



“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

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

February 23, 2025



New Joy Lutheran Church & Preschool

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: Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

PRELUDE SONG

WORDS OF WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

OPENING SONG: Instruments Of Your Peace

C, V1, C, V2, C

Chorus

Lord make us instruments of Your
peace
Where there is hatred let Your love
increase
Lord make us instruments of Your
peace
Walls of pride and prejudice shall cease
When we are Your instruments of
peace

Verse 2

Where there is blindness we will pray
for sight
Where there is darkness we will shine
His light
Where there is sadness we will bear
their grief
To the millions crying for release
We will be His instruments of peace

Verse 1

Where there is hatred we will sow His
love
Where there is injury we will never
judge
Where there is striving we will speak
His peace
To the people crying for release
We will be His instruments of peace

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

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 37:11,39-40

℞ *The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11)*

¹ Do not be provoked by | evildoers;
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither | like the grass,
and like the green grass | fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the Lord | and do good;
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight | in the Lord,
who shall give you your | heart's desire. ℞**

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust | in the Lord,
and see what | God will do.

⁶ **The Lord will make your vindication as clear | as the light
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait | patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil. ℞**

⁹ For evildoers shall | be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall pos- | sess the land.

¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall | be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will | not be there.**

¹¹ But the lowly shall pos- | sess the land;
they will delight in abun- | dance of peace.

³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from | you, O Lord;
you are their stronghold in | time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ You, O Lord, will help them and | rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you | they seek refuge. ℞

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God’s intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:]²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again.³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

repeated; see above

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY: Build A Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

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.

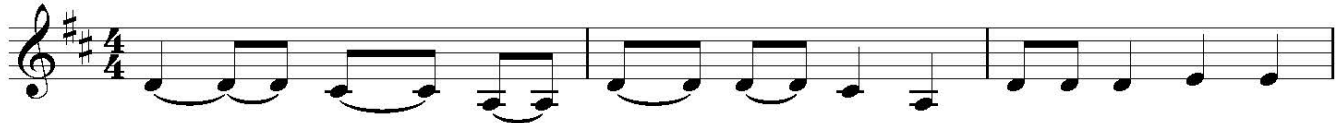
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

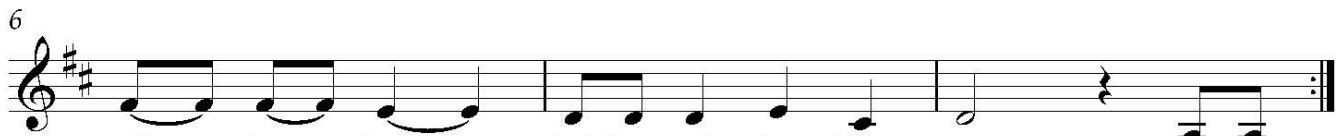
THE LORD'S PRAYER – West Indian



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



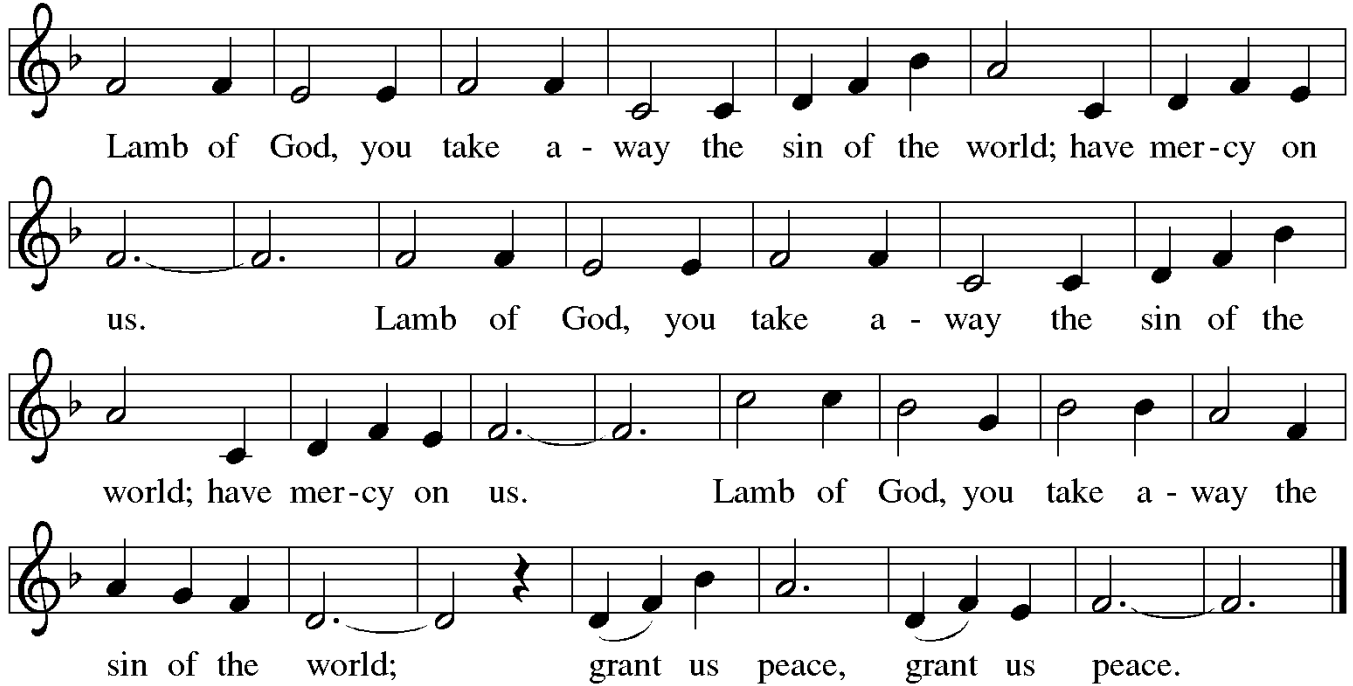
will be done; hal-low-ed be Thy name. On
 dai - ly bread; And for -
 tres - pass a-against us; And
 all that is ev - il; For
 pow - er and the glor - y; A -
 shall be so; A -

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 – Thirst No More

Verse 1

There is a fountain ever flowing
Where the waters are not spent
Here you and I we trade our
sorrows
For the love that will not end

Chorus

Thirst no more thirst no more
Thirst no more come and drink

Verse 2

There is a river strong and mighty
Giving life abundantly
A fresh supply a steady current
Joy unending come and drink

Bridge

Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah

Verse 3

Like a tree beside the water
Ever dry my roots grow deep
Storm or drought I will not wither
There is a peace sustaining me

SONG – Father Let Your Kingdom Come

C, V1, C, V2, B, C×2

Chorus

Hallelu hallelujah
Father let Your kingdom come

Verse 1

May the works of my hands
bring You joy, **Repeat 3x**

Verse 2

May the words from my mouth
speak Your peace, **Repeat 3x**

Bridge

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG – King Of My Heart

V1, C, V2, C, B×2, C×2

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

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

Chorus

You are good good oh, **Repeat 3x**

Bridge

You're never gonna let
Never gonna let me down,
Repeat 3x

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, March 2
Assisting Minister	Chris Studer	Laurie Cupp
Readers	Carly Havlik	Carly Havlik
Acolyte	Addison Studer	Kinzi Jones
Livestream Operator	Phil & Annabelle Havlik	Phil & Annabelle Havlik
Altar Guild	Kristi Kittilstved	Open
Nursery Care	Anya Verik	Jessica Allen
Ushers	Chuck & Janis Studer	Amber Blakley, Sylvia Lux
Greeters	Jennifer Kocolowski, Doug Holland	Jennifer Kocolowski, Jessicah Duckworth

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

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 MEMBER CLASS –10:45am, at New Joy Church! Newcomers and “oldcomers” established church members are welcome! This class also includes a dinner at Pastor Chris’s house. Please let Pastor Chris or Nicole Williams, Parish Administrator (office@newjoy.org), know if you’re interested in joining.

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

OPEN DOORS CURRENT NEEDS – Next time you’re shopping, please remember our food-insecure neighbors. Open Doors needs are **Ritz Crackers and granola bars**. 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 191st Street).

ELCA GOOD GIFTS – Thank you to Sylvia Lux and to our Sharing Generously team for inviting us into acts of generosity and care for our neighbors overseas. This campaign will run through the end of next month!

PARENTING LGBTQIA+ TWEENS AND TEENS COURSE - How to become more educated in the LGTBQIA+ space, navigate our own feelings, and improve our parenting responses. You do NOT have to be a parent to join-this is open to anyone who loves youth and wants to love them well. This class meets on Tuesdays at 6:30pm in our Sanctuary. Please contact Morgan Studer at mlhughes413@gmail.com or Jenny Platt at plattj149@gmail.com for more information and to register.

FLANNER BUCHANAN EVENT – Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 9:30am in the Sanctuary. This will be on a Tuesday morning at 9am in our Sanctuary (instead of at Seasoned Believer’s Chick-Fil-A event). There will be a presentation of 35-40 minutes and then questions can be asked.

MINISTRY BOARD MEETING – Thursday, February 27, 2025, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, organizational meeting at New Joy Church.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER SIGNUPS – Join us for soup, bread, and dessert on Wednesdays - 3-12-25 and 3-26-25 – prior to Lenten Evening Prayer. Volunteers are needed to provide food. More info soon!

JOYFUL GIRLS’ MARCH DINNER – Thursday March 13,2025, 6pm, at Firebirds. Firebirds is located at 9611 N. Meridian St., Carmel, IN 46290. Join us for a lovely evening of fellowship. Please RSVP to Laurie Cupp at dlcupp@comcast.net.

SILVERBOX FOOD DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Saturday, March 15, 2025, 11:00am-1:30pm, Sharing Place East, 6501 Sunnyside Rd, Entrance #5, Indianapolis, IN 46236. New Joy is coordinating with Lutheran Child and Family Services of Indiana/Kentucky (LCFS). Sign up to Volunteer at NewJoy.ChurchCenter.com or the Church Center App and Click Events. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Montgomery at dtmontgom@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE – Our second annual Chili Cookoff will take place on **Sunday, March 16th, at 6pm!** Join us for this fun night of food, fundraising, and friendly competition!

SAVE THE DATE! NEW JOY’S 2025 VBS WEEK, “Road Trip VBS”- - will be Sunday June 22 through Thursday June 26 from 6:00-8:00pm! - More details soon!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



<p>Today, Sunday, February 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship, 9:30am, Welcome Troops 1910/1920!• Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under during worship• New Member Class, 10:45am• ELCA Good Gifts
<p>Monday, February 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Preschool• BSA Troops 1910/1920, 6:30-8:00pm
<p>Tuesday, February 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Seasoned Believers Today – instead: Flanner Buchanan Event• Flanner Buchanan Event, 9:30am, Sanctuary• Preschool 3's, 9:30am• Parenting Teens & Tweens LGBTQIA+, 6:30-8:30pm
<p>Wednesday, February 26</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, February 27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 3's, 9:30am• Ministry Board Meeting, 6:30-8:00pm
<p>Friday, February 28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 4's, 9:30am
<p>Saturday, March 1</p>
<p>Sunday, March 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship, 9:30am• Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under during worship• 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

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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

