

*Because God is greater than we are,
we cannot fully understand or explain
all of the problems we encounter.*

*However, we can be certain of God's perfect power,
his perfect timing, his perfect purpose, and his perfect love.*

explore**God**

Why Does God Allow Pain & Suffering?

Is Christianity Too Narrow?

**3rd Sunday after Epiphany
January 27, 2019**

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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 Diver – 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

Sunday 8:00AM

Elders: Mike Bandman
Comm/Asst. Elder: JJ Jones
Acolytes: Owen Squires, Brooke Ratzburg
Lay Readers: Ben Sanders, Diane Sanders
Ushers: Don Heidlauf, **OPEN**
Greeters: Robinson Family,
Carla Thompson
Fellowship: Faitsch
Jan. Altar Guild: Sheila Bunnell
Jan. Counters: Margie Tatgenhorst

Sunday 10:45AM

Randy Gifford
Dave Ziegler
OPEN, Cameron Fleming
Ellen Dalrymple, Lori Hoonstra
Scott Gutzke, **OPEN**
The Kazarian Family,
The Kruse Family

Diane Sanders
Sue Best

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

Madeline Adams in remembrance of her son Jim;
the Ross family in celebration of Dave's birthday;
Chris Mason & Sue Walker in celebration of their father's,
Roy Roberts, 97th birthday.

In Today's Prayers

*If you have something you'd like added,
please go to one of the Prayer Stands,
write down your request, & put in the plastic rack.*



In our weekly Worship Prayers, we lift up praises, thanksgivings, requests, and concerns to our Lord. In order to help us pray to God about the wholeness of our lives in the world, we have a schedule for when we will focus on specific areas for prayer. Any immediate needs will always take priority, but in general, we will follow this schedule. Please note that this means on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, Pastor will speak the names of everyone on our health concerns list, but on other Sundays, this will be lifted up only as a general prayer for health and healing.

4th Sunday

Local Churches

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Circuit (area) churches:

Beautiful Savior-Antioch, Faith-Lake Forest, Good Shepherd-Lake Villa, Immanuel-Glenview, Lord of Glory-Grayslake, St. Matthew-Hawthorn Wood Grace-Northbrook, St. John-Northbrook, Community of Faith-Spring Grove, Redeemer-Waukegan, Prince of Peace-Waukegan

GO! Together partner churches in Gurnee:

Gurnee Community, Joy!, Lakeland, Life, Village, New Abbey, Immanuel, La Viña, Epicenter, House of Prayer, New Hope

Waukegan Churches participating in the Mosaic Learning Community

For more info, go to <http://mosaic.tiu.edu>

Christian Neighbors, CityReach, First Presbyterian, Iglesia Emanuel, Journey, Living Waters Cathedral, New Abbey, Shiloh Baptist, Sign of the Dove, Waukegan Baptist Bible, Waukegan Christian Faith Fellowship, Waukegan Community Church

PSALM SERVICE

This service uses portions of the Psalms as the parts of the liturgy.
The Psalms are the hymnbook of the Bible and help us form our worship today.

Opening Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LSB 790



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

Invocation and Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 92)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: O Lord, it does us good to give you thanks,

C: to fill our lungs with the name of the Most High,

P: To start the morning off with good news of your love,

C: and to close the day with thanks for your faithfulness,

P: You made us find joy in what you have done, O LORD.

C: We will sing joyfully about the works of your hands.

P: How spectacular are your works, O LORD!

C: How very deep are your thoughts!

Confession and Absolution (Based on Isaiah 55 and Psalm 130)

P: The Lord's thoughts are not your thoughts,

neither are your ways the Lord's ways.

Seek the Lord while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

let the sinners abandon their ways,

and the unrighteous turn away from their thoughts;

Return to the Lord, for he will have compassion on you,

Return to our God, for he will forgive generously.

C: Yes, let us return to the Lord and confess our sin.

P: Out of the pit we call you, Lord;

C: please, Lord, hear us;

P: Though our voices are faint let them reach your ears

C: and touch your heart of mercy.

P: Lord, if you keep a tally of all our sins,

C: then who could survive?

P: But Lord, you have the power to forgive;

C: So we worship and honor you.

P: His word is our only hope;

C: We wait on the Lord, we wait in our souls,

P: eager as any watchman waits for the morning.

(Silence for reflection on personal sins and need for forgiveness).

P: You wait for the Lord, because his love for you will never run out,
and because he has the power to set you free;
Only he will save you from your sins,
Only he has sent his son to die for you
and rise again to give you new life.
Your sins are forgiven in the Name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Anthem

“God Is Here”

Adult Choir

- Use the anthem’s music and words to help you to meditate on God’s Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

There is a sweet anointing in this sanctuary;
There is a stillness in the atmosphere.
Come and lay down the burdens you have carried;
For in this sanctuary, God is here.

He is here, He is here, To break the yoke and lift the heavy burden.
He is here, He is here, To heal the hopeless heart and bless the broken.
Come and lay down the burdens you have carried;
For in this sanctuary, God is here.

There is a sweet anointing in this sanctuary;
There is a stillness in the atmosphere.
Come and lay down the burdens you have carried;
For in this sanctuary, God is here.

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:16–30 (ESV)

¹⁶And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.

¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

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

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

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

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” ²⁴And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But passing through their midst, he went away.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

1 Peter 5:6–11 (ESV)

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. O God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ. Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth. Amen.

C: Amen.

Song of Praise

We Fall Down

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Je - sus, the great-ness of mer-cy and love at the feet of Je - sus. And we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, and we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, and we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. The final line of the score includes two endings: 1. ly is the Lamb. and 2. (which is a repeat of the previous line).

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Psalm Reading (Responsive)

Psalm 13 (ESV, alt.)

P: How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?

C: **How long will you hide your face from me?**

P: How long must I take counsel in my soul
and have sorrow in my heart all the day?

C: **How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

P: Consider and answer me, O LORD my God;

C: **light up my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,**

P: and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed over him,"

C: **and my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.**

P: Nevertheless I have trusted in your steadfast love;

C: **Nevertheless I have trusted in your steadfast love;**

P: my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

C: **my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.**

P: I will sing to the LORD, for He has been good to me.

C: *I will sing to the LORD, for He has been good to me.*

*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.*

Explore God Collect (Prayer of the Today's Explore God Question)

P: O Lord, give us an abiding trust in Your good will that no impatience or suffering of mind or body may weaken our faith in You. Teach us to say, "Thy will be done," and to accept Your holy and gracious will in all things. Out of the shadows of our doubts and fears, bring the light of Your great mercy toward us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: **Amen.**

Children's Message

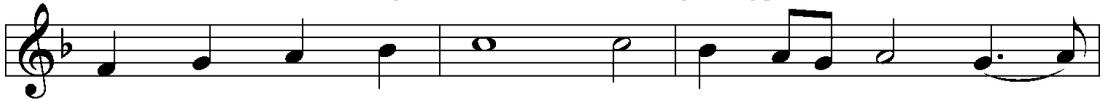
Hymn of the Day

O Son of God, in Galilee

LSB 841



1 O Son of God, in Gal - i - lee You
2 O lis - ten to the si - lent prayer Of
3 The speech - less tongue, the life - less ear You
4 Mean - while to them the lis - t'ning ear Of
5 Then in Your prom - ised hap - py land Each



made the deaf to hear, The mute to speak, the
Your af - flict - ed ones. O bid them cast on
can re - store, O Lord; Your "Eph - pha - tha," O
stead - fast faith im - part, And let Your Word bring
loss will prove a gain; All mys - t'ries we shall



blind to see; O bless - ed Lord, be near.
You their care; Your grace to them make known.
Sav - ior dear, Can in - stant help af - ford.
light and cheer To ev - 'ry trou - bled heart.
un - der - stand, For You will make them plain.

Sermon

“Why Does God Allow Pain & Suffering?”

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.—And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.—And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory

We Give Thee But Thine Own

LSB 781 sts. 1-2

(Sung as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Prayers

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 (Based on Psalm 67 and Numbers 6)

P: God is good to us, he is blessing us,

C: The face of God is shining down on us,

P: Let the peoples praise You, O God;

C: Let all the peoples praise You.

P: Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy!

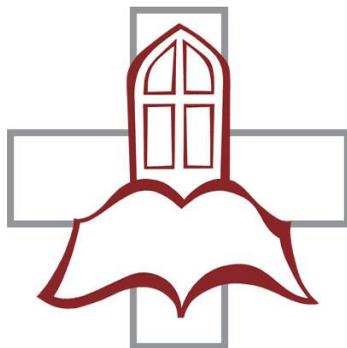
C: God, our own God, shall bless us.

P: 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.

C: Amen.



Closing Hymn

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

LSB 849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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