

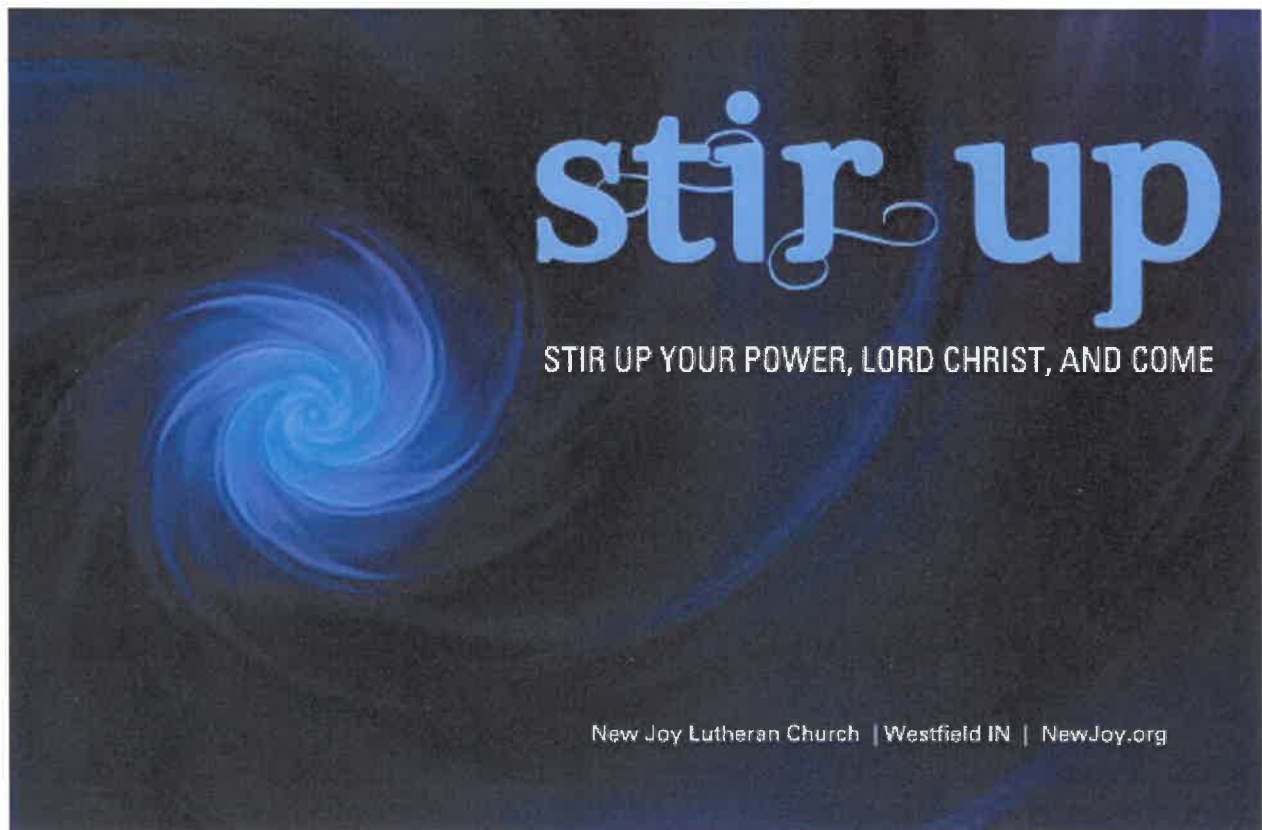


316 W. 156th Street
Westfield, IN 46074
Www.newjoy.org
317-896-1402

Ministers: The People of New Joy
Pastor: The Rev. Chris Duckworth

A Congregation of Welcome, Grace, Faith and Promise

December 20, 2020



**Fourth Sunday
In Advent**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're Glad You're Joining Us This Morning!

Praying the Psalms

As we return to livestream—only for worship, we are adding a time of prayerful reflection to our Sundays together. Join us via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 8:45 am for Praying the Psalms. The link can be found in the News to Know emails. Some of you may remember that several years ago Jessicah Duckworth led us with this weekly devotion in which we read and prayed a psalm each week prior to worship, Please mark your calendar and join us before worship beginning next Sunday.

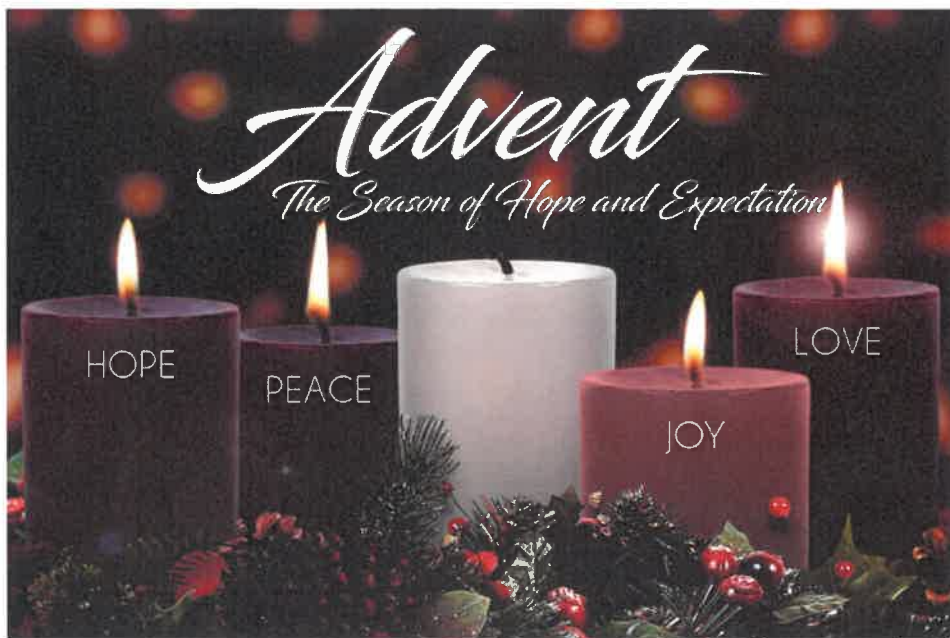
Join us after worship at 10:45am for a **Sunday Morning Zoom Fellowship Meeting**. Our two interns, Cory and Emily, will be joining us each Sunday! It is a great way to get to know them better, and to catch up with your other New Joy friends! You can find the link to the coffee hour in our Friday News to Know emails. So jump on after worship and get to know our new interns!

Midweek Advent Services Wednesday—on Zoom

We will have one more Midweek Advent Service this coming Wednesday, lead by our Intern Emily Michaelis. We will be meeting on Zoom at 7pm on Wednesday evening. The link to join in the Zoom service will be in Tuesday's News to Know. Come join Emily on Wednesday evening as we prepare for the coming of our Lord.

Church Office closed from Monday, December 28 through Sunday, January 3. We will reopen on Monday, January 4.

Christmas Eve Services—will be available to watch via our YouTube channel at 5pm and again at 7:30 pm on Christmas Eve. The service will then be available to stream any time that works with your holiday celebrations. Please join us Christmas Eve!



The Church Still Gathers

Prelude

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made This heart adore
You Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus: So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Bridge: And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Light of the World

Light of the World Treasure of Heaven
Brilliant like the stars in the wintry sky
Joy of the Father reach through the darkness
Shine across the earth send the shadows to flight

Light of the World from the beginning
The tragedies of time were no match for Your love
From great heights of glory You saw my story
God You entered in and became one of us

Chorus: Sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him
Bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World

Light of the world crown in a manger
Born for the cross to suffer to save
High King of Heaven death is the poorer
We are the richer by the price that He paid

Light of the World soon will be coming
With fire in His eyes He will ransom His own
Through clouds He will lead us straight into glory
And there He shall reign forevermore forevermore

Words of Welcome

Wait for the Lord

Chorus: Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart!

Opening Prayer

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Canticle of the Turning

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
That the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that
You bring to the ones who wait.

You fixed your sight on Your servants' plight,
And my weakness You did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blessed.
Could the world be about to turn.

Chorus: My Heart shall sing of the day You bring.
Let the fires of Your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

This week's Advent litany uses words from Luke 1 and from our Hymn of Praise.

- L: Mary, mother of our Lord, sings, "With all my heart I glorify the Lord! In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior. He has looked with favor on the low status of his servant. Look! From now on, everyone will call me blessed because he has done great things for me."
- C: **My heart shall sing of the day you bring, let the fires of your justice burn.**
- L: Holy is God's name! He shows mercy to everyone, from one generation to the next, who honors him as God.
- C: **My heart shall sing of the day you bring, let the fires of your justice burn.**
- L: He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered the proud and arrogant. He has pulled the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty!
- C: **Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.**
- L: He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, just as he promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and to Abraham's descendants forever.
- C: **Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.**
- L: Bless us as we light these candles. Let the fires of your justice burn in our lives and in this world that you so love. In Jesus' name.
- C: **Amen.**

Canticle of the Turning

Though the nations rage from age to age,
We remember who holds us fast;
God's mercy must deliver us
From the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
Is the promise which holds us bound,
Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
Who is turning the world around.

Chorus: My Heart shall sing of the day You bring.
Let the fires of Your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

Prayer of the Day:

Reader: As we prepare to hear the Word of God this day, let us pray:

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundance grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶ When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" ²⁹ She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. ³¹ Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. ³³ He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom."

³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, “How will this happen since I haven’t had sexual relations with a man?”

³⁵ The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God’s Son. ³⁶ Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled ‘unable to conceive’ is now six months pregnant. ³⁷ Nothing is impossible for God.”

³⁸ Then Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

What Feast of Love (ELW 487)

What feast of love is offered here,
what banquet come from heaven?

What food of everlasting life.

what gracious gift is given?

This, this is Christ the King,
the bread come down from heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing!

How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?

What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?

This, this is Christ the King,
the sun come down from heaven.

Oh, see and hear and sing!

The Word of God is given!

The Assisting Minister leads this portion of the service, where we proclaim our faith, renew our shared mission, lift our prayers to God, and extend God's peace with one another.

Mission Statement

AM: In person, in spirit, and in truth, the church still gathers.

C: **New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community called by God to extend a radical welcome, share a generous grace, nurture a transforming faith, and live God's promise.**

Prayer

The Assisting Minister leads the congregation in the Prayers of the Church, giving thanks to God, and asking God's blessings for the church, the world, and all those in need. After each prayer petition, the congregation responds, "Your mercy is great."

Sharing God's Peace

We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you" now, in the middle of our worship service. We wish for each other that we'd truly experience God's presence and peace. This helps prepare us for the gift of Holy Communion. Our worship service will continue with the Offering

AM: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

God With Us

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love
To be nearer to us

You've come to bring life to be Light
To shine brighter in us

Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus: Our Deliverer You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us

You are God with us

Oh You've come to be Hope to this world
For Your honor and name

And You've come to take sin to bear shame
And to conquer the grave

Oh Emmanuel God with us. *Chorus*

Bridge: You are here
You are holy
We are standing in Your glory (Lord)
(REPEAT)

Ending: Oh God with us
You are God with us

Announcements/Offering

Offering Prayer

P: Generous God, you have created all that is,
and you provide for us in every season.
Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the
world will receive your blessing.
In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.
C: Amen.

WE SHARE GOD'S MEAL

Words of Institution

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: ...And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth
and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their
unending hymn:

**Glo-ri-a! In excel-sis De-o;
Glo-ri-a! In excel-sis De-o!**

P: Oh God, we call to you. Come to us quickly.
Hear our voice when we cry to you.

*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.*

Lord's Supper

All are welcome to the table, where Jesus is host and offers himself to all who desire to receive. This is truly our Lord's table. We believe that Jesus shows up in this meal - in the invitation, in the bread and cup, and in the precious words that his body and blood are given and shed "for you." This meal is indeed given for you for the forgiveness of sins and as a promise of our Lord's presence with you.

*Instructions on sharing communion at home:
These are the gifts of God, for you the people of God, and for that we say
Thanks be to God!*

Lamb of God

Your only Son no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Chorus: Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as He died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. *Chorus*

I was so lost I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God. *Chorus*

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

(light, peace joy)

Prayer After Communion

WE GO OUT WITH GOD'S JOY

Blessing

P: The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,
+ now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Sending Song

Here I Am, Lord

“I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright,
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”

Chorus: Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, If You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

“I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my peoples’ pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?”

Chorus

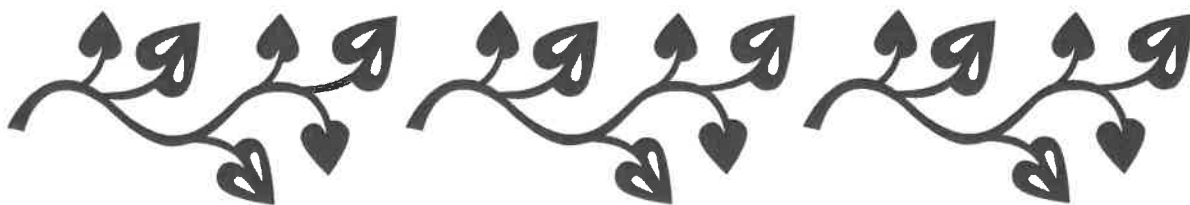
“I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them, Whom shall I send?”

Chorus

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New Joy Lutheran Church: A Spirited Community

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community called by God to extend a radical welcome, share a generous grace, nurture a transforming faith, and live God's promise.

Extend Radical Welcome

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that welcomes, values, accepts, and nurtures all people wherever they are in their relationship with God.

Share Generous Grace

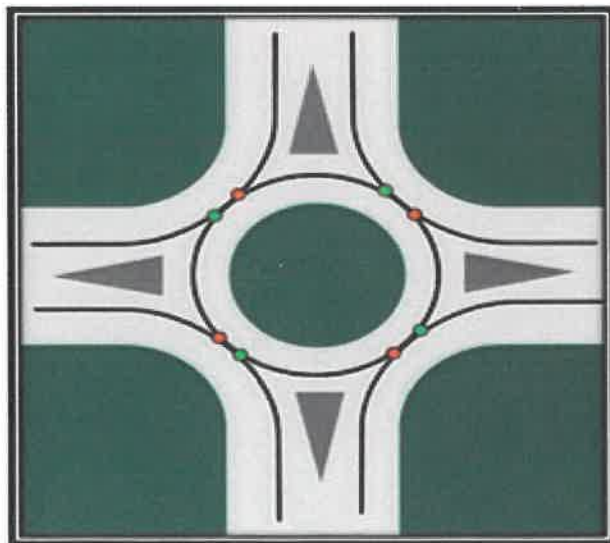
New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that freely proclaims that forgiveness, mercy, love, and salvation are free gifts of God's grace.

Nurture Transforming Faith

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that receives faith as a gift of God that transforms us and the world.

Live God's Promise

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that boldly lives in our Lord's promise of renewed and everlasting life.



About New Joy Lutheran Church

New Joy Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is a community of faith moved by God's Spirit. We come to New Joy from different places, with different life and faith experiences. What draws us together is the center – our Lord Jesus Christ – who welcomes us into a common life and transforming faith, and sends us out to share generous grace and boldly live God's promise.

