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A Congregation of Welcome, Grace, Faith and Promise

April 4, 2021



**Easter Sunday**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## Praying the Psalms

Now that we have returned 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**. You can find the link in Friday's News to Know email. It is a great time to speak with our interns, Cory and Emily, and to catch up with many of our Partners! It is the next best thing to hanging out in the narthex and sanctuary after worship! You do have to provide your own donuts, though!

Join us each Wednesday at 1pm for our **Midweek Bible Study**. The link to the Zoom meeting will be in Tuesday's News to Know. All are welcome to join in! The upcoming Sunday scripture will be discussed.

**Church Office Closed Tomorrow** in observance of Easter. Pastor Chris will be out of the office all week. The Preschool is on Spring Break. If you need anything, please contact the office Tuesday or later.



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## The Church Still Gathers

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

**P:** Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

**C:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

### **Jesus Christ Is Risen Today**

*(Performed by Association of Lutheran Church Musicians)*

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!  
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

## **Opening Prayer**

## **Welcome**

**P:** Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**C:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

# Hymn of Praise

## This is the Feast

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia. *Refrain*

## Prayer of the Day:

**P:** God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## Children's Message

### Psalm

### Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD because he is good,  
because his faithful love lasts forever.

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel say it:

“God’s faithful love lasts forever!”

<sup>14</sup> The LORD was my strength and protection;  
he was my saving help!

<sup>15</sup> The sounds of joyful songs and deliverance  
are heard in the tents of the righteous:

“The LORD’s strong hand is victorious!

<sup>16</sup> The LORD’s strong hand is ready to strike!  
The LORD’s strong hand is victorious!”

<sup>17</sup> I won’t die—no, I will live  
and declare what the LORD has done.

<sup>18</sup> Yes, the LORD definitely disciplined me,  
but he didn’t hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> Open the gates of righteousness for me  
so I can come in and give thanks to the LORD!

<sup>20</sup> This is the LORD’s gate;  
those who are righteous enter through it.

<sup>21</sup> I thank you because you answered me,  
because you were my saving help.

<sup>22</sup> The stone rejected by the builders  
is now the main foundation stone!

<sup>23</sup> This has happened because of the LORD;  
it is astounding in our sight!

<sup>24</sup> This is the day the LORD acted;  
we will rejoice and celebrate in it!

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

### **Alleluia**

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia

## **Gospel**

**Mark 16:1-8**

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Mark:

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they could go and anoint Jesus' dead body. <sup>2</sup> Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they came to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> They were saying to each other, "Who's going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?" <sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. (And it was a very large stone!) <sup>5</sup> Going into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right side; and they were startled. <sup>6</sup> But he said to them, "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, here's the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup> Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup> Overcome with terror and dread, they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

### Alleluia

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia

## **Sermon**

### Now the Green Blade Rises

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would never wake again;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.

*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: Let us say together the mission of our congregation:

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.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

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

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the father,  
and he will come 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.*

## **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. Each prayer petition concludes, "Here us, O God." and 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.*

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

## **Announcements & Invitation to Offering**

### **WE SHARE GOD'S MEAL**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

**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 God thanks and praise.

### Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest,

Blessed is he who comes

In the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*Pastor continues with the Eucharistic Prayer, a broad and deep prayer that recalls God's mighty deeds of salvation. The Eucharistic Prayer for Easter Sunday is a translation of a prayer that dates as far back as the mid-200's and which, like the first chapter of the Gospel of John, gives special attention to Jesus as the Word of God. Our holy communion table prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer.*



## **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.*

## **Lord's Supper** *(please be seated)*

*All our welcome to the communion feast, for our Lord is host and gives himself to all who desire to receive. Perhaps you or a member of your household hasn't had a formal "first communion" yet. That's ok. Share in the feast. This is Jesus' table. When we return to in-person ministries, we'll catch up on the learning and celebrations for those who have received communion for the first time during the pandemic. Come, let us eat and drink at the table of the Lord.*

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God

you take away the sin of the world

Have mercy on us

Lamb of God

you take away the sin of the world

Have mercy on us

Lamb of God

you take away the sin of the world

grant us peace, grant us peace.

### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Thankful hearts and voices raise;

Tell everyone what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice

And bear Christ's holy name.

Send us with your promises, O God

And lead us forth in joy

With shouts of thanksgiving.

Alleluia

# WE GO OUT WITH GOD'S JOY

## Blessing

P: May the Spirit of the living Christ  
fill you with faith and trust,  
burn in you with the fire of love,  
enliven your bones, body, and life,  
and breathe through you the breath of life,  
Almighty God, Father,  
✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.  
Bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

## Sending Song

### Lift High The Cross

*Refrain:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore His sacred Name.

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine. *Refrain*

Each newborn servant of the Crucified  
Bears on the brow the seal of Him Who died. *Refrain*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw the world to Thee. *Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory. *Refrain*

# **Dismissal**

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C:** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**P:** God in peace. Proclaim the resurrection!

**C:** Thanks be to God.

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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**

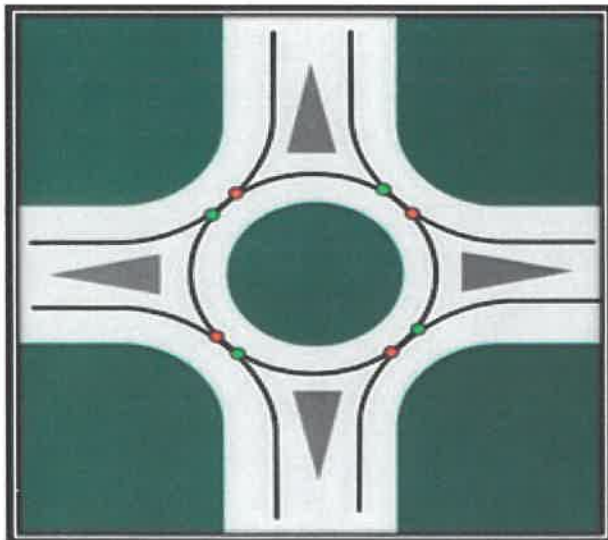
New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that freely proclaims that forgiveness, mercy, love, and salvation are free gifts of God's grace.

### **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.

