the mighty firmament.
- <sup>2</sup> **Praise God for mighty acts;  
praise God for exceeding greatness.**
- <sup>3</sup> Praise God with trumpet sound;  
praise God with lyre and harp.
- <sup>4</sup> **Praise God with tambourine and dance;  
praise God with strings and pipe.**
- <sup>5</sup> Praise God with resounding cymbals;  
praise God with loud clanging cymbals.
- <sup>6</sup> **Let everything that has breath  
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!**



## Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

Samuel Brusven

<sup>4</sup> John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. <sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.



CHILDRENS SERMON



## Gospel: John 20:19-31

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.



## READERS THEATER

Jaxon Eckley, Collin Jacobson,  
Connor Nelson, & Kenzie Jensen



## HOMILY



## HYMN OF THE DAY

### *Jesus Loves Me*

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
they are weak, but he is strong.  
(Chorus)

Chorus  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus Loves me! He who died  
Heaven's gate to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin.  
Let His little child come in.  
(Chorus)

3. Jesus take this heart of mine  
Make it pure and wholly thine.  
On the cross You died for me.  
I will try to live for Thee.  
(Chorus)

4. Jesus loves me! He will stay  
Close beside me on my way.  
He's prepared a home for me,  
And Someday His face I'll see.  
(Chorus)

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



**OFFERTORY PRAYER** (In unison)

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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.



**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH / RITE OF CONFIRMATION** (see insert)



**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.



## **BENEDICTION**

The triune God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.

**Amen.**



## **SENDING HYMN**

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

**LBW # 448**



## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH**

**April 27th** - 8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany  
9:00 am Coffee Hour at New Life  
9:00 am Sunday School at New Life  
10:00 am Worship at New Life with Confirmation  
11:00 am Sophie Schmidt Gathering

**April 29th & 30th** - Mission kit assembly

**May 1st** - 10:00 am Partners

**May 4th** - 8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany  
9:00 am Coffee Hour at New Life  
9:00 am **LAST DAY** of Sunday School at New Life  
10:00 am Worship at New Life **Sunday School Sings**

**April Office Manager Hours:**

April 28th - May 1st: 1 pm to 3:30 pm

Mission quilters will be meeting on Wednesday, May 14th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Please bring a sack lunch.



Our theme for VBS this year is River of life! The program will run June 1 - June 5 from 5:30pm-8:00pm we will be gathering kids in Pre-K - 5th grade to learn about God and have fun together. The program for friends and family will be on June 5th at 6:30 pm with dinner to follow, we hope you can join us! If your child is in swimming lessons please let the bus know they will be dropped off at the church.

Please consider a suggested donation \$10.00 per student or \$30.00 per family, to help cover costs to our program! This is not required to register for our event.

We are looking for volunteers to help with activities during VBS and volunteers to provide and serve food. If you are willing to help in one of these areas, please find the sign-up sheets in the narthex.

**Senior Recognition Sunday**

May 18th

Join us for refreshments at 9:00 am and for worship at 10:00 am as we celebrate the a great accomplishment for these students!

**Community Baccalaureate Service**

May 18th at 7:00 pm  
at the New Life Lutheran Church

The Rothsay community and all Rothsay Public School graduating seniors, along with their friends and family, are invited to a service in their honor.

Congratulations Seniors!

Mission workers are in need of a few items for their Lutheran World Relief kits.

- School bags, already made
- 70 page Wide ruled notebooks (4 to a kit)
- Kids scissors
- Bath towels (new or used)

Please leave donated items at the church office or in the quilt room. We will be delivering kits the week of May19th-23rd.

Thanks a lot!