

 *the season of Lent at
New Joy Lutheran Church*

always

MERCY



Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Joel 2:13

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 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. These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and cup, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

OPENING SONG – Blessed Be Your Name

V1, V2, PC, C, V3, V4, PC, C, B, C

Verse 1

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Verse 2

Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say

Chorus

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Verse 3

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

Verse 4

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Bridge

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

CONFESSION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

A brief silence is kept.

Merciful One,

**transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

KYRIE

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the **Lord, have mercy ...**

Response, sung by congregation:



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all, let us pray to the **Lord, have mercy ...**

For your people here who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the **Lord, have mercy ...**

Help, save, and defend us, O God.



ABSOLUTION

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

HEBREW BIBLE

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

¹When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great

nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

℟̕ God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)

- ¹ You who dwell in the shelter of ^l the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of ^l the Almighty—
- ² **you will say to the Lord, “My refuge ^l and my stronghold,
my God in whom I ^l put my trust.”** *℟̕*
- ⁹ Because you have made the ^l Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your ^l habitation,
- ¹⁰ **no evil ^l will befall you,
nor shall affliction come ^l near your dwelling.**
- ¹¹ For God will give the angels charge ^l over you,
to guard you in ^l all your ways.
- ¹² **Upon their hands they will ^l bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- ^l gainst a stone.** *℟̕*
- ¹³ You will tread upon the lion ^l cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion ^l and the serpent.
- ¹⁴ **I will deliver those who ^l cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they ^l know my name.**
- ¹⁵ They will call me, and I will ^l answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and ^l honor them.
- ¹⁶ **With long life will I ^l satisfy them,
and show them ^l my salvation.** *℟̕*

EPISTLE

Romans 10:8b-13

Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.

^{8b} “The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Return to God

Congregation:

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the Source of grace and

mer-cy; Come, seek the ten-der faith-ful-ness of God.

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”

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

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

¹¹ and

‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

repeated; see above

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Jesus Is A rock In A Weary Land

Refrain - All

Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a
 wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a
 wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

Leader or All

1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a
 2 When Je - sus was on earth, the . .
 3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .

mum-bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz -
 flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird -
 whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

Refrain

- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.
 ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.
 - to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME BLESSING

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.

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 THE CHURCH

*We pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Each prayer petition concludes, Hear us, O God. The response is, **your mercy is great.***

PROCLAMATION OF PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG: 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



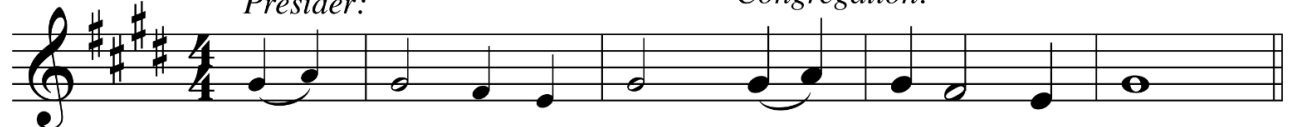
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

MEAL


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*




The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor continues with a seasonal preface to the Eucharistic Prayer.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

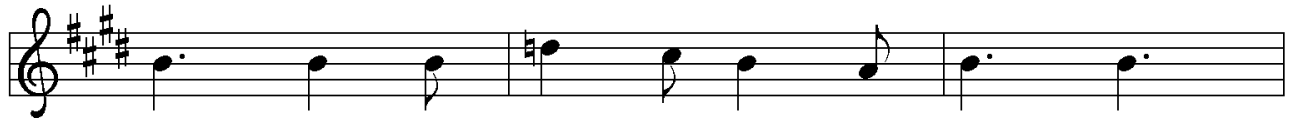
HOLY, HOLY HOLY



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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

“Eucharist” comes from the Greek word εὐχαριστία, meaning Thanksgiving. The Eucharistic Prayer is an ancient, patterned prayer form that thanks God for God’s saving work. Listen for references to God’s promise in Creation, the Passover, the prophets, and ultimately in Jesus’ death and resurrection. The prayer then asks God’s saving work to continue to us and through us today to form communities of peace.

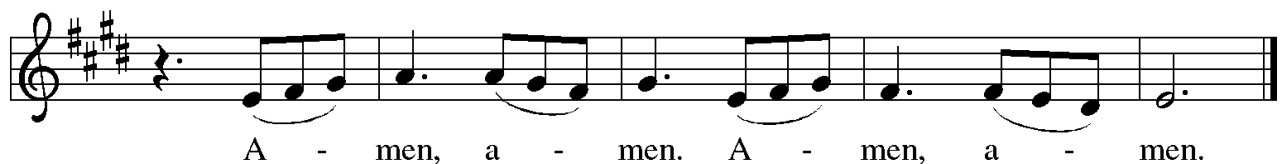
ACCLAMATION

During the prayer Pastor will proclaim the mystery of faith, and the congregation responds in like manner.



AMEN

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes with a sung Amen, and leads directly into the Lord’s Prayer.



THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S SUPPER

In communion, Jesus gives of himself in the bread and cup to all who desire to receive. We sing while we feast, for "when we sing, we pray twice."

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.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

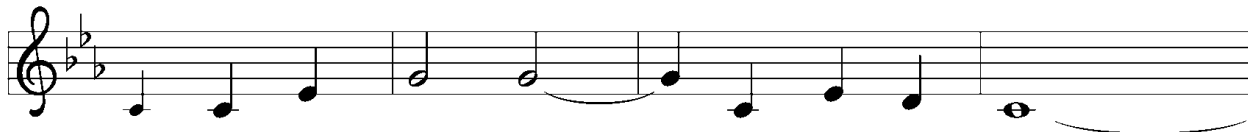
SENDING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

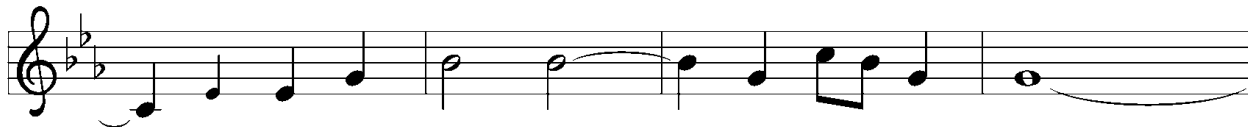
BENEDICTION

God who is Three-in-One –
our tender parent,
the crucified one,
the reconciling Spirit –
✚ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

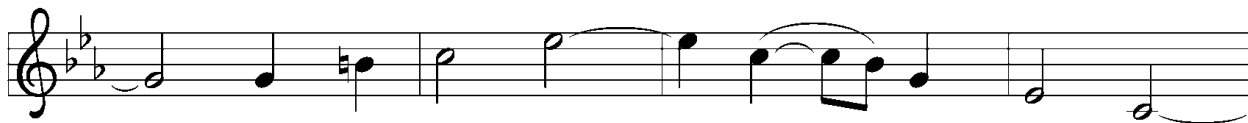
SENDING SONG: I Want Jesus To Walk With Me



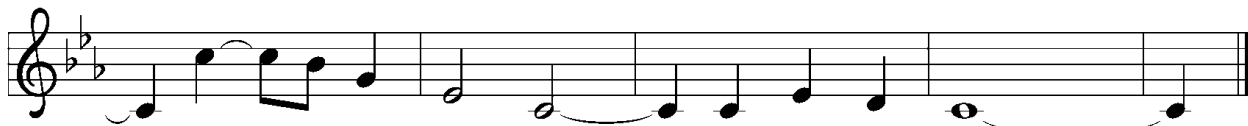
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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 | Sunday, March 16 |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Assisting Minister | Kristen Abbey | Kyle Blakley |
| Readers | Chris Studer | Libby Dissauer |
| Acolyte | Jane Abbey | Cate Dissauer |
| Livestream Operator | Rich Kittilstved | Naaman Duckworth |
| Altar Guild | Jessica Allen | Jessica Allen |
| Nursery Care | Lucy Platt | Anya Verik |
| Ushers | Abigail and Andy Clark | Open |
| Greeters | Doug Holland, Jennifer Platt | Open |

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.

The following songs are used by permission, CCLI License #1876268:

- **Blessed Be Your Name** – by Beth Redman and Matt Redman, © 2002 Thankyou Music, Capitol CMG Publishing

The following songs are used by permission of GIA/OneLicense, License #A-726809:

- **Liturgical Music:** As the Grains of Wheat; Great Thanksgiving; Holy, Holy, Holy; Acclamation; Amen; Lamb of God; all from *Now the Feast and Celebration* liturgy, by Marty Haugen, Tune: © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.
- **I Want Jesus To Walk With Me** – African American spiritual, text and music public domain; arrangement © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

The following songs are Public Domain:

- **Jesus Is A Rock In A Weary Land** – text and music public domain; arranged by Wyatt Tee Walker

Scripture introductions, Psalm arrangement, eucharistic prayer, and various other prayers © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted, adapted, & used for worship by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB134709. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME NEW JOY NEWCOMERS! We are thrilled to welcome a wonderful group of newcomers into our common life of Welcome, Grace, Faith and Promise.

- Josh, Racheal, Hazel, and Sloane Bleicher
- Will & Amy Hughes & Bonnie Niehaus
- Jeremiah Mahuron
- Barb Schneider
- Tammi, Andrew, Clay, and Luke St Angelo
- Melissa, Mike, and Michaela Weipert

SPECIAL LISTENING SESSION AND COMMUNITY CONVERSATION - Please join us at New Joy this Sunday at 6:30pm... and please invite your friends as we listen to and support our neighbors – immigrant and Latino communities – right here in Westfield.

It is so easy for English-speaking, non-immigrant people to not notice our Latino neighbors or understand their lives as a minority, immigrant community. Yet especially as we see a rise in anti-immigrant sentiment (including the KKK fliers that were spread in our community back in November) and increased law enforcement activity, our attention to the needs and concerns of our neighbors is needed more than ever.

By showing up for and listening to our neighbors we can bear our neighbor's burdens (Galatians 6:2), focus on the needs of others (Philippians 2:4), and create bonds that strengthen our community (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12). Listening to the neighbor God gives us is a perfect activity for Lent. We'll see you tonight at 6:30pm here at New Joy.

MONTGOMERY SEND OFF – Sunday, March 23, please join us to bid farewell and Joyful Blessings to Dan and Jane Montgomery as they move to their new home in Glenview, Illinois! There will be a Farewell Blessing during Service and refreshments to follow after Service.

SIGN-UPS for soup suppers, chili cookoff, Silverbox food deliveries, and more are available on our Church Center mobile app and online hub – newjoy.churchcenter.com. It helps to have the Church Center mobile app on your device. Download Church Center from your app store, or visit NewJoy.churchcenter.com for web browser.



We are making increasing use of Church Center to manage the many pieces of our congregational life – our online directory, giving information, event sign-ups, links to past weekly emails, and more. If you need assistance in using Church Center please reach out to our Parish Administrator Nicole Williams or to our Business Manager Amber Blakley.


LENTEN EVENING PRAYER AND SOUP SUPPERS – We will gather for Evening Prayer each Wednesday in Lent at 7pm. A soup supper – with soup, bread, and dessert – will precede Evening Prayer services on Wednesdays March 12 and March 26. Volunteers are needed to provide food. Please check Church Center mobile app or our online Church Center hub – newjoy.churchcenter.com.

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.

CHILI COOK-OFF – Our second annual Chili Cookoff will take place next Sunday, March 16th, at 6pm! All funds raised will go to our ELCA Good Gifts campaign. Join us for this fun night of food, fundraising, and friendly competition! Sign-up on Church Center.

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 CURRENT NEEDS – Next time you’re shopping, please remember our food-insecure neighbors. Open Doors needs are **Cereal, Oatmeal, and Shampoo**. 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! Gifts can be made in the big blue box in the narthex, or on our Church Center app or online hub, at newjoy.churchcenter.com (select “special” offering fund).

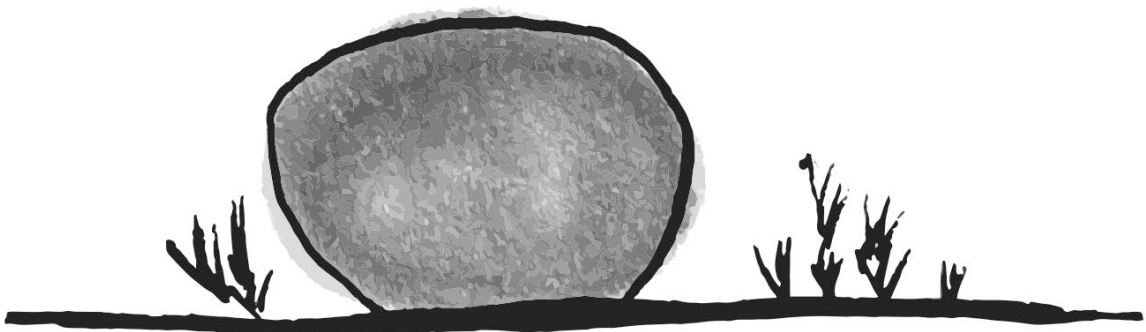
PARENTING LGBTQIA+ TWEENS AND TEENS COURSE - How to become more educated in the LGBTQIA+ space, navigate our own feelings, and improve our parenting responses. You do NOT have to be a parent to join – this is open to anyone who loves youth and wants to love them well. This class meets on Tuesdays at 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.

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.

EVENING BIBLE STUDY – Starting on Tuesday, April 1st, at 6:30-8:00pm, Lyn Nore and Laurie Cupp are leading a six week evening bible study class for both men and women featuring the book ***Embracing Life***. Signup today in our Narthex!

SAVE THE DATE! Easter Egg Hunt and Pancake Breakfast on Saturday morning, April 19, at 9am. More details soon!

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!



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER – It's only the first Sunday in Lent, but mark your calendars for Holy Week and Easter. Once again this year we will host the full “triduum” (Latin for “Three Days”) of services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, in addition to the Easter Sunday service. These are extremely unique services marking the holiest time of year for the church.

- **Palm/Passion Sunday – April 13, 9:30am:** this service recalls Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, hailed by disciples and onlookers alike. We wave palm branches and sing *Hosanna!* At the conclusion of the service we read the story of Jesus' Passion – his betrayal, suffering, and death – as a transition to Holy Week.
- **Maundy Thursday – April 17, 7pm:** this service recalls the night Jesus commands his disciples to love and serve one another, institutes the Lord's Supper, and is betrayed by Judas. Holy Communion is celebrated, and the altar is stripped bare by the end of the service.
- **Good Friday – April 18, 7pm:** this service recalls Jesus' death on the cross. The church space is void of any vibrant colors, and prayers and Scripture readings are a meditation on the cross.
- **Vigil of Easter – April 19, 8:28pm:** starting at sunset we gather outside at the firepit (weather permitting) to read stories from the Hebrew Bible of God's saving works. Bring your chairs and make s'mores as we recall God's power and promise for us and for this world that God so loves. The service then moves inside where we sing a continuous alleluia refrain and, with a flurry of activity, we prepare the sanctuary for Easter: turn on the bright lights, lighting candles, bringing white and yellow flowers into the sanctuary, setting white and gold banners in place as we transform the sanctuary from Good Friday's emptiness to Easter's abundant life. We read the resurrection Gospel and celebrate communion.
- **Easter Sunday – April 20, 9:30am:** a festive service of Holy Communion announcing the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



| |
|---|
| <p>Today, Sunday, March 9</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• Community Conversation, 6:30-8:30pm• ELCA Good Gifts |
| <p>Monday, March 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 4's, 9:30am• BSA Troops 1910/1920, 6:30-8:00pm |
| <p>Tuesday, March 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seasoned Believers, 9:00-10:30am, Chick Fil A in Westfield• Preschool 3's, 9:30am• Clergy Text, 10:00am-11:30am• Parenting Teens & Tweens LGBTQIA+, 6:30-8:30pm |
| <p>Wednesday, March 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 4's, 9:30am• Afternoon Bible Study, 12:30-2:00pm• Soup & Supper, 6:15pm and Lenten Evening Prayer, 7:00pm• Band Rehearsal, <i>after worship</i> |
| <p>Thursday, March 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 3's, 9:30am• Joyful Girls Dinner, Firebirds in Carmel, 6:00-7:30pm |
| <p>Friday, March 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool 4's, 9:30am |
| <p>Saturday, March 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• VBS Planning Meeting, 9:30-11:00am• Silverbox Deliveries, 11:00am-1:30pm |
| <p>Sunday, March 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship, 9:30am• Nursery provided for children aged 5 and under during worship• Chili Cook-Off, 6:00-7:00pm• ELCA Good Gifts |

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

317 896-1402, www.NewJoy.org

The Rev. Chris Duckworth, Pastor
pastor@newjoy.org

Nicole Williams, Parish Administrator
office@newjoy.org

Glenn Hoffman, Music Minister
music@newjoy.org

Miranda Verik, Preschool Director
preschool@newjoy.org

Amber Blakley, Business Administrator
amber.blakley@newjoy.org

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

