

Church Calendar this week

Sunday, December 28
Pastor Randy on vacation
9:30 am Coffee Hour (NL)
10:00 am New Life Worship

Monday, December 29
Pastor Randy on vacation
9:00 am Tai Ji Quan

Tuesday, December 30
Pastor Randy on vacation

Wednesday, December 31
Pastor Randy on vacation
New Years Eve

Thursday, January 1
Pastor Randy on vacation
Happy New Years!

Friday, January 2
No activities

Saturday, January 3
No activities

Sunday, January 4
8:45 am Little Bethany Worship
9:00 am Coffee Hour (LB)
9:30 am Coffee Hour (NL)
10:00 am New Life Worship

Thank you to:

Organist:
Joyce Peterson

Reader:
Julie Brenden

Sound System:
Jennifer Horner

Worship Leader:
John Reber

Thank you John for filling in for Pastor Randy while he is on vacation!

APOSTLES CREED

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 life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

 SENDING HYMN—LBW #54
“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

1st Sunday of Christmas

28 December 2025

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

Amen.


Trusting in God’s steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin. Reconciling God,

we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.

Amen.

God’s grace upon grace flows over you. Christ’s presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

Amen.

 OPENING HYMN—LBW #39
“Joy to the World”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, 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: **Isaiah 63:7-9**

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully,” and he became their savior ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.



“Disciples of Jesus Growing Disciples of Jesus”

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Publication Deadlines:
Sunday announcements - Tuesday A.M.,
Newsletter - 19th of the month

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the “holy innocents” of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly.

Announcements

New Member Sunday – January 25, 2026

New Life Lutheran Church is excited to welcome new members into our church family.

We'll celebrate together during worship with a special service of blessing and fellowship.

*Whether you're officially joining or simply curious about membership, we invite you to be part of this joyful day.

Stay tuned for more details, and let's give thanks for the gift of community and the new friends God is bringing into our midst!



PSALM: Psalm 148
¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
² Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
³ Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
⁴ Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.
⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created,
⁶ who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.
⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;
⁸ fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
⁹ mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
¹⁰ wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;
¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
¹² young men and maidens, old and young together.
¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
¹⁴ The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18
¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." ¹³ And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." ¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23
¹³ Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." ¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." ¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON
HYMN OF THE DAY— LBW #474
"Children of the Heavenly Father"
OFFERING
OFFERATORY PRAYER
Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Please satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

Announcements

Mission Quilters
Mark your calendars!
The Mission Quilters will meet on the following dates in 2026:

- January 14
- February 11
- March 11
- April 8
- May 13
- June 10

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Note: Please bring a bag lunch

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