



*Lent  
Midweek*

*March 7  
2018*

*We must be ready  
to allow ourselves  
to be interrupted  
by God.*

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**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

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**Pastor Ben Squires**

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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

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## ***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.

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## ***SERVING TODAY***

**Elder:** Bob Souza

**Acolyte:** Allyson Adams

**Asst Elder:** Mike Bandman

**Greeter:** Stephanie Bunnell

**Ushers:** Jay Souza, Bill Ratzburg

**Lay Readers:** Tim Faitsch, Lynn Faitsch

## VESPERS

Adapted from the Lutheran Service Book, “*vespers*” is a Latin word meaning “evening.” Originally one of eight daily offices prayed during the Middle Ages, Vespers was retained at the time of the Reformation as one of two chief daily services, the other being Matins (Morning Prayer). “Sunset marks the end of the day and also the beginning of the next day so that the days roll on without interruption. The hours of darkness are experienced as a time of waiting and watching... the unknown, isolation, fear, death, night... but also stillness, rest, peace, and promise. In Christ, the grave is transformed into the morning of new and unending life” (quotes from *Journey into the Heart of God*).



### Opening Hymn

### We Are Called to Stand Together

LSB 828 sts. 1, 3, 5



1 We are called to stand to - geth - er With the saints of  
3 Through the in - ter - ven - ing a - ges Round the world the  
5 To each com - ing gen - er - a - tion Tell the truth, per -



a - ges past, With the pa - tri - archs and proph - ets  
Gos - pel spread: Faith - ful her - als took the mes - sages,  
suade, ex - plain, Till the time when time is end - ed,



In the faith they once held fast; Prom - is - es and  
Guid - ed where the Spir - it led; So the bod - y  
Till the Sav - ior comes a - gain— Till the saints are



hopes they trea - sured Now we find ful - filled at last!  
grew in stat - ure, Serv - ing Christ, the liv - ing head.  
all u - nit - ed Un - der Christ's e - ter - nal reign!

### **Opening Words**

P: O Lord, open my lips,

**C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C: make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**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: Praise to You, O Christ,

**C: Lamb of our salvation.**

### **Psalm Reading (Responsive)**

### **Psalm 133:1-3a (ESV) with added glosses**

P: Behold, how good and pleasant it is

**C: when the family of God dwells in unity!**

P: It is like the precious oil of consecration poured on the head,  
running down on the beard of Aaron, the first high priest,  
running down on the collar of his robes!

**C: Unity is poured by God upon the family of God!**

P: Mount Hermon, 117 miles north of Zion—the city of Jerusalem,  
And a south wind picks up moisture from the snowy heights,  
Carrying it south to fall on the mountains of Zion,  
Bringing water and life for God’s people in His Temple city.

**C: Unity is poured by God upon the family of God!**

**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.**

### **Psalm Prayer**

P: Grant to your people, good Lord, the spirit of unity, that they may dwell together  
in your love, and so bear to the world the ointment of your healing and the dew  
of your blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

### **Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)**

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: O Lord, we remember that life alone is nothing without life together, and life  
together is nothing without life in you. O Lord, you give us to each other, for  
each other. Give us a clear mind to serve. Give us the strength to love, so that in  
all things you may be praised. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

**C: Amen.**

## **Holy Gospel**

## **Luke 22:47–65 (ESV)**

<sup>47</sup>While [Jesus] was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, <sup>48</sup>but Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” <sup>49</sup>And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” <sup>50</sup>And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>51</sup>But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? <sup>53</sup>When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

<sup>54</sup>Then they seized [Jesus] and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house, and Peter was following at a distance. <sup>55</sup>And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. <sup>56</sup>Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, “This man also was with him.” <sup>57</sup>But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” <sup>58</sup>And a little later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not.” <sup>59</sup>And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, “Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.” <sup>60</sup>But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about.” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup>And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.” <sup>62</sup>And he went out and wept bitterly.

<sup>63</sup>Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. <sup>64</sup>They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, “Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?” <sup>65</sup>And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him.

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

## **Series Reading from 1 Peter**

## **1 Peter 4:7–11 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup>The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. <sup>8</sup>Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup>As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: <sup>11</sup>whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.   **C: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsory

LSB 230

P: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.

C: **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

P: Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.

C: **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Amen.**

## Hymn of the Day *Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings*

LSB 782



1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings  
2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion  
3 In His earth - ly life, our Sav - ior  
4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing



New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies  
Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that  
Knew the care of faith - ful friends; May our deeds of  
Bear the im - print of Your grace; With the Son and



nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.  
end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.  
ded - i - ca - tion Of - fer love that nev - er ends.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise be Yours in ev - 'ry place!

*Refrain*

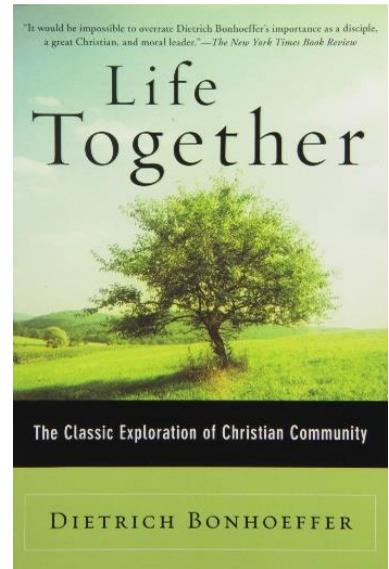


Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,



Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

*“We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with [needs and requests]. We may pass them by, preoccupied with our more important tasks, as the priest passed by the man who had fallen among thieves, ... [too busy to stop because] perhaps—[he was] reading the Bible. ... But it part of the discipline of humility that we must not [hold back] our hand when it can perform a service and that we [must] not assume that our schedule is our own to manage, but allow it to be arranged by God. ... Where hands are [used] for deeds of love and mercy in everyday helpfulness, [there] can the mouth [also] joyfully and convincingly proclaim the message of God’s love and mercy (pp. 99-100).*



## Offering

### Offertory *Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide*

LSB 585; tune: 902

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



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bide, For round us  
6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true; Pre - serve our



falls the e - ven - tide. O let Your Word, that  
faith our whole life through— Your Word a - lone our



sav - ing light, Shine forth un - dimmed in - to the night.  
heart's de - fense, The Chur - ch's shield - ing con - fi - dence.

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### Offertory Prayer

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

C: Amen.

### Prayers of the Church

P: Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C: *and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.*

P: Merciful Father, whose guiding hand has brought us to the completion of this day, we humbly pray You to stay with us and shelter us in quiet hours of this night that we, who are wearied by the changes and chances of this passing world, may rest in Your changeless peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: *hear our prayer.*

P: Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of other with confidence and compassion; Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious Lord, we give You thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive. The day is now past, and we commit it to You. We entrust to You the night and rest in Your peace, for You are our help, and You neither slumber nor sleep. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Let us pray together.

**C: *I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. 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: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**

**Christ, the Life of All the Living**

LSB 420 sts. 1-3, 6



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,  
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

6 Thou hast suffered great affliction  
And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion,  
Fully to atone for me;  
Thou didst choose to be tormented  
That my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

## ***Announcements***



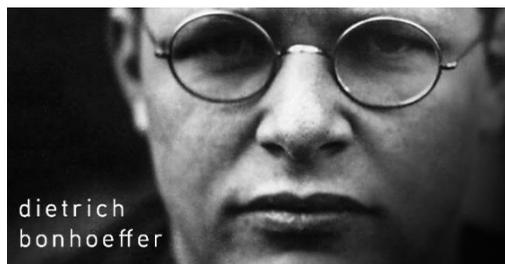
***Daylight Saving Time  
Begins Sunday,  
March 11.***

***Move your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night.***

### ***Acknowledgments***

Adapted from "Vespers" in *Lutheran Service Book*.  
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**Dietrich Bonhoeffer** (1906-1945) was executed in a Nazi prison on April 9, 1945, for his role in a conspiracy to assassinate Adolf Hitler and bring the Second World War to an end. His involvement in the conspiracy was grounded in his conviction that discipleship to Jesus Christ required Christians to stand in solidarity with the oppressed by standing for and with the oppressed against the oppressor.



*Life Together* puts into words a description of what Bonhoeffer and others set to create in their Confessing Church illegal seminary at Finkenwalde. The retreat-like atmosphere at the seminary built upon an appreciation for the best of the monastic practices. The outcome is a book that raises up the vision of what it means to be the Church, to be disciples of Jesus who are drawn together in Community around God's Word.

**Copies of the book are available on the Hub so that you can experience Bonhoeffer's insight and wisdom into what it means to share life together as disciples of Jesus. (Suggested donation \$11)**

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**GO TOGETHER**

## **PRAYER ROOM**

The GO TOGETHER prayer room is a place for individuals and ministry groups to go to the Lord in prayer on behalf of friends, families, neighbors, the greater Gurnee Community and the nation. This is a tremendous blessing to our GO! Together churches and our community. The room is located on Old Grand Ave (next to Dairy Queen) and is available through the sign-up below, 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year.

**Sign up for a time at:**

**[http:// http://go-together.org/get-involved/prayer-room](http://http://go-together.org/get-involved/prayer-room)**

**Then contact the church office for the door code.**