



“For without the word of God
water is plain water and not a baptism.
But water joined with God’s word is a baptism,
that is, a grace-filled water of life.”
From Martin Luther’s Small Catechism, on Holy Baptism

Time After Epiphany
Third Sunday After Epiphany
January 26, 2025

Welcome. We are blessed by your presence among us today. This bulletin contains the outline and words for worship this morning. Please see the back pages of this bulletin for ministry announcements and additional welcome information about New Joy Lutheran Church.

Little children are always welcome in worship – even and especially when they’re a little noisy! We welcome children to worship God by toddling around, playing with toys, shaking tambourines, babbling, 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**.

God’s promises are at the heart of our worship. God promises justice for the lowly, forgiveness for the sinner, hope for the despairing, and joy for the sorrowful. These promises are “the Good News of Jesus Christ,” fulfilled by Jesus’s birth as a vulnerable child, his works of liberation and grace among us, and his victory over sin, death, and injustice by his resurrection from the grave. In the songs and prayers, Scripture and preaching, you’ll hear of God’s promise for you personally, for society, for this world that God so loves.

Our worship style is patterned after centuries of tradition reaching back to some of the earliest Christian communities. Our service is structured yet also informal, shaped by tradition yet also new. We observe seasons that lift up various themes from the life of Jesus and the mission of the church. In our prayers we pray not just for ourselves but for the church; all of creation; our neighbors and our society; the sick and suffering; and, for the blessed departed. We pray seeking that God’s promises would come to us and through us to a world in need.

Holy Communion is a meal of Christ’s radical welcome, real presence, and complete forgiveness. All are welcome to receive the gift of Jesus’ body and blood in the bread and cup of Holy Communion. We use grape juice for communion, and gluten-free bread is available upon request. Not sure whether to receive communion, or how? Simply find the pastor in the communion line and ask.

Welcome. We are so glad you are with us today.

INTRODUCTION: God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

PRELUDE SONG

WORDS OF WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

OPENING SONG: Build My Life

V1, V2, C, V1, V2, Cx2, Bx2, Cx2, Bx3

Verse 1

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever
sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever
bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
breathe
We live for You

Verse 2

Jesus the name above ev'ry other
name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
breathe
We live for You

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show
me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those
around me

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

BAPTISMAL PROMISE

This baptismal litany is inspired by Scripture and by Martin Luther's explanations of Holy Baptism as found in his Small and Large Catechisms (SC and LC).

We are baptized into Christ Jesus:
into Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

ROMANS 6:1-11

We walk in newness of life!

Baptism is a rising up from grace-filled waters,
a bath of the new birth in the Holy Spirit,
according to God's mercy.

SC
TITUS 3:5

Baptism is water joined with
God's word, God's command, God's name.

LC

And where God's name is,
there is life and salvation.

LC

We are baptized for one reason: *to be saved.*

LC

To be saved is nothing else than this:

**to be delivered from sin, death, and the devil,
to enter into Christ's kingdom,
and to live with Christ forever.**

LC

To live with Christ forever is to live *here and now*
for the sake of the neighbor God gives us and
for the sake of this world that God so loves.

LUKE 10:27

JOHN 3:16

Give us faith, O God,

to love our neighbors and to love our enemies.

LUKE 6:27-36

Give us faith, O God

to do good to those who hate us;

to bless those who curse us.

Give us faith, O God

to give to those who ask,

and to expect nothing in return.

Give us faith, O God

to do for others as we would have them do for us.

Give us faith, O God

for we are baptized into Christ Jesus;

we can endure and do all things

through Christ who strengthens us.

PHILIPPIANS 4:10-14

Amen.

Pastor continues with words of invitation and promise; concluding:

For God's promises in baptism remain forever.
God's steadfast love endures forever.

LC
PSALM 136

Any who are seeking to be baptized or to publicly affirm their baptism are invited to come forward at this time, or to speak with Pastor following worship, to arrange for Baptism or Affirmation of Baptism at a future service. If you come forward at this time we will bless your desire to seek baptism or affirmation of baptism. We will pray for you now, and eagerly look forward to your baptism/affirmation of baptism day. We do not "re-baptize" people who have already been baptized, but instead affirm the promises God gives in baptism.

BAPTISMAL SONG – We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HEBREW BIBLE

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that “the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

¹ All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

℞ *The teaching of the LORD revives the soul. (Ps. 19:7)*

¹ The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.

² **One day tells its tale | to another,
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**

³ Although they have no | words or language,
and their voices | are not heard,

⁴ **their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,
where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**

⁵ It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

⁶ **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and
runs about to the end of | it again;
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat. ℞**

⁷ The teaching of the Lord is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom | to the simple.

⁸ **The statutes of the Lord are just and re- | joice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light | to the eyes.**

⁹ The fear of the Lord is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous | altogether.

¹⁰ **More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb. ℞**

¹¹ By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is | great reward.

¹² **Who can detect one's | own offenses?
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**

¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion | over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

¹⁴ **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable | in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and | my redeemer. ℞**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a} But strive for the greater gifts.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – ALLELUIA

Voice 1

Al - le - lu_ ia Al - le - lu_ ia Al - le - lu_

Voice 2

Al-le-lu_ ia! Al-le-lu_ ia!

11

ia Al - le - lu_ ia! Show us Your Word, Your

Al-le-lu_ ia! Praise You! Al-le-lu_ ia! Al-le-lu_ ia! Al-le-lu_ ia! Praise You!

18

light in our sto-ry. We sing in praise, our hope, Your Glo-ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al-le Al-le Al-le-lu i - a!

GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

repeated; see above

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY: Take My Life

V1, V2, C, V3, C

Verse 1

Take my life and let it be consecrated
Lord to Thee

Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee

Verse 2

Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee
Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry power as You choose

Chorus

Here am I all of me
Take my life it's all for Thee

Verse 3

Take my will and make it Thine
It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart it is Thine own
It shall be Thy royal throne
Take my love my Lord I pour
At Your feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be
Ever only all for Thee

MISSION STATEMENT

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Each petition concludes:
God of Grace,
Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.

Please extend a sign of Christ's peace with those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

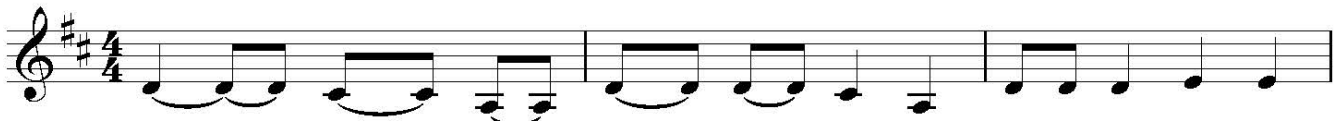
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Eucharistic Prayer, which includes Jesus' words instituting the Lord's Supper, concludes with the Lord's Prayer – which, this season, we will sing.

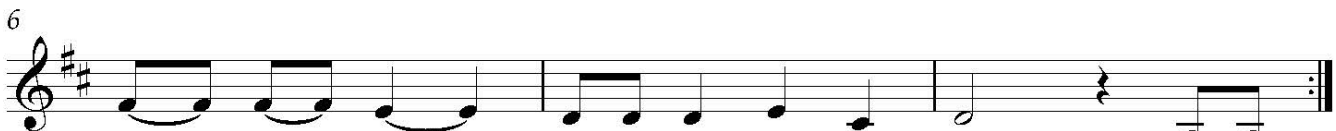
THE LORD'S PRAYER – West Indian



Our Fath - er, who art in heav - en; hal low-ed be Thy
earth as it___ is in heav - en;
give us our___ tres - pass - es;
lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion;
Thine is the king -dom and the pow - er and the glor - y;
men, a - men___ it___ shall___ be___ so;



name. Thy king - dom come, Thy
Give us this day our
As we for - give those who
But de - liv - er us from
For Thine is the king -dom, and the
A - men,___ a - men,___ it___



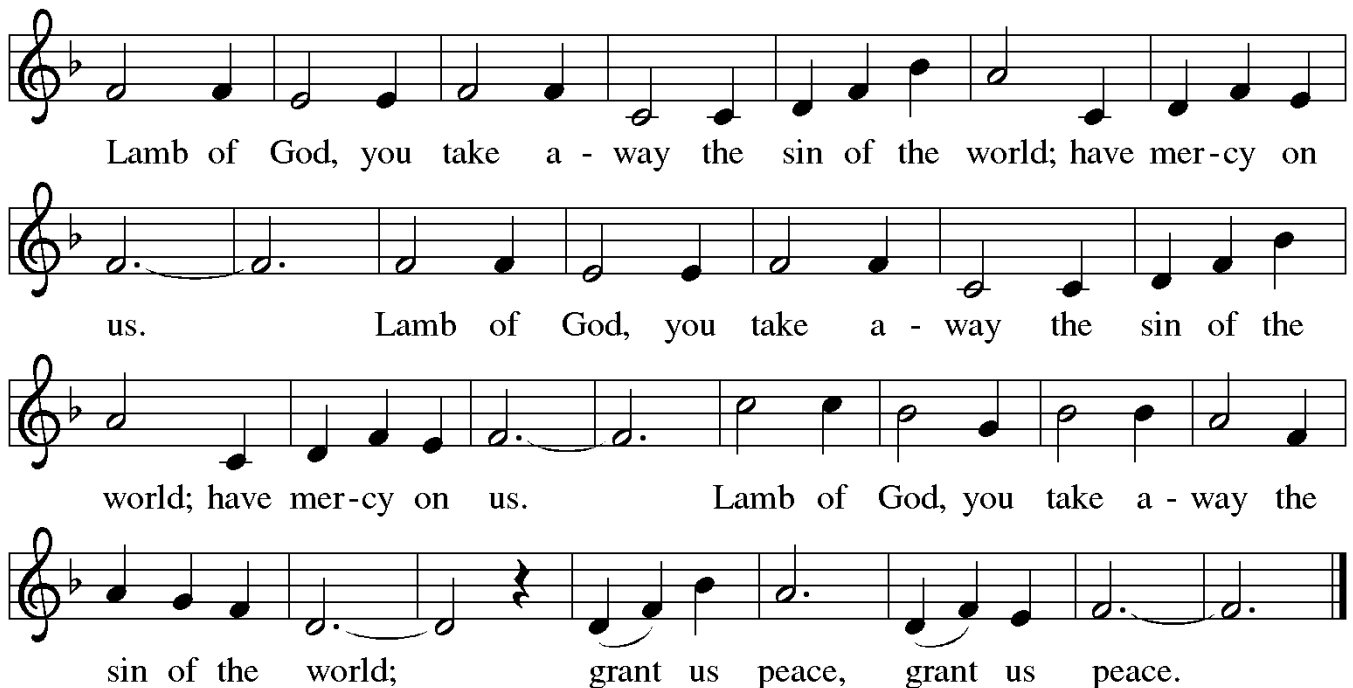
will be done; hal-low-ed be Thy name. On
dai - ly bread; And for -
tres - pass a-against us; And
all that is ev - il; For
pow - er and the glor - y; A -
shall___ be___ so;___

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All are welcome to the table of our Lord's grace and mercy to receive Christ in the bread and cup of this holy supper. We use grape juice for communion, and gluten-free bread is available upon request. Not sure whether to receive communion, or how? Simply find the pastor in the communion line and ask. After the instructions:

These are the gifts of God
for you the people of God.
And for that we say:
Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD – *Lamb of God (Young)*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC – All Who Are Thirsty

V, C1, V, C1, C2, Inter, C1, E

Verse

All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep
(We sing)

Chorus 1

Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come, **Repeat**

Chorus 2

Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come, **Repeat**

Interlude

As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep we sing

SONG – Father Let Your Kingdom Come

C, V1, C, V2, B, Cx2

Chorus

Hallelu hallelujah
Father let Your kingdom come

Verse 1

May the works of my hands bring You
joy
May the works of my hands bring You
joy
May the works of my hands bring You
joy
May the works of my hands bring You
joy, **Chorus**

Verse 2

May the words from my mouth speak
Your peace
May the words from my mouth speak
Your peace
May the words from my mouth speak
Your peace
May the words from my mouth speak
Your peace

Bridge

You make all things new
You make all things new
In places we don't choose
You make all things new, **Chorus x2**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG – Build Your Kingdom Here

V1, V2, C, V3, Cx2

Verse 1

Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your pow'r in us

Verse 2

We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's
cause
We are Your church
We pray revive this earth

Chorus

Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray

Verse 3

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of
Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE MUSIC

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

The band is led by our Minister of Music, Glenn Hoffman, and includes Jim Gregory on keyboard & Karen Archbold on vocals. The Sound Board is run by Steve Castle.

	Today	Next Sunday, February 2
Assisting Minister	Chris Studer	<i>Sylvia Lux</i>
Reader	Lyn Nore	3 Boy Scouts
Acolyte	Open	Kinzi Jones
Livestream Operator	Naaman Duckworth	<i>Phil and Annabelle Havlik</i>
Altar Guild	Morgan Studer	<i>Morgan Studer</i>
Nursery Care	Anya Verik, Lucy Platt	Open
Ushers	Abigail and Andrew Clark	Lyn Nore, Chris Studer or Boy Scouts
Greeters	Jenny Platt, Jennifer Kocolowski	Boy Scouts

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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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – Today! Following worship we will hold our Annual Congregational Meeting. Thank you to all our committees for turning in your reports.

JOYFUL GIRLS' FEBRUARY DINNER – Thursday, February 13, 2025, 6:00pm, Pies & Pints at Clay Terrace in Carmel, IN! The address is 14550 Clay Terrace Blvd, Ste 100, Carmel, IN 46032. Please join us for fellowship and a lovely evening. Please RSVP to Sylvia Lux at sylviaklux@gmail.com.

OPEN DOORS CURRENT NEEDS – Next time you're shopping, please remember our food-insecure neighbors. Open Doors is in need of **instant potatoes, tomato paste, Hamburger Helper, and jelly**. Donations can be brought to church or taken directly to Open Doors (on the campus of Monon Trails Elementary School, Tomlinson Road just north of 19th Street).

JEWISH-LUTHERAN DIALOGUE EVENT, “Wrestling with Luther’s Legacies,” is coming to New Joy on Wednesday, February 5, at 6:30pm. Martin Luther was a faithful 16th century church reformer, but he also demonized Jews and Judaism. His words exacerbated a long tradition of Christian hatred of the Jews and gave fuel to the fire of 20th century Nazi Germany’s genocide against the Jews. How do we understand Luther’s legacies? This dialogue event will begin to explore that question from Christian and Jewish perspective.

RSVPs are really helpful. Sign-up for the event in the link shared in the most recent congregational emails and available by scanning this QR code.



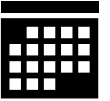
INTERFAITH SEDER The Jewish Community Relations Council is hosting an Interfaith Seder on Tuesday, March 25, at approximately 6pm (specific schedule/details are not yet available). This is a great opportunity for us to learn about Judaism and Jewish faith practices. New Joy will have a table at this important event. A limited number of seats is available. Please let Pastor Chris and/or Nicole in the church office know **by February 16** if you’d like to participate. Thank you!

NEW MEMBER CLASSES –are you or someone you know interested in joining New Joy Lutheran Church? We hold new member classes once/year each winter. Classes are held immediately following worship for several weeks in February with newcomers and “oldcomer” established church members. The class also includes a dinner at Pastor Chris’ house. Please let Pastor Chris or Nicole Williams, Parish Administrator (office@newjoy.org), know if you’re interested in joining.

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.

NEW MINISTRY TEAMS are forming next month. Are you interested in contributing to our Christian Learning or Worship Ministry teams? If so, contact Pastor Chris or Becky Suchomel, our Ministry Board President.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



<p>Today, Sunday, January 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship, 9:30am• Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under during worship and during Annual Congregational Meeting• Annual Congregation Meeting, 10:45am-12:00pm• Confirmation Ministry and Youth Group, 4:00-5:30pm
<p>Monday, January 27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 4's, 9:30am• BSA Troops 1910/1920, 6:30-8:00pm
<p>Tuesday, January 28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seasoned Believers, Chick Fil-A, Carmel, 9:00-10:30am• Preschool 3's, 9:30am• Clergy Text Meeting, 10:00-11:30am
<p>Wednesday, January 29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 4's, 9:30am• Afternoon Bible Study, 12:30-2:00pm• Band Rehearsal, 7:30-8:15pm
<p>Thursday, January 30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 3's, 9:30am
<p>Friday, January 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 4's, 9:30am
<p>Saturday, Feb 1</p>
<p>Sunday, Feb 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship, 9:30am, Welcome BSA Troops 1910/1920!• Confirmation Ministry and Youth Group, 4:00-5:30pm

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.

New Joy Lutheran Church & Preschool

316 W. 156th Street, Westfield, IN 46074

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

www.iksynod.org | www.elca.org

The Rev. Timothy Graham, Bishop of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA

The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

