



Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24, 2024

The People of New Joy, Ministers

The Rev. Chris Duckworth, Pastor

Glenn Hoffman, Music Minister



New Joy Lutheran Church & Preschool

316 W. 156th Street, Westfield, IN | 317 896-1402 | www.NewJoy.org

Welcome to Worship at New Joy



Welcome. We are blessed by your presence among us today. This bulletin contains the outline and words for worship this morning.



New to New Joy? If you'd like to get in touch with the Pastor, be added to our email list, share a prayer request, or more, simply fill out one of the welcome/prayer cards in (most of) the seatback pockets and set it in the offering plate, hand it to an usher, or leave it on the counter in the church office.



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.



The Ministry Board is New Joy's governing council. If you have any questions about our ministry or seek to become more involved, please reach out to one of these 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
Andy Clark	Treasurer	January 2026
Luke Johnson	Member at Large	January 2027
Jenny Platt	Member at Large	January 2027

Today is Palm Sunday

Introduction to Palm Sunday - This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.



Worship Leaders: We give thanks for all who give of themselves for service to God and to this community.

	Today	Next Sunday, March 31
Assisting Minister	Kristen Abbey	
Reader	Sylvia Lux	<i>Kristi Kittilstved</i>
Acolyte	Jane Abbey	<i>Kinzi Jones</i>
Livestream Operator	Rich Kittilstved	<i>Phil Havlik</i>
Altar Guild	Jessica Allen	<i>Jessica Allen</i>
Nursery Care	Anya Verik	<i>Anya Verik</i>

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

Our ushers and greeters are not currently regularly scheduled. We are grateful for Andy and Abigail Clark, Val Bandejas, Jessica Allen, Lyn Nore, Becky Suchomel, and others who step in at a moment's notice to extend this ministry.



GATHERING

Prelude

Palm Procession

Acclamation:

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Processional Gospel

Mark 11:1-11

Jesus enters Jerusalem

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he

had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Blessing of the Palms

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

We praise you, O God,
for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Today he entered the holy city in triumph
and was proclaimed messiah and king
by those who spread garments and branches along his way.
Bless these branches and those who carry them.
Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross,
so that, joined to his death and resurrection,
we enter into life with you;
through the same Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Procession Song – Pave the Path with Branches



*Je - sus is com - ing. Pave the way with branch - es.



Je - sus is com - ing. Ho - san - na. san - na.



Ho - san - na, Je - sus is com - ing. Ho -



san - na to the Prince of peace. Prince of peace.

**Additional verses ad lib.:*
Release for the captives . . .
Hope for the downtrod . . .
Land for the landless . . .
Debts are forgiven . . .



WORD



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Children's Sermon



Scripture Prayer

Let us pray.

O God, your Son calls us to lives of generosity, service, and sacrifice. Send your Spirit upon us that, moved by your promise at work in the lives of our ancestors, we would be encouraged to live according to your holy will. Through Jesus Christ, the living Word of God we pray. **Amen.**



Hebrew Bible – Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

A reading from Isaiah:

⁴The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,

I did not turn backward.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody – Psalm 31:9-16



*The psalm is spoken responsively between reader and congregation. When indicated **R**, the congregation speaks the refrain.*

R: *Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

Let us read Psalm 31 responsively. The refrain is:

R: *Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.*

R: ***Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.***

⁹Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat
and my belly.

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones
are consumed.**

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a

dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot. R**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.
I have said, “You are my God.**

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.” R**



Epistle – Philippians 2:5-11

Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ’s example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ’s death.

A reading from Philippians.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



The Sermon

Song of the Day – Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

V1, C, V2, C V3, C, V4, C



Verse 1

Jesus keep me near the cross
There a precious fountain
Free to all a healing stream
Flows from Calv'ry's mountain

Chorus

In the cross in the cross
Be my glory ever
Till my raptured soul shall
find
Rest beyond the river

Verse 2

Near the cross a trembling soul
Love and mercy found me
There the Bright and Morning Star
Sheds its beams around me

Verse 3

Near the cross O Lamb of God
Bring its scenes before me
Help me walk from day to day
With its shadows o'er me

Verse 4

Near the cross I'll watch and wait
Hoping trusting ever
Till I reach the golden strand
Just beyond the rive

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



Mission Statement

Our Savior calls us into mission.

Let us say together the mission we share:

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

Let us confess our faith using the ancient words of the 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 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 Intercession

Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

The Assisting Minister leads the congregation in prayers for:

- ❖ *the church universal, its ministry, and the mission of the Gospel;*
- ❖ *the well-being of creation;*
- ❖ *peace and justice in the world, the nations and those in authority, the community*
- ❖ *the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, lonely;*
- ❖ *all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit*
- ❖ *for our congregation*
- ❖ *for other special celebrations or concerns*

Each prayer petition concludes:

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

The Assisting Minister concludes the prayers of intercession:

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.



Sharing the Peace

Our Savior Jesus Christ gives us the peace of reconciliation.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us reconcile with one another and share Christ’s peace.

Congregation members greet one another with “The peace of Christ” or “Peace be with you,” or another such greeting of peace.



Offering & Announcements

Offerings are collected for the work of the church and care for those in need. We share announcements to encourage participation in the mission we share.



Offering Prayer

Let us pray:

Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered

that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.
We pray this in your name.

Amen.



MEAL

As we prepare to receive the gift of Holy Communion, we pray a table grace patterned after the great Old Testament and early church prayers that recount God's goodness and ask that such goodness would extend to us and through us now and until our Lord's promised return.



Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor continues with the proper preface, appointed specifically for this season, which leads us to Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus), the angelic chorus of Isaiah 6.



Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord,

God of power and might,

Heav'n 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 eucharistic prayer, which includes the Words of Institution and the following responses:

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, with some refrains concluding:

.....And let the church say, Amen!

Amen!

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes with 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.



Distribution of Communion *(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

Chorus

Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world

Miserere nobis *(REPEAT)*

Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world

Dona nobis pacem, Dona nobis pacem



Hosanna (Will You Rise)

V1, PC, C, V2, PC C

Verse 1

When the waters rise all around
When the rocks and trees they cry out

Chorus

Your kingdom come Your will be done
Here on earth as it is in heaven
Your kingdom come Your will be done
Here on earth as it is in heaven

Post-Chorus

Hosanna hosanna
Will You rise will You rise

Verse 2

Fill us with Your breath to renew
To care for what You've made as You do





Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

Amen.

SENDING



Passion Gospel

The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

*The Passion According to Saint Mark is found in the accompanying booklet.
At the end of the reading:*

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



Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor,
and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, the Son ✝, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen



Sending Song – O Sacred head Now Wounded

V1, C V2, C, B, C, E

Verse 1

O sacred head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed
down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory,
what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call thee mine.

Verse 2

How pale thou art with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn;
how does thy face now languish,
which once was bright as morn!
Thy grief and bitter passion
were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.

Verse 3

What language shall I borrow
to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever,
and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
outlive my love to thee.

Verse 4

Lord, be my consolation;
shield me when I must die;
remind me of thy passion
when my last hour draws nigh.
These eyes, new faith receiving,
from thee shall never move;
for all who die believing
die safely in thy love.



Dismissal

Go in peace. Look to the cross.

Thanks be to God.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We give thanks to the musicians, writers, and church ministries who create and publish much of the music, prayers, and words we use in worship.

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- **Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing** - Music: 2012 Unbudding Fig Music, LLCCCLI Song # 6473183 -- CCLI License # 3576224 1
- **Hosanna (Will You Rise)** - © 2022 Integrity's Praise! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music), Little Way Creative (Admin. by Integrity Music), PG Songs And Hymns (Admin. by Integrity Music), and Remaining portion is unaffiliated

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- **Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross**
- **O Sacred Head, Now Wounded**

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WORSHIP NOTES

PALM SUNDAY

In prior eras of the church the Passion according to Saints Matthew, Mark, or Luke was read on the fifth Sunday in Lent, establishing a mini “Passiontide” season over the last two weeks of Holy Week. This “Passiontide” observance was bookended by Passion readings – from one of the “synoptic” Gospels on the fifth Sunday in Lent, and from the Gospel of John on Good Friday.

In later church reforms the extended Passion reading from Matthew, Mark, or Luke was moved one week later to Palm Sunday, which in some places is called “Palm/Passion Sunday.” Whereas the Passion Gospel is typically read when any Sunday’s Gospel is read, in a growing number of churches the Passion Gospel is used as a sending rite in anticipation of our Holy Week observances where the Passion story is recounted again through Scripture, ritual, music, and prayer.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

This week is Holy Week, when we recall with faith our Lord’s Passion with festive and unique worship services.

- **Maundy Thursday**, March 28, 7pm
- **Good Friday**, March 29, 7pm
- **Vigil of Easter**, March 30, 8pm
- **Easter Sunday**, March 31, 9:30am

These “Holy Triduum” or “Great Three Days” services are incredibly unique liturgies unlike anything we do during the rest of the year.

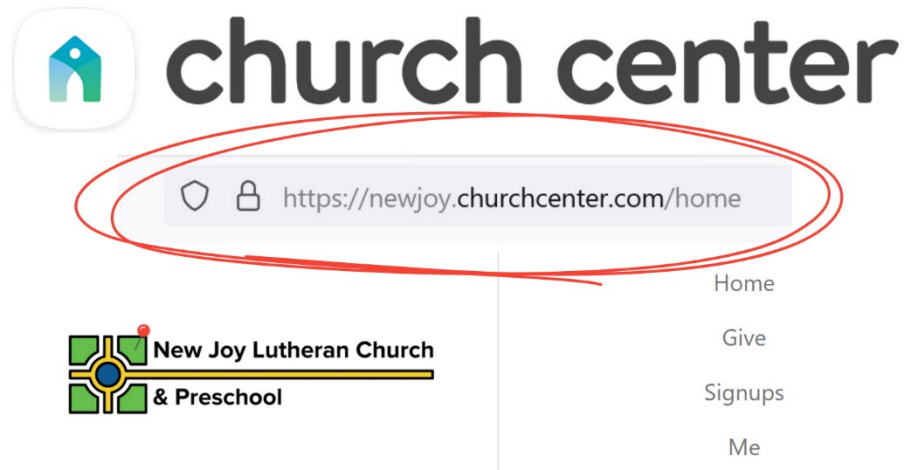
- Maundy Thursday includes a ritual footwashing, laying on of hands for individual absolution of sins, and a stripping of the altar in advance of Good Friday’s emptiness.
- Good Friday includes an extended singing of Psalm 22 – the psalm Jesus prayed from the cross – and a reading of the Passion according to Saint John.
- The Vigil of Easter begins outside with a bonfire, recalling the promise that the risen Jesus is the light that darkness cannot overcome. The service continues with readings from salvation history and the first announcement of the resurrection.

Many of our households will be traveling as our local schools’ Spring Break begins this weekend. Please join us for services on Thursday and/or Friday before your weekend departure. You can find a Lutheran congregation at your Spring Break destination by visiting www.ELCA.org and clicking “Find a Congregation.”

NEW JOY'S CHURCH CENTER HUB

New Joy has transitioned to a new database with much greater functionality for both our administrative users but also for our church members. We strongly encourage every New Joy household to visit **newjoy.churchcenter.com** to set up their login credentials and gain access to event sign-ups and online giving, and to update their personal, household, and contact information.

In the not-too-distant-future we will roll out an online directory, worship leader scheduling, and other tools that will improve communication and support our fellowship and life together.



Here's how to do it:

1. Visit newjoy.churchcenter.com on your mobile device or computer.
2. If you haven't logged in before, the site will prompt you to enter your mobile number. You can also click to enter your email address rather than mobile number.
3. After verifying your mobile number or email address with a code, you will then arrive at our New Joy Church Center Hub. Currently there are four menu options: Home, Give, Signups, Me.
4. Click through the menu options to see what's available. Visit "Signups" to RSVP for the Eclipse Event. Click "Me" to update your personal and household information.
5. Mobile apps are available. Search for "Church Center" where you get your apps.

Questions? Contact Amber Blakley or Pastor Chris.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

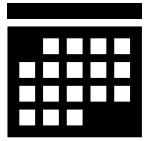
COFFEE HOUR is shared on the first Sunday of the month, and on other special occasions. If you would like to help with our monthly Coffee Hour, please reach out to Kristi Kittilstved.

OPEN DOORS MARCH GIVING – For March/April donations we are collecting jars of **applesauce** and cans of **mandarin oranges** (not the snack size). Also, Open Doors has need of plastic grocery bags. Please drop those in the boxes in the entryway as well. If you have any questions, please contact Lyn Nore.

SAVE THE DATE for Vacation Bible School 2024, Camp Firelight! Five consecutive evenings of Bible learning, songs, prayer, games, and more. June 23-27. Contact Jessicah Duckworth or Morgan Studer for more information, and keep your eyes open for updates in the bulletin and *News to Know* emails.



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



Sunday, March 24 Sunday of the Passion - Palm Sunday

- Worship, 9:30 AM
- Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under
- Confirmation Class, 4 PM, Sanctuary, Lesson Topic: Confession and Absolution

Monday, March 25

- BSA Troops 1910 & 1920, 7 PM

Tuesday, March 26

- Seasoned Believers, 9 AM, @ Chick-Fil-A on Route 32 in Westfield
- New Joy Preschool 3s Class, 9:30 AM

Wednesday, March 27

- New Joy Preschool 4s Class, 9:30AM
- Midweek Bible Study, 1 PM
- Band Rehearsal – 7:30 PM

Thursday, March 28

- New Joy Preschool 3s Class, 9:30 AM
- Maundy Thursday Service – 7 PM

Friday, March 29

- Good Friday Service – 7 PM

Saturday, March 30

- Vigil of Easter – 8 PM

Sunday, March 31, Easter Sunday

- Worship, 9:30 AM
- Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under during worship

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.

CONNECT WITH NEW JOY These QR codes take you to our pages - @newjoy on your Facebook app, and @newjoywestfield on your Instagram app. *On Facebook, we also have a private group. Search for "New Joy Partners" to join our group.* We can be reached by phone and email, and in person at 156th & Spring Mill. Office hours: ~ 8:30am-1:30pm.



New Joy Lutheran Church & Preschool

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



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