

LOVE YOUR

—ENEMIES—



PRAY FOR THOSE

WHO PERSECUTE

YOU

MATTHEW 5:44

**New Life Ev. Lutheran Church
Lake Zurich, IL**

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

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**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 9
July 3, 2022**

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entry way of the church or on the coat rack downstairs. The bathrooms are located in the lower level of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the fellowship hall after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon. The service is also simulcast on the church's Facebook page.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

Before Service Prayer: Great God, to You be the glory for the wonderful freedoms You have given us in this country. Preserve our nation from the destruction ungodliness brings, by empowering my fellow believers and me to be "the salt of the earth." Turn this country back to You, and make it again a land where righteousness dwells. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

Service of the Word, NPH. The service is used with permission under the OneLicense.net copyright agreement #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.

Today's Theme: As we again celebrate our nation's independence, we will hear much about freedom. As citizens, we give thanks for the blessings we have and for the many who fought for and paid the price for our liberties. Yet as Christians, we do not need an annual holiday to recognize true freedom. Daily we hold fast to the wonderful news that the battle has been fought and the price has been paid by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that we may have freedom from sin, eternal death, and the devil. Today we hear the Spirit-inspired words of the apostle Paul in Galatians and learn more about what real freedom is, receiving guidance for lives lived in that freedom and the fruits freely given to us through the Holy Spirit.

OPENING HYMN CW 770 "God of Grace & God of Glory" (CW93 523)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Genesis 1:1–10, 20–21; Galatians 5:1, 16, adapted*

Pastor: For freedom Christ has set us free;

People: stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Pastor: Walk by the Spirit,

People: and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Pastor: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.”

HYMN **Almighty Father, strong to save, Whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep:
Oh, hear our earnest, humble plea For those in peril on the sea. (CW93 517 vs. 1)**

Pastor: And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

HYMN **O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain O'er which our traffic runs a-main
By mountain pass or valley low; Wherever, Lord, Your people go,
Protect them by Your guarding hand From ev'ry peril on the land. (CW93 517 vs. 2)**

Pastor: And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. And God called the expanse Heaven.

And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

HYMN **O Spirit whom the Father sent To spread a broad the firmament;
O Wind of heaven, by Your might Save all who dare the eagle's flight,
And keep them by Your watchful care From ev'ry peril in the air. (CW93 517 vs. 2)**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Galatians 5:1, 16*

Pastor: Eternal Father, strong to save, in the beginning You created all things good: the sea, the land, the air, the creatures in their rightful place, and the crown of Your creation, humanity, which was very good and intended for a perfect relationship with You. Sin ceased the perfect world, and because of that we come to You in confession of our faults and failings.

People: **We are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Our eternal Father is strong to save and has done that in giving His only-begotten Son into this once-perfect world to be the only needed sacrifice for our sins so we and all creation may be renewed, redeemed, and restored in relationship with Him. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: For freedom Christ has set us free;

People: **stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.**

Pastor: Walk by the Spirit,

People: **and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

**O Trinity of love and pow'r, Your people shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them all where'er they go;
Thus ever more to You shall be Glad praise from air and land and sea. (CW93 517 vs. 4)**

☩ WORD ☩

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

God of all nations, we thank You for our free land and the liberties we treasure. Guide Your people by Your Spirit that this nation may set an example to the world of justice and freedom. From the blessings of the past to the present, grant all future prosperity according to Your will. Give all peoples of all lands and nations faith in You that glory may be brought to Your name and eternal blessings to all people throughout Your created world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 8:7–18* (Remember the Lord while living in the land.)

⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; ⁸ a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

¹⁰ When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land He has given you. ¹¹ Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe His commands, His laws and His decrees that I am giving you this day. ¹² Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹⁵ He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. ¹⁶ He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. ¹⁷ You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸ But remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your ancestors, as it is today. (NIV 2011)

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 63 (The pastor will sing the refrain the first time. He'll sing the verses. The congregation sings the refrain after each verse.)

The image shows a musical score for Psalm 63. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system is labeled 'Descant' and the second is labeled 'Melody'. The lyrics are: 'In the morn - ing I will sing, I will sing to you. I'll sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.' The final system is divided into four measures: measures 1-3 are labeled '(To verses)' and measure 4 is labeled '4.'. The lyrics for the final system are 'you. you. you. you.'

Verse 1 O God, You are my God; for You I long; for You my soul is thirsting. My body pines for You like a dry, weary land without water. So I gaze on You in the sanctuary to see Your strength and Your glory.

Refrain

Verse 2 For Your love is better than life, my lips will speak Your praise. So I will bless You all my life, in Your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy.

Refrain

Verse 3 On my bed I remember You. On You I muse through the night, for You have been my help; in the shadow of Your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to You; Your right hand holds me fast.

Refrain

EPISTLE *Galatians 5:1, 13–25* (Freedom in Christ and life by the Spirit)

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh^[a]; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴ For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (NIV 2011)

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 5:43–48* (Love for enemies)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (NIV 2011)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY CW 768 “Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace” (CW93 541)

SERMON

APOSTLE’S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Offering

The ushers will gather the offering which will then be placed on the Lord’s Altar. Offerings can also be given electronically by using your smart phone and the QR code which takes you to the donation part of New Life’s website.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the church of God, this nation, all nations, and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious Father, You have given all we need for this body and life with Your creation and providential care. Help us see from the earthly to the eternal the greatest gift You have given in Your Son that we may be and remain forgiven and free.

HYMN

**Before the Lord we bow, The God who reigns above
And rules the world below In boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring; In joy and praise
Our hearts we raise To heav'n's high King. (CW93 618 vs. 1)**

Pastor: We give You thanks for this land in which we are citizens, even as we are assured of our citizenship in heaven. Bless our country that Your wisdom, justice, compassion, and mercy be unveiled through those placed in leadership. Be with all nations in the world that wars may end, the greater good of all people be worked for, and peace had among all.

HYMN **The nation you have blessed May well your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this fair land, For this bright day
Our thanks we pay -- Gifts of Your hand. (CW 93 618 vs. 2)**

Pastor: As You have given humanity, the crown of Your creation, dominion over all You have made, enable and empower us to be good and faithful stewards of everything we are blessed to have, including our time, our treasures, our abilities, and the very earth with which we are blessed. Grant that our work, vocations, and relationships honor and glorify You in all we do.

HYMN **May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise
And join to raise A grateful song! (CW 93 618 vs. 3)**

Pastor: We pray for those who face suffering and strife in body, mind, and spirit. Grant them healing and comfort according to Your will. As we face the consequences of sin and the troubles of temptation around us each day, draw us near to our Savior Jesus Christ, who has set us free with full forgiveness through His victory over the cross and the grave, until that Last Day when all things will be made new.

HYMN **Earth, hear Your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own.
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride! Your sin deplore
And bow before The Crucified!**

**And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, And, joyful, sing
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song! (CW93 618 vs. 4,5)**

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING SENTENCES *Galatians 5:1, 16*

Pastor: For freedom Christ has set us free;

People: **stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.**

Pastor: Walk by the Spirit,

People: **and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN **CW 774** “God Bless Our Native Land” (CW93 619)

Announcements

Our Father’s Business in the Coming Week

Cleaning this Week: Berg / Bolzman

Today— Fourth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 9 Worship service at 9:30 AM
 Fellowship at 10:30 AM
Monday—Independence Day
Tuesday—Church Council at 7:00 PM
Friday—WELS Night at Miller Park in Milwaukee
Sunday—Fifth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 10 Communion Service at 9:30 AM
 Fellowship at 10:30 AM
 Annual Voters Meeting at 10:45 AM
 Church Picnic at noon.

FELLOWSHIP

A new fellowship sheet has been posted. If you’d like to bring something to eat and drink after the service on Sunday, use the sign-up sheet to reserve a Sunday.

RUMMAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS

The Branch Connection thanks everyone who volunteered to help set up and run the church rummage sale. Proceeds will be forwarded to the WELS Committee on Relief. The Committee on Relief will direct the funds to be used to help Ukrainian refugees. Approximately \$1,600 was raised. Better Life will match \$1,000 and Thrivent will add another \$250.

VBS REGISTRATION

The webmaster John Lester has posted the online registration for VBS. Go to www.newlife.org/vbs.htm to register. At this point there are 30 kids registered for VBS.

CPR TRAINING

DCFS requires at least one member of the preschool staff to be certified in CPR. On July 16, from 9:00 AM to noon, Jony Corral of the Lake Zurich Fire Department will provide CPR, AED and some first aid training at church. Knowing how to perform CPR in an emergency is a valuable skill. The CPR class is open for anyone to attend. A sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

LADIES NIGHT OUT AT INDEPENDENCE GROVE

Ladies, mark your calendars and plan on attending a concert in the park on Tuesday, July 12. Pete Kilpatrick, a folk and pop rock singer, will be performing at Independence Grove on the north side of Libertyville. Please bring an appetizer to share, a chair, and your choice of beverage. We will meet at Kelly Daugherty's house at 5:30 PM (16325 W. Des Plaines Road, Libertyville, IL 60048) and caravan over to the park. A sign up sheet is posted downstairs.

BABY SHOWER FOR AMBER

The Branch Connection will be hosting a baby shower brunch for Amber Casaletto on Sunday, July 31 after church. Please bring a dish to pass. Amber is registered at Amazon.com. A sign-up sheet is posted downstairs on the bulletin board.

STRIPPING AND WAXING

Thanks to Mike Spangle and Ken Sarvady for stripping and waxing the fellowship hall floor this past week.