



A lover of justice is our mighty King; he is right in all his ways. He insists on being fair to all, promoting true justice and righteousness in [His] people.
Psalm 99:4



**Thursday, June 29,
and Sunday, July 2,
2023**

**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

Cindy Daluga, Disciple Care Coordinator
Cindy.daluga@bethelgurnee.org

Ben Sanders, Mission Facilitator
office@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org

COVER PHOTO:
"Vague Luminosity"
by Christine Fleming
digital photography



ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:
THE NOVACEK FAMILY IN CELEBRATION OF JD'S BIRTHDAY
THE SANDERS FAMILY IN CELEBRATION OF DIANE'S BIRTHDAY



PSALMS (BOOKS FOUR AND FIVE)

Worship in a traditional order drawing from the Psalms, Books Four (90-106) and Five (107-150).

Opening Song

He is Exalted

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on _ high, _ I will praise _ Him.

He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise His name! _

_ He is the Lord, _ for - ev - er His truth shall reign.

Heav - en and earth _ re - joice in His ho - ly name. _

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high! _

CCLI Song # 17827
© 1985 Straightway Music | Mountain Spring Music
For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License # 11157642

Invocation (based on Psalms 107:31-32a,35)

P: Let us give thanks to the LORD for His loyal love,
and for the amazing things He has done for people.

C: Let us exalt Him here in the assembly of the people.

P: This is what He has done for you, His people:
He turned a desert into a pool of water, and a dry land into springs of water.

He has washed you clean in the water of your baptism:
In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Let us exalt Him here in the assembly of the people. Amen.

Psalm of Praise (Based on Psalm 107:35) See, the Streams of Living Waters LSB 648 st. 2

2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all
fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er
Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the
Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.

Confession of Sins (based on Psalm 90:1-3a,7-9,12-14)

P: O Lord, You have been our protector through all generations.
Even before the mountains came into existence,
or You brought the world into being,

C: You were the eternal God.

P: You make humans return to the dust.
Yes, we are consumed by Your anger;

C: we are terrified by Your wrath.

P: You are aware of our sins;

C: You even know about our hidden sins.

P: Yes, throughout all our days we experience Your raging fury;
the years of our lives pass quickly, like a sigh.
So teach us to consider our mortality,

C: so that we might live wisely, seeking forgiveness through Your Son.



P: Turn back toward us, O LORD,

C: in grace because of the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

P: How long must this suffering last? Have mercy on Your servants.

C: Satisfy us in the morning with Your loyal love.

Then we will shout for joy and be content all our days.

P: We pause in the presence of the Lord

C: Remembering our sins and our need for the Lord's forgiveness.

(silent meditation)

Absolution (Declaration of Forgiveness) (based on Psalms 111:1-4,9; 116:16-18)

P: Give thanks to the LORD with your whole heart,

here in the assembly of the congregation.

The LORD's deeds are great, eagerly awaited by all who desire them.

His work is majestic and glorious,

and His faithfulness endures forever.

He does amazing things that will be remembered;

the LORD is merciful and compassionate.

He delivered you, His people, through the work of His Son, Jesus Christ.

who keeps His covenant forever on your behalf.

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Yes, LORD! We are indeed Your servants;

You saved us from death.

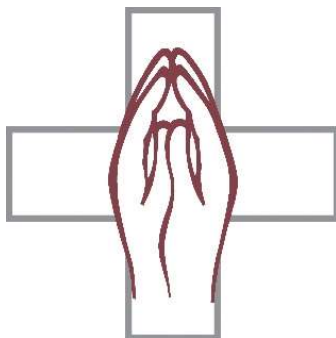
We will present a thank offering to You, and call on the name of the LORD.

We will fulfill our vows to the LORD before all His people,

trusting always in the saving work of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Spoken Prayer (based on Psalm 116)

Recording (Alex Williams)



Song of Praise (based on Psalm 116)

Recording (Alex Williams)

Praise to the Son
Who tasted death for me
I was swayed by the wind of darkness
Jesus saved me

I praise You
Merciful King
For showing me
Compassion

Praise to the Lord
My Father and my King
How can I be Your child and be poor?
You're all I need

I praise You
Merciful King
For showing me
Compassion

God of justice
God of grace
I fall into Your hands
Surrendering all
You have my faith
Deny me desires that offend Your love
Lord, have mercy

I praise You
Merciful King
For showing me
Compassion
Convict my heart
I ask of Thee
Remember me
Merciful King

This Week's Psalm

Psalm 99 (Passion Translation)

¹Yahweh is King over all! Everyone trembles in awe before him.

He rules enthroned between the wings of the cherubim.

So let the earth shake and quake in wonder before him!

²For Yahweh is great and glorious in the midst of his Zion-people.

He is exalted above all!

³Let everyone praise this breathtaking God, for he is holy.

⁴A lover of justice is our mighty King; he is right in all his ways.

He insists on being fair to all,
promoting true justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵So everyone, exalt the Lord our God

facedown before his glory-throne, for he is great and holy.

⁶God has his praying priests,

like Moses, Aaron, and Samuel, who all interceded,
asking God for help.

God heard their cries and came to their rescue.

⁷He spoke to them from the pillar of clouds

and they followed his instructions,

"Yahweh" is the personal Name of God the Father in Hebrew, often translated simply as "LORD".



doing everything he told them.

⁸ God, the great forgiver, answered their prayers.

Yet he would punish them when they went astray.

⁹ Keep exalting the Lord our God

facedown before his glory-throne, for he is great and holy!

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Collect (Psalm Prayer of the Day)

P: O Holy God, You have made us holy in Your sight through the holiness of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Now by Your gracious Spirit, make us holy in our lives here and now as we await the Lord’s return. May our lives reflect Your holiness—holy with passion for justice, holy with unending love, holy in finding apt words, and holy in our praise of Your great goodness and undying loyalty. In the Name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Psalm Hymn

The God Jehovah Reigns (Psalm 99 – Part 2)

Tune: LSB 331

“Jehovah” is another rendering of the personal Name of God the Father in Hebrew.



1 The God Je - ho - vah__ reigns! Let__ all the__ na - tions fear;
2 Je - sus the Sav - ior__ reigns! Let__ earth a__ - dore its Lord;
3 In Zi - on is his__ throne, His__ hon - ors__ are Di - vine;
4 How ho - ly is his__ name! How__ fear - ful__ is his praise!



Let sin - ners trem - ble at his throne, And saints be__ hum - ble there.
Bright an - gels his at - tend - ants stand, Swift to ful__ - fil his word.
His church shall make his won - ders known, For there his__ glor - ies shine.
Jus - tice, and truth, and judg - ment join In all his__ works of grace.

Sermon

Psalm 99

Psalm Song

Psalm 99

Ari Lesser

***Confession of Faith (Based on Psalm 145:1-5,7-9,13-17,19,21)
(spoken in unison)***

We will extol You, our God, O King.

We will praise Your name continually.

Every day we will praise You.

We will praise Your name continually.

The LORD is great and certainly worthy of praise.

No one can fathom his greatness:

His Creation of All, His Redemption of All,

His Spirit-led transformation of All who believe.

One generation will praise Your deeds to another,
and tell about Your mighty acts.

We will focus on Your honor and majestic splendor and amazing deeds.

We will talk about the fame of Your great kindness, and sing about Your justice.

The LORD is merciful and compassionate;

He is patient and demonstrates great loyal love.

The LORD is good to all, and has compassion on all He has made.

Your kingdom is an eternal kingdom,
and Your dominion endures through all generations.

The LORD supports all who fall, and lifts up all who are weighed down by sin.

Everything looks to You in anticipation,
and You provide them with what they need.

You open Your hand, and fill every living thing with the food it desires.

The LORD is just in all His actions, and exhibits love in all He does.

He satisfies the desire of his loyal followers;

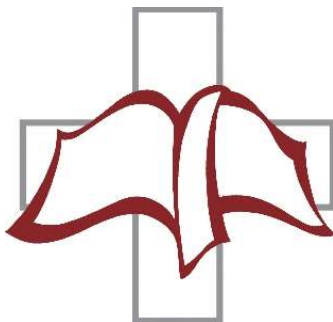
He hears their cry for help and delivers them.

Our mouths will praise the LORD.

Let all who live praise His holy name forever. 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 (Based on Psalm 145) Be Present in Our Church, O Lord

LSB 775, alt.

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



Be pres - ent in our church, O Lord; Be here and
ev - 'ry - where a - dored; Thy crea - tures bless, and
grant that we May feast in par - a - dise with Thee.

Prayers of the Church (Based on Psalm 103:1-5a,6,8,13-14,17a,19,22)

P: Praise the LORD, O my soul.

With all that is within you, praise His holy name.

C: Praise the LORD, O my soul.

P: Do not forget all His kind deeds.

He is the one who forgives all your sins,

C: who heals all our diseases,

P: who delivers your life from the Pit,

C: who crowns us with His loyal love and compassion,

P: who satisfies your life with good things,

(...Pastor offers thanksgivings...)

As the psalm declares: The LORD does what is fair,
and executes justice for all the oppressed.

C: The LORD is compassionate and merciful;

P: He is patient and demonstrates great loyal love.

(...Pastor prays for the world and the nation...)

As the psalm declares: As a father has compassion on his children,

C: so the LORD has compassion on His faithful followers.

P: For He knows what we are made of; He realizes we are made of clay.

C: But the Lord continually shows loyal love to His faithful followers,

P: *(...Pastor prays for specific needs...)*

As the psalm declares: The Lord has established His throne in heaven;

C: His kingdom extends over everything.

P: All of His Creation, praise the Lord;

C: in all the regions of His kingdom, may His praise be heard.

Praise the Lord, O my soul. Amen.

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us

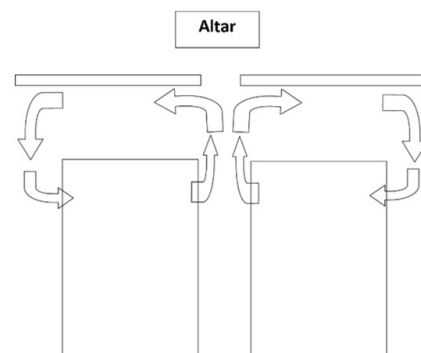
if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ,
and the wine is the blood of Christ,
truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe,
we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who
are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



Communion Distribution

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front. Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace and return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



Preface of the Lord's Supper (based on Psalms 126:1-2a,3-4; 104:30-31a,33a)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: When the LORD restored the well-being of His people through Jesus Christ,

C: we thought we were dreaming.

P: We laughed loudly, surprised by His kindness, and we shouted for joy.

C: The LORD did indeed accomplish great things for us.

P: We are joyfully at peace.

**C: O LORD, restore our well-being,
just like You renew the streams in the desert.**

P: When You sent Your life-giving breath,

C: we were created.

P: When You sent Your life-giving Holy Spirit,

C: we were re-created.

P: May the splendor of the LORD endure.

C: We will sing to the LORD as long as I live. Amen.

Sanctus (based on Psalm 103)

Video (Poor Bishop Hooper)

bless the Lord oh my soul
let all that's within me bless the Lord

don't forget His benefits who forgives all your sin
who heals your diseases, who pulls you up from the pit
who crowns with lovingkindness and compassion
who satisfies oh satisfies you

slow to anger and abounding in love
He hasn't dealt with our offense as our sins would deserve
for as high as the heavens are above the earth
so great His love for those who fear Him

bless the Lord oh my soul
let all that's within me bless the Lord
bless the Lord oh my soul
let all that's within me bless the Lord

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.

Words of Institution

Acknowledgements

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires. © 2023.
Liturgy Scripture passages taken from / adapted from New English Translation.
NET Bible® copyright ©1996-2017 by Biblical Studies Press, L.L.C. <http://netbible.com> All rights reserved.
Some scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*,
copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Other portions used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 000013448.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.
Song of Praise (Psalm 116): © 2011 Alex Williams. <https://music.apple.com/us/album/epic-salvation/412688629>
Sanctus & Post-Communion Prayer Song: © 2022-2023 Poor Bishop Hooper (Poor Bishop Hooper is Jesse and Leah Roberts).
All rights reserved. <https://www.everypsalm.com/>

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: ***And also with you.***

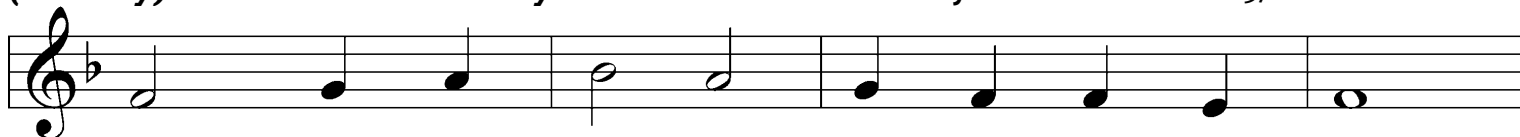
(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)

(Thursday) Use the distribution time for meditation and prayer.

(Sunday) First Distribution Hymn

First Distribution Hymn

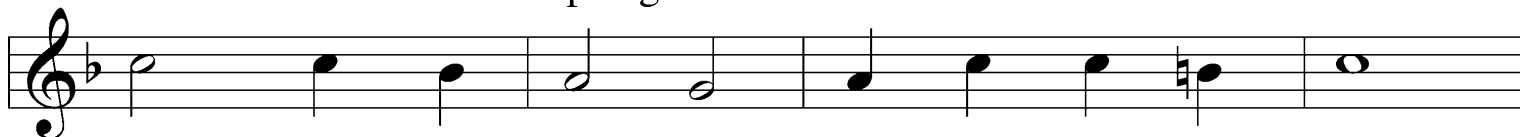
LSB 637



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



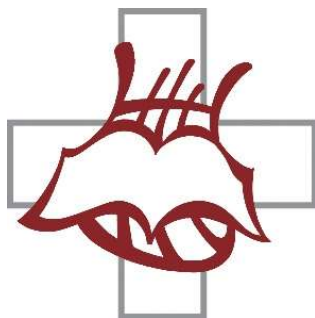
Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois



(Sunday) Second Distribution Hymn Before You, Lord, We Bow

LSB 966



1 Be - fore You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns a - bove
2 The na - tion You have blest May well Your love de - clare,
3 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, Each vale and for - est green,
4 Earth, hear your Mak - er's voice; Your great Re - deem - er own;
5 And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our na - tive land



And rules the world be - low, Bound-less in pow'r and love. Our thanks
From foes and fears at rest, Pro - tect - ed by Your care. For this
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen! May ev -
Be - lieve, o - bey, re - joice, And wor-ship Him a - lone. Cast down
From all its rend - ing tombs Send forth a glo - rious band, A count -



we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise To You, our King!
bright day, For this fair land—Gifts of Your hand—Our thanks we pay.
'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grate - ful song.
your pride, Your sin de - plore, And bow be - fore The Cru - ci - fied.
less throng, With joy to sing To heav'n's high King Sal - va - tion's song!

Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779–1843, alt.

Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89

Common Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and true blood of our Lord...

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer Song (based on Psalm 103)

Video (Poor Bishop Hooper)

bless the Lord oh my soul
let all that's within me bless the Lord
bless the Lord oh my soul
let all that's within me bless the Lord
as a father has compassion on his children
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him
as far as east is from the west He's removed our sin
for His love is everlasting everlasting everlasting
bless the Lord oh my soul
let all that's within me bless the Lord
bless the Lord oh my soul
let all that's within me bless the Lord
let all that's within me bless the Lord

Benediction (Blessing) (based on Psalm 91:1-4, 15a, 16b)

P: As for you, who live in the shelter of the Most High,
and reside in the protective shadow of the One-Above-All-Things—
I say this about the LORD, our God in whom we trust—
He is your shelter and your stronghold,
He will certainly rescue you from the snare of the hunter
and from the destructive plague of eternal death.
He will shelter you with His wings;
you will find safety under His wings.
His faithfulness is like a shield or a protective wall.

C: When we call out to Him, He will answer us.

P: He will let you see His salvation
in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

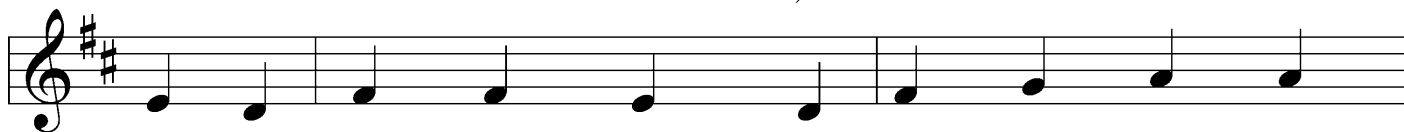
Closing Hymn

O God of Love, O King of Peace

LSB 751 sts. 1-3



1 O God of love, O King of peace, Make wars through -
2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, Thy works of old, The won - ders
3 Whom shall we trust but Thee, O Lord? Where rest but



out the world to cease; The rage of na - tions
that Thy peo - ple told; Re - mem - ber not our
on Thy faith - ful Word? None ev - er called on



now re - strain: Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!
sins' dark stain: Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!
Thee in vain: Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.

Tune: Sandra J. Voelker, 1952

Tune: © 2002 Sandra J. Voelker. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001267

Announcements

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY , JUNE 29

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, JULY 2

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 9AM

THURSDAY , JULY 6

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, JULY 9

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 9AM

THURSDAY , JULY 13

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, JULY 16

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 9AM

THURSDAY , JULY 20

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, JULY 23

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 9AM

THURSDAY , JULY 27

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, JULY 30

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 9AM

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS, READERS, AND VARIOUS OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OF THOSE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG.

Hospitality – Greeting People

(1) Learn someone's name who is new to you

Some people have a natural gift to remember people's name, but many of us need to work at learning names.

- Tell yourself: "I can learn some names today."
- Start by introducing yourself, "Hello, my name is _____." If the other person doesn't immediately give their name, ask them.
- Use their name in the conversation at least 3 times before you part. "Nice to meet you, _____."
 "What brings you to Bethel today, _____?"
 "Good to see you, _____."
- Learn at least one interesting fact about the person to help you put their name & fact together in your brain.
- Introduce someone else to the person, so that you are using the new person's name again and someone else knows too!
- After the conversation, write their name down somewhere. Even if it isn't on a piece of paper that you keep, the visual of writing their name may help you picture it the next time you see that person.

(2) What if you forgot their name?

If you are concerned that you have already met, or are sure that you have met, but don't remember their name, don't let embarrassment keep you from learning their name again.

- Simply say something like, "I'm so sorry, I know we've met before, but I've forgotten your name. I'm _____."
 Notice how you aren't assuming they remember your name.
- Another way of saying this is: "Have we met before? I apologize if we have, and I've forgotten. I'm _____."



(3) Change your focus

It's great to know people in the congregation; it's great to have friends and feel comfortable with people. BUT God also calls on us to hospitable and welcome new people into our congregation.

- Change your focus from talking to familiar people to getting to know people you don't already know.
- It may seem rude at times when someone who already knows you comes up and wants to chat like you normally do, but you can find a polite way to exit the conversation: "Hey, it's good seeing you today, _____. I'm trying out what Pastor said about meeting new folks. Want to go meet someone with me? And then let's catch up later."

(4) Practice

- Stand at the back of the gym/sanctuary, and see how many names you can remember. When you come to folks you don't know, ask an Elder, Pastor, Cindy Daluga, Ben Sanders, or someone to help trigger your memory.
- If the person is someone you actually haven't met before, look for an opportunity to introduce yourself.

(5) Remember the bears. . .

Remember the advice when hiking: "Bears and wild animals are more scared of you than you are scared of them." As you take the initiative to meet people, remember that many people are nervous about meeting new people. As much as you're worried about not remembering someone's name, the other person may be thinking the very same thing. They likely won't even imagine that someone would introduce themselves—meaning they'll be touched by your thoughtfulness and welcome.