

***Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!***



**Second Sunday of Easter**  
Sunday, April 16, 2023

**The People of New Joy, Ministers**  
The Rev. Chris Duckworth, Pastor  
Glenn Hoffman, Music Minister



**Welcome to worship** at New Joy Lutheran Church. We are blessed by your presence among us today. This bulletin contains the outline and words for worship this morning.



**Happy Easter!** Easter is not just a day, but an entire season stretching 50 days until Pentecost. We continue celebrating the resurrection with Scripture that reveal to us the power and promise of resurrection in our lives and in our world. This season Pastor Chris' sermons will come from 1 Peter, a letter that encourages the early Christians to live as resurrection people in the face of sufferings and challenges.



**Little children** are always welcome – even and especially when they're a little noisy! We welcome children to worship God by toddling around, playing with toys, shaking tambourines, babbling and singing, and coming to the Lord's Table.

If little ones get too noisy during spoken parts of the service – the reading of Scripture, the sermon, or prayers – please try to quiet them or take them into the hallway for a moment to calm down. Thank you!

Our **nursery** is also available most Sundays for **children aged 5 and under**.



**Holy Communion:** At our Lord's Table Jesus gives his own body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and intimacy of his promised presence with us. All who desire to receive our Lord are welcome. Communion is shared with bread (a wafer) and cup (grape juice). If you're uncertain about receiving or how to receive, don't hesitate to ask pastor when you come forward. You are welcome to receive a blessing or to receive the sacrament, as you feel led by the Spirit.

## GATHERING

### Prelude



### Easter Declaration

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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



### Opening Prayer



# Opening Song

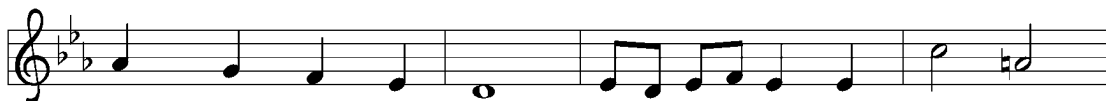
# Thine is the Glory



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes  
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

### Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.  
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
 to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!



## Apostolic Greeting

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

C: **And also with you.**



## Easter Declaration


P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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




## Hymn of Praise


*Refrain*




Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion




sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.



## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## WORD



### Children's Message



### Easter Declaration

R: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!



## Responsive Psalm

R: The responsive psalm is Psalm 16. The refrain (**R**) is from verse 11:  
*In your presence there is fullness of joy.*

**C: In your presence there is fullness of joy.**

<sup>1</sup>Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

<sup>2</sup>**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

<sup>3</sup>But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup>**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips. R**

<sup>5</sup>O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.

<sup>6</sup>**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

<sup>7</sup>I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.

<sup>8</sup>**I have set the Lord always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. R**

<sup>9</sup>My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup>**For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

<sup>11</sup>You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are  
pleasures forevermore. **R**



## Second Reading

**1 Peter 1:3-9**

A Reading from First Peter.

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready

to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup>Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

R: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



## Gospel Acclamation

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.



## Gospel

**John 20:19-31**

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John:

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

<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.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**



**Gospel Acclamation**



## Sermon



## Song of the Day

## Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

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



## Easter Declaration

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

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



## **Mission Statement**

A: Let us say together the mission we share:

**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**

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: 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 to the dead.\*  
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.**



## **Prayers of the Church**

*Prayers of Intercession - Each prayer petition concludes with, "Hear us, O God." The response is, "Your mercy is great."*

## **Sharing the Peace**

A: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

A: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace with those around us.

## **Announcements & Offering**



## Offertory

## As The Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
 gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
 all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
 2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.



## Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Generous God,  
 in this meal you offer your very self.  
 We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.  
 In the breaking of this bread  
 reveal to us the Risen One.  
 In the pouring of this wine  
 pour us out in service to the world;  
 through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Pastor continues with eucharistic prayer, which includes the following responses:*

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age. ....

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

P: ... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: ... Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: ... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



**C: 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 are welcome to the communion feast, for our Lord is host and gives himself to all who desire to receive. Those not receiving Holy Communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing or remain in their seats in prayer. Come, let us eat and drink at the table of the Lord.*



# Lamb of God

*Congregation:*      *Congregation or Assistant:*

Lamb of God,      you take a - way the sin of      the  
you break the chains of ha - tred      and  
you are the way of jus - tice      and  
you are the way of mer - cy      and

*Congregation:*

world:      have mer - cy on us,      mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*

mer - cy      on      us.      Lamb of God,      you

*Congregation:*

take a - way the sins of      the world:      grant us peace,

grant us peace,      grant us peace.

# Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



*Refrain*



Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



- |   |       |     |      |       |      |            |                  |           |
|---|-------|-----|------|-------|------|------------|------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Break | now | the  | bread | of   | Christ's   | sac - ri - fice; | giv - ing |
| 2 | Seek  | not | the  | food  | that | will       | pass             | a - way;  |
| 3 | Love  | as  | the  | one   | who, | in         | love             | for       |
| 4 | Dwell | in  | the  | one   | who  | now        | dwells           | in        |
| 5 | Drink | of  | this | cup   | and  | de - clare | his              | death;    |
|   |       |     |      |       |      |            |                  | eat       |
|   |       |     |      |       |      |            |                  | this      |



|         |           |            |                  |        |             |         |           |         |      |     |
|---------|-----------|------------|------------------|--------|-------------|---------|-----------|---------|------|-----|
| thanks, | hun - gry | ones,      | gath - er        | round. | Eat,        | all     | of        | you,    | and  | be  |
| hearts  | on        | the        | food             | that   | en - dures. | Come,   | learn     | the     | true | and |
| self    | for       | the        | life             | of     | the         | world.  | Come      | to      | the  | one |
| home    | in        | the        | life - giv - ing | Word.  | Know        | on - ly | Christ,   | Ho - ly |      |     |
| bread   | and       | be - lieve | Eas - ter        | morn;  | trust       | his     | re - turn | and,    | with |     |



|                  |         |          |             |             |           |      |            |
|------------------|---------|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------|------------|
| sat - is - fied; | in      | Christ's | pres - ence | the         | loaves    | will | a - bound. |
| liv - ing        | way,    | that     | the         | full - ness | of        | life | may        |
| food             | for     | you,     | that        | your        | hun - ger | and  | thirst     |
| One              | of      | God,     | and         | be - lieve  | in        | the  | truth      |
| ev - 'ry         | breath, | praise   | the         | one         | in        | whom | you        |
|                  |         |          |             |             |           |      | are        |
|                  |         |          |             |             |           |      | re - born. |

*Refrain*



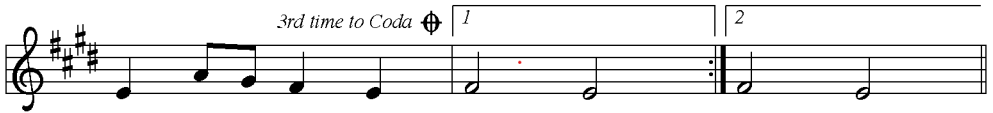
# Praise to You, O God of Mercy



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -  
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:  
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

*Coda*



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!



## Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray.

Gracious God,

in you we live and move and have our being.

With your word and this meal of grace,

you have nourished our life together.

Strengthen us to show your love

and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.



## Easter Declaration

R: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

## SENDING



### Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace.

In the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit

C: Amen

## WORSHIP NOTES

אלהים



**A NEW BULLETIN GRAPHIC** appears next to our responsive psalm.

The graphic depicts two people speaking the Hebrew word “Elohim,” which means Lord or Lord God. The psalms are traditionally spoken – or sung – responsively. The Hebrew script reminds us that the psalms come to us from our Jewish ancestors and neighbors.

**LIVESTREAM OPERATORS** Would you be willing to learn how our livestream technology works? Check in with Phil and Rich any Sunday following worship to see how you can become part of the livestream team.



## **Sending Song**

### Verse 1

Let the King of my heart  
Be the mountain where I  
run  
The fountain I drink from  
Oh He is my song  
Let the King of my heart  
Be the shadow where I hide  
The ransom for my life  
Oh He is my song

### Chorus

You are good good oh  
You are good good oh  
You are good good oh  
You are good good oh

## **King of My Heart**

*(V1, C, V2, C, Bx2, Cx2)*

### Verse 2

Let the King of my heart  
Be the wind inside my sails  
The anchor in the waves  
Oh He is my song  
Let the King of my heart  
Be the fire inside my veins  
The echo of my days  
Oh He is my song

### Bridge

You're never gonna let  
Never gonna let me down  
You're never gonna let  
Never gonna let me down  
You're never gonna let  
Never gonna let me down  
You're never gonna let  
Never gonna let me down



## **Dismissal**

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

A: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# WORSHIP LEADERS

*We give thanks for all who give of themselves for service to God and to this community.*

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Assisting Minister : | Shawna Harouff     |
| Reader:              | Stephanie Blocksom |
| Acolyte              | Kinzi Jones        |

The band members are Glenn Hoffman, Jim Gregory, Karen Archbold.

The Altar Guild members are Judy Moon, Kristi Kittilstved, Nancy Trullinger, Morgan Studer, and Shawna Harouff

The Livestream team is Phil Havlik, Rich Kittilstved and Naaman Duckworth.

The audio is run by Steve Castle.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CONFIRMATION MINISTRY** Creative Faith Project presentations are today at 4pm! In two weeks the Confirmation Class will be heading to Newfields to explore faith in art and culture. Would you like to join them? Reach out to Pastor Jessicah or to Pastor Chris.

**VBS 2023: HERO HOTLINE** Sunday, June 25 - Thursday, June 29, 6-8pm at New Joy. Save the Date and become a hero this summer. Kids who are ages 3 to rising 6th grade are welcome to attend. Registration is open! **We are looking for lots of volunteers.** Rising 7th grade and older are invited to be counselors. Anyone interested in volunteering in any capacity can reach out to Morgan Studer.

**NEW JOY'S RADICAL WELCOME** efforts are continuing! We completed a four-week Bible study on LGBTQ+ Welcome last month (notes are available online at [NewJoy.org/about/radical-welcome](http://NewJoy.org/about/radical-welcome)), and today we have an information and Q&A session following worship. Please join us!

**MEN'S GROUP** next meets on Saturday, April 29. They are reading *Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit*. A few copies are still available in the church kitchen. Grab a book, and read the first three chapters. We'll discuss Chapter 4 on April 29.

**COFFEE HOUR** is shifting to a monthly celebration, on the first Sunday of the month. Additional coffee hours will be shared on special occasions.

**NEW JOY IS ON FACEBOOK** both with a public page and a private group. Search for "New Joy Lutheran Church" to like our page, and for "New Joy Partners" to join our group.

# FELLOWSHIP & LEARNING GROUPS

*Extend a radical welcome ... Nurture transforming faith*

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** meets in two annual sessions – one in the fall and one in the winter - for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade faith formation and fellowship. Classes in our winter/spring session have wrapped up, but we still have a few other activities planned between now and Confirmation Sunday (May 21).

**SEASONED BELIEVERS**, our seniors fellowship group, meets on Tuesdays at 9am at Chick-Fil-A on Route 32 in Westfield.

**BIBLE STUDIES** meet at New Joy on Tuesdays at 7pm and on Wednesdays at 1pm. The Tuesday evening group uses the *Adult Bible Studies* curriculum by Cokesbury. The Wednesday midday group reads the Scripture for the next Sunday. Contact Pastor Chris if you would like to learn more.

**NEW JOY'S MUSIC MINISTRY** rehearses every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm. Interested in singing or playing with the band? Please speak with our Music Minister, Glenn Hoffman, after worship, or via email at [music@newjoy.org](mailto:music@newjoy.org).

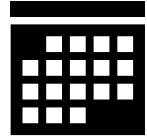
**MEN'S GROUP** hosts breakfasts and Bible Studies about twice/month On Saturdays at 8am. Questions? Contact Tony Trullinger or Wes Harouff.

**JOYFUL GIRLS** gathers each month for fellowship and dinner. Contact Becky Suchomel or Lyn Nore if you have any questions.

## MINISTRY BOARD MEMBERS

| <u>Name</u>        | <u>Position</u> | <u>Term Ending</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Becky Suchomel     | President       | January 2025       |
| Laurie Cupp        | Vice President  | January 2026       |
| Kristi Kittilstved | Secretary       | January 2025       |
| Chuck Studer       | Treasurer       | January 2024       |
| Andy Clark         | Co- Treasurer   | January 2026       |
| Gail Castle        | Member at Large | January 2024       |

# THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



Sunday, April 16 Easter Sunday

- Worship, 9:30am, Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under.
- Radical Welcome Update & Questions, 10:30am

Monday, April 17

- New Joy Preschool 4s Class, 9:30am
- BSA Scout Troops 1910 & 1920, 7pm

Tuesday, April 18

- New Joy Preschool 3s Class, 9:30am
- Seasoned Believers, 9am, @ Chick-Fil-A on Route 32 in Westfield
- New Bible Study, 7pm (Too Good to be True?)

Wednesday, April 19

- New Joy Preschool 4s Class, 9:30am
- Wednesday Bible Study, 1pm. (Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35)
- Band Rehearsal, 7:30pm

Thursday, April 20

- New Joy Preschool 3s Class, 9:30am

Friday, April 21

Saturday April 22

Sunday, April 16

- Worship, 9:30am Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under

**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 a Radical Welcome** We are a spirited community that strives to welcome, value, accept, and nurture all people wherever they are in their relationship with God. Since our founding in 2002, New Joy has been committed to welcoming people of all races, incomes, and expressions of the LGBTQIA+ community.

**Share a Generous Grace** We are a spirited community which boldly proclaims that forgiveness, mercy, love, and salvation are free gifts of God's grace.

**Nurture Transforming Faith** We are a spirited community that receives faith as a gift of God that transforms us and the world.

**Live God's Promise** We are a spirited community that boldly lives in our Lord's promise of renewed and everlasting life.

*The truth is that we don't always believe confidently, or pray wholeheartedly, or serve selflessly on our own. Yet when we come together in community we draw out the best in each other and in ourselves, lean on the faith of those around us, and seek the goodness of God for ourselves and for the world that God so loves.*

*Full of belief or doubt, confidence or questions? There is a place for you at New Joy. The people of New Joy are newcomers to Christianity and interfaith families, lifelong active church goers and people who have spent decades away from the church before finding their way to New Joy. There is a place for you at New Joy, too.*



*New Joy is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).*