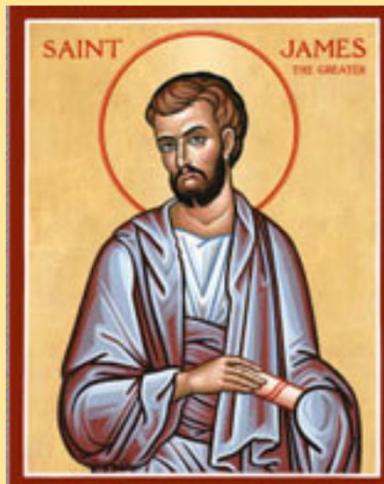


An Apostolic Advent

Midweek Worship Series



James the Elder

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

Pastor Ben Squires

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: pastor@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. for Advent and Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday of the month

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,
Mandi Stilson – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

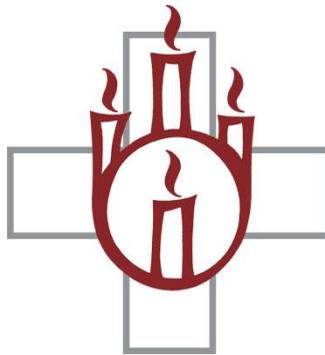
We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Bob Souza
Disciple Care: Paul DeLassus
Acolytes: Hillary Fleming, Mineva Freehling
Lay Readers: Diane Boehm, Bob Souza
Ushers: Joe Souza, Morrie Cook
Greeters: Diane Boehm



Opening Words

P: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last. **C: Amen.**

P: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: to sing praise to Your Name, O Most High;

P: to herald Your love in the morning,

C: Your truth at the close of the day.

Confession and Forgiveness

(Silence for reflection on the sins that trouble us).

Pastor: We begin with me confessing my sin... I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

C: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

P: I thank my heavenly Father for this Good News. Amen.

C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

C: I thank my heavenly Father for this Good News. Amen.

Preparation for the Gospel *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night* LSB 883, sts. 1-2



1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the
2 For - give me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that



bless - ings of the light. Keep me, O keep me,
I this day have done, That with the world, my -



King of kings, Be - neath Thine own al - mighty - y wings.
self, and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Holy Gospel

Mark 10:35–45 (ESV)

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to [Jesus] and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”

³⁶And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”

³⁸Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?”

³⁹And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized,

⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be

indignant at James and John. ⁴²And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But

whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be

served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Acts 11:27-12:5 (ESV)

²⁷Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). ²⁹So the disciples determined, everyone according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. ³⁰And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

¹About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. ²He killed James the brother of John with the sword, ³and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. ⁴And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. ⁵So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 56:1-13 (ESV)

¹Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me;
all day long an attacker oppresses me;

²my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly.

³When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

⁴In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

What can flesh do to me?

⁵All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil.

⁶They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life.

⁷For their crime will they escape?

In wrath cast down the peoples, O God!

⁸You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle.

Are they not in your book?

⁹Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call.

This I know, that God is for me.

¹⁰In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise,

¹¹in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

What can man do to me?

¹²I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you.

¹³For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,
that I may walk before God in the light of life.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn of Response All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

LSB 883, sts. 3-4

3 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as
4 Oh, may my soul in Thee re - pose, And may sweet
lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die that
sleep mine eye - lids close, Sleep that shall me more
so I may Rise glo - rious at the awe - full day.
vig - 'rous make To serve my God when I a - wake!

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And also with you.*

P: Let us pray. O gracious God, Your servant and apostle James was the first among the Twelve to suffer martyrdom for the name of Jesus Christ. Pour out that same spirit of self-denying service upon the leaders of Your Church today so that they may forsake all false and passing allurements and follow Christ alone, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *Amen.*

Introit for the Festival of an Apostle Psalm 89:1,5,15-16; antiphon (repeated verse): Psalm 119:46

P: I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

**C: *I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
I will make your faithfulness known to all generations.***

P: Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!
Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,
who exult in your name all the day and in your righteousness are exalted.

**C: *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

P: I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

**C: *I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
I will make your faithfulness known to all generations. Amen.***

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.—And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
 2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
 3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
 4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
 Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
 ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
 sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
 will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
 will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
 we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

Sermon**“James the Elder”****Offering****Offertory Prayer**

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, from Your hand we receive all good gifts and by Your grace we are guarded from all evil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that, acknowledging with our whole heart Your boundless goodness, we may now and evermore thank and praise You for Your loving-kindness and tender mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the Church

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C: *Listen to my cry.*

P: Keep me as the apple of Your eye;

C: *Hide me in the shadow of Your wings.*

P: In righteousness I shall see You;

C: *When I awake, Your presence will give me joy.*

P: Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: *Amen.***

P: Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: *Amen.***

P: We praise and thank You, O God, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, that You have enlightened us by revealing the Light that never fades. Night has fallen, and day's allotted span has drawn to a close. The daylight which You created for our pleasure has fully satisfied us, and yet, of Your free gift, now the evening lights do not fail us. We praise You and glorify You through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; through Him be glory, honor, and power to You in the Holy Spirit now and always and forever and ever. **C: *Amen.***

(Silence for meditation)

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

P: Guide us waking, O Lord,

C: *and guard us sleeping,*

P: That awake we may watch with Christ

C: *and asleep we may rest in peace.*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

C: *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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Announcements

Acknowledgments

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Join us for Christmas Worship!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

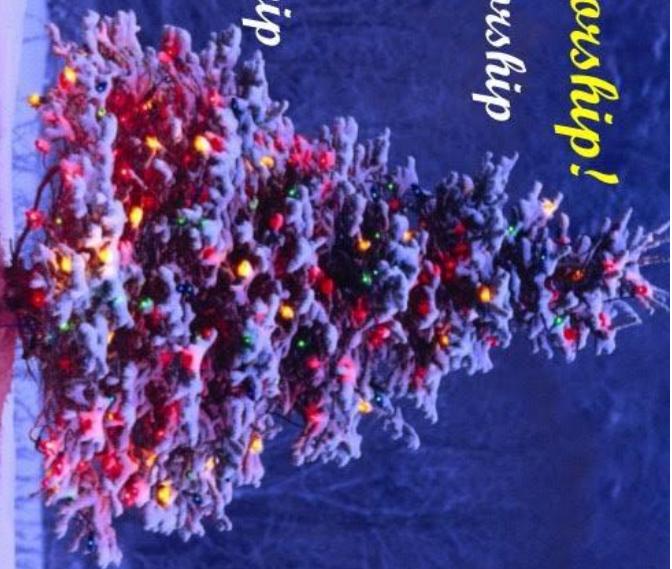
6:00 PM

11:00 PM

Christmas Morning Worship

10:00 AM

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6)





Children's Christmas Worship Celebration

Our Sunday School children will be leading worship
Sunday, **December 11** at 4:00 pm.

They will be telling the Christmas story through singing, ringing and words.
This year's presentation is titled:
"Jesus Means Christmas to Me."

Contact Ann Souza with any questions or concerns:
singng4him@sbcglobal.net or 847-336-0520.

The children will have another practice on Saturday, **December 10:**

9:30 a.m. - instrumental prelude students
10:00 a.m. - all children preschoolers through 8th graders

Bernie's Blessings **Deadline: December 18**



We will again be collecting used coats and blankets for Bernie to distribute on the streets of Chicago on Christmas Eve. For over 20 years the people of Bethel have donated many, many coats and blankets that are given to the homeless who are out in the cold and bad weather. He shares the love of Christ with them while providing them warmth. If you see a good deal on a new coat, we would gladly accept it. Blankets of all kinds will be accepted. Place items in the fellowship hall.