



Bethel Sunday School
2017-2018 Bible Verse

But **JESUS** looked at them
and said,

With **MAN** this is *impossible*

but with **GOD**

all things are *possible.*"

Matthew 19:26 ESV

14th Sunday after Pentecost
Beginning of the Education Year

Sunday, September 10, 2017

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

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

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Sunday 10:45 a.m.

<i>Elder:</i>	Bob Souza	<i>Randy Gifford</i>
<i>Comm/Asst. Elder:</i>	JJ Jones	<i>Jack Warneke</i>
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Katie Kreamer	<i>Jake Kruse, Jake Herstowski</i>
<i>Ushers:</i>	Tom Pipia, Chuck Johnson	<i>John Schultz, OPEN</i>
<i>Lay Readers:</i>	Dave Ross, Nicole Kreamer	<i>Lori Hoomstra, Pat Rasmussen</i>
<i>Greeters:</i>	Chris Mason, Mulley Family	<i>Kruse Family, Javier & Michelle Ramon</i>
<i>Fellowship:</i>	Brazda/Sanders	
<i>Sept. Altar Guild:</i>	Becky Anderson	<i>Shari Hoppe</i>
<i>Sept. Counters:</i>	Joan Blasko	<i>Mary Kay Ams</i>

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

The Sanders family in celebration of Jocelyn's birthday (9/11) and Donna and Jim Gerken in celebration of their 41st wedding anniversary.

THE WORD OF GOD SERVICE

This service celebrates the Word of God, using words from Paul's letters to Timothy.

Opening Hymn

Earth and All Stars

LSB 817 sts. 1, ref, 3, 5-7



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing to the
3 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals! Sing to the
5 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes! Sing to the



Lord a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout - ing
Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming
Lord a new song! Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing



ar - my! Sing to the Lord a new song!
cel - los! Sing to the Lord a new song!
peo - ple! Sing to the Lord a new song!



Refrain
He has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too will praise Him with a new song!

6 Knowledge and truth!
Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son!
Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

7 Children of God,
Dying and rising,
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Heaven and earth,
Hosts everlasting,
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Invocation and Greeting

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 1 Tim. 1:2b

C: And also with you.

The Word of God

P: In worship, we become acquainted with the sacred writings,

C: which are able to make us wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

P: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching,
for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

C: so that we may be equipped for every good work. Amen. 2 Tim. 3:15-16

Confession of Sin

P: The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance:

C: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Tim. 1:15

P: For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men:

C: Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all. 1 Tim. 2:5-6

Silence for meditation on our need for Christ's forgiveness.

Absolution (Forgiveness)

Psalm 32:5b; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 1:9-10; 2 Tim. 2:21

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: God our Savior desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. He saved you and called you to a holy calling, not because of your works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave you in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. You have been cleansed of your sin, set apart as holy, useful to our Lord, and ready for every good work in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we have died with him, **C: we will also live with him;** 2 Tim. 2:13-14

P: if we endure, **C: we will also reign with him;**

P: if we deny him, **C: he also will deny us;**

P: if we are faithless, **C: he remains faithful—** P: for he cannot deny himself.

Response **The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns** LSB 532 sts. 3-6

These hymns verse are based on the above Scripture, 2 Timothy 2:13-14.



3 The Joy of all who dwell a - bove, The Joy of all be - low
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, With all its grace, is giv'n;
5 They suf - fer with their Lord be - low, They reign with Him a - bove,
6 The cross He bore is life and health, Though shame and death to Him:



To whom He man - i - fests His love And grants His name to know.
Their name an ev - er - last - ing name, Their joy the joy of heav'n.
Their pro - fit and their joy to know The myst' - ry of His love.
His peo - ple's hope, His peo - ple's wealth, Their ev - er - last - ing theme.

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

The Charge to the Congregation Regarding the Scriptures

P: Devote yourselves to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, ⁴he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. Guard the deposit entrusted to you—the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Do not be ashamed of His Word, for we know whom we have believed, and we are convinced that He is able to guard His Word in us by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from the Scriptures, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you. 1 Tim. 4:13,6:3-4,20; 2 Tim. 1:12-14

C: We have devoted ourselves to the Scriptures.

We dedicate this time now to hear from God's Word. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–9 (ESV)

[And the Lord said to Ezekiel the prophet]: ⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 32:1–7 (ESV)

¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

[Then] ⁵I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.
⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Installation of Christian Education Staff

(Preschool Staff, Sunday School teachers & assistants, Bible study leaders, Confirmation & 1st Communion lay coaches, F.E.E.T. leaders)

This installation is based on Bethel's discipleship and membership language. It encourages the Christian Education Staff to prayerfully ask God to be at work in their own lives while also affirming our commitments together as a congregation.



P: At Bethel, our mission is to help people be Disciples—life-long learners & followers of Jesus Christ. Discipleship means God awakening Disciples from head knowledge of the faith to “heart life”. Are you a disciple of Jesus?

E: *I am through the grace of God.*

P: As Christian Education Staff, do you prayerfully accept your role to teach, support, and lead others in growing as disciples—helping others grow in head knowledge of the faith while also encouraging them in their “heart life”?

E: *I do.*

P: As a gathering of disciples, Bethel seeks to teach faith in Jesus according to God's Word as best expressed in Lutheran theology according to the Lutheran Confessions. Will you hold to this commitment in your teaching while seeking the guidance and support from the Pastor in our doctrine?


E: *I will.*

P: Before you can teach others, you must also seek to be shepherded and held accountable in your life as a believer in Jesus. Do you commit yourselves to seeking ways to be built up in your faith even as you encourage fellow believers at Bethel in their faith?

E: *I do.*

P: Do you then accept your Christian Education positions as your way of supporting the mission of the congregation to bring the Gospel to those who need Jesus?

E: *I do by the grace of God. Amen.*

Continued 

P: I now ask those gathered here as representatives of this congregation. Having heard the promises made by our Christian Education Staff, will you pray for them as fellow disciples, asking God to help them grow in their own discipleship even as they encourage all of us in our faith? Will you support and work with them as they give us opportunities to grow in the head of the knowledge of the faith and our “heart life”?

C: *We will.*

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, I install you as Christian Education leaders at Bethel Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

P: Let us pray. O Lord, grant to these Your people the gifts of wisdom and discretion, kindness and faithfulness, so that they may effectively teach and guide, and grant to all Your people a ready willingness to learn. Let the knowledge of Your Word be preserved and extended among us so that all may know and praise You now and forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *Amen.*

P: Our mission is to help people be Disciples—life-long learners & followers of Jesus Christ. On our own, this mission is impossible.

**C: *But our Lord Jesus said,
“With man this is impossible,
but with God all things are possible.”
Therefore, Mission IS possible with God’s help! Amen.***

Song of Praise

Open the Eyes of My Heart

O - pen the eyes _ of my heart, _ Lord, _ o - pen the eyes _ of my heart; .

I want to see You, _ I want to see You. _

O - pen the eyes _ of my heart, _ Lord, _ o - pen the eyes _ of my heart; .

_ I want to see You, _ I want to see You. _

To see You high and lift - ed up, _ shin -

- ing in the light of Your glo - ry. _ Pour out Your pow'r and love; _

_ As we sing ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. _

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, _ ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

- ly; _ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, _ I want to

1. see You. _ 2. see You. _

repeat as desired

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:1–6 (ESV)

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Confession of Faith

Today’s Confession asks the congregation to affirm that they are Disciples/Followers of Jesus and are committed to one another as a gathering of believers.

P: At Bethel, our mission is to help people be Disciples—life-long learners & followers of Jesus Christ. Discipleship means God awakening Disciples from head knowledge of the faith to “heart life”. Are you a disciple of Jesus?

C: I am through the grace of God.

P: As a gathering of disciples, do you **trust** that Bethel is seeking to teach faith in Jesus according to God's Word as best expressed in Lutheran theology according to the Lutheran Confessions, knowing that even if you have trouble understanding every teaching, Bethel seeks God’s truth and not our own truth?

C: I do.

P: Are you **asking** to be shepherded (cared for in your faith) and be held accountable in your life as a believer in Jesus?

C: I am.

P: Do you **commit** yourself to encourage fellow believers at Bethel in their faith?

C: I do.

P: Will you **serve** the community around us—God's Kingdom— in partnership with this gathering of believers?

C: I will.

P: Will you **support** the mission of the congregation to bring the Gospel to those who need Jesus?

C: I will. I am a disciple of Jesus.

We are a gathering of His followers by His grace. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

Christ Ascended, Now in Glory

LSB 840, tune: 825



1 Christ high - as - cend - ed, now in glo - ry seat - ed,
2 Christ from the Fa - ther ev - 'ry pow'r pos - sess - ing,
3 Christ, who in dy - ing won for us sal - va - tion,
4 Christ in His splen - dor, all do - min - ion gain - ing,
5 As at His part - ing, joy shall ban - ish griev - ing,



Throned and ex - alt - ed, vic - to - ry com - plet - ed,
Who on His cho - sen lift - ed hands in bless - ing,
Lives now the first - born of the new cre - a - tion;
Christ with His peo - ple ev - er - more re - main - ing,
Faith in His pres - ence strength - en our be - liev - ing;



Death's dread do - min - ion fi - nal - ly de -
Sends forth His ser - vants, still in faith con -
To win dis - ci - ples out of ev - 'ry
Christ to all a - ges glo - ri - ous - ly
Filled with His Spir - it, love and pow'r re -



feat - ed, We are His wit - ness - es.
fess - ing, We are His wit - ness - es.
na - tion, We are His wit - ness - es.
reign - ing, We are His wit - ness - es.
ceiv - ing, We are His wit - ness - es.

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The Charge for the Pastor

P: Paul instructed Timothy as a pastor. His letters speak of the calling and duties of pastors, and his words are appropriate to describe what it means for you as a congregation to call me to serve as your Pastor. Please use these words to remind me of my duty now:

C: We charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus:

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season to speak His Word;
Point out errors, warn people, and encourage us,
with complete patience and teaching. Amen.

2 Tim. 4:1-2

Sermon

Psalm 32 as Our Vision for Discipleship

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.

Blessing of New Pastoral Stoles

The Children are invited to come sit up front for the explanation of the new stoles.

The word “stole” derives via the Latin *stola*, from the Greek *στολή* (*stolē*), “garment”. A scarf-like fabric usually crafted in the color of the day or season, often bearing symbols appropriate to the day or season. It is worn over the shoulders of those ordained to the pastoral office. This new set of stoles was purchased with General Memorial Funds and are the congregation’s stoles for use by the pastor.



P: Beloved in the Lord, when He established His presence among His people, the Lord God commanded Moses to clothe the priests in garments to reflect not their worthiness but His glory, saying, “You shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. . . . And you shall put them on Aaron your brother, and on his sons with him, and shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve Me as priests.” The pastor’s robe and stole point to God’s righteousness and the Word of salvation He brings to all of us. Therefore, it is fitting that we ask God’s blessings upon these stoles.

We pray: O Lord, You have revealed Your Son in glory and in beauty, and have washed us in His blood and clothed us in His righteousness. We implore You to bless these toles for use in the services of Your house. Grant by Your grace that those who wear them may be faithful servants to the glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Offertory

LSB 871 st. 3; tune: Haslemere

Sung as our Offerings are brought forward to the Altar

HASLEMERE

Songs and Tunes for Education, 1861
harmonized by **MARTIN SHAW, 1931**

In unison, simply



Lord, I will to - day On Your love re - ly; Let no ev-il thought Cloud the clear blue sky.
Joy-ful and cont-ent With life's simp-ler things, Know-ing all I need From Your kind-ness springs.

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Prayers

P: Supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings
are to be made for all people,

C: *thanking God whom we serve,*

P: as we remember others constantly in our prayers night and day.

C: *And praying for our leaders and all who are in high positions,
that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life,*

P: godly and dignified in every way.

C: *This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior.*

1 Tim. 2:1-3; 2 Tim. 1:3

(Pastor then offers the Prayers of the Church).

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: There is stored up for you the crown of righteousness,
which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to you on the Last Day,
and not only to you but also to all who have longed for his appearing.
The Lord will rescue you from every evil deed and bring you safely into his
heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever in the Name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2 Tim. 4:8,18

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

LSB 922 sts. 1-4



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Support Victims of Hurricane Harvey with Donations to Lutheran Church Charities

Donations given through Bethel will be sent to Lutheran Church Charities. Please mark your envelopes or checks with "Hurricane Harvey."

With mercy, compassion, presence and proclamation of Jesus Christ, Lutheran Church Charities goes to churches, relief centers, distribution sites, nursing homes, neighborhoods, first responders and more to connect with individuals who need financial assistance, comfort, hope and reassurance that they are not alone.



Dollar In, Dollar Out – 100% of Your Donations Make A Difference

LCC President / CEO Tim Hetzner is currently in Texas with your generous donations, putting immediate help in the hands of those with the greatest need. LCC is working closely with many of our Texas LCMS churches that have staff and member families, as well as the communities that they serve who have been hit the hardest.



Children Receive K-9 Ministry Coloring Book, Crayons & Stuffed Comfort Dogs

When a family loses everything, children often don't understand where their favorite things have gone. LCC K-9 Ministry teams provide children with comfort dog coloring books, crayons and their own mini stuffed comfort dog to help them deal with their losses and provide comfort during the many days of recovery ahead.

Caring for First Responders

The LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs and Disaster Response teams visited first responders from the Rosenberg fire department in Rosenberg, Texas. It was an honor to help those who live and work to help their neighbor. In Rosenberg, 100 homes were lost and even more families are displaced.

Lutheran Church Charities sends a heartfelt thanks our **K-9 Ministry staff and Affiliate K-9 Ministry top dogs and handlers** for their compassionate hearts and tireless efforts in bringing hope through Jesus Christ to everyone they meet while in Texas. The team includes LCC K-9 Comfort Dog Tobias & Jenni Hoffmeyer (Lord of Glory – Grayslake, Illinois).



LCC is closely monitoring Hurricane Irma, currently a Category 5 storm, and its possible effect on Florida and Haiti. We are in close contact with our folks on the ground there. Please pray for those who may be affected over the next days as it is expected to impact and land.

Thank you for your prayers and support in bringing the Mercy, Compassion, Presence and Proclamation of Jesus Christ to those suffering and in need.



Sermon & Bible Study Series Fall 2017

On **October 31, 2017**, the Church celebrates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation—when Martin Luther and others called the Church back to the Word of God, to the Gospel, to salvation by grace alone through faith alone by Christ alone.

Bethel is acknowledging this anniversary through a Fall Sermon & Sunday AM Adult Bible Study series from **September 17 - October 29**. Titled “Reasons for a Reformation,” it’s meant to explore the causes of Luther’s reforms—while acknowledging those same causes are reasons for reform in our individual lives and in our life together as a church. These causes call us continually back to the truth of God’s Word.

Acknowledgments

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