

# **GOD'S GENEROSITY STORIES**

**SERMON SERIES - NOVEMBER 11, 18, 22 & 25**



God is the first and  
most generous giver.

**25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
NOVEMBER 11, 2018**

**Today's Liturgist: Seminarian Jacob Stoltzman**

Bethel member in his second year at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN

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## **BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

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

**Pastor Ben Squires**

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**Website:** [www.BethelGurnee.org](http://www.BethelGurnee.org)

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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***

#### ***Sunday 8:00AM***

***Elders:*** JJ Jones  
***Comm/Asst. Elder:*** Al Diercks  
***Acolytes:*** Dylan Love, Owen Squires  
***Lay Readers:*** Dave Hoffmeister  
***Ushers:*** Don Heidlauf, Tony Young  
***Greeters:*** Jeff & Mary Kay Ams,  
Paul & Kathy DeLassus  
***Fellowship:*** Sheila & Stephanie Bunnell  
***Nov. Altar Guild:*** Diane Mundrick  
***Nov. Counters:*** Monte Stoltzman

#### ***Sunday 10:45AM***

*Randy Gifford*  
*Jack Warneke*  
*Michaela Rosenthal, Ashley Adams*  
*Kelley Dornier, Randy Gifford*  
*John Schultz, Scott Mundrick*  
*The Maiore Family,*  
*The Rosenthal Family*  
  
*Deborah Wuethrick*  
*Bill & Kathy Schwartz*

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### ***ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:***

The Rayos family in memory of Matthew and Patricia Koller.

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **Our District Partners**

Northern Illinois District  
Concordia University—Chicago

Walcamp—outdoor ministry  
Lutheran Church Charities

## **Our Seminaries**

Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne  
and Bethel member, Jacob Stoltzman, who is entering his 2nd year  
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

## **Congregation: Discipleship**

Help us continue to see what it means to have a “heart life,” daily lives for Jesus

## **Our Loved Ones in the Armed Forces** *Let Pastor know if you have someone to add.*

Victoria Wuethrick, Bethel member, Air Force  
Lt. Colonel Michael Ridley, USAF, Minot AFB, ND – Steve Best’s brother  
Jason Lucker, Navy, had been at Great Lakes, now in school in Virginia  
Marshall King, Army—son of Deb Pellettiere’s friend  
David Mrnak, Army—Deb Pellettiere’s friend’s future son-in-law  
Allison Luzwick, Lt., Navy—Great Lakes  
Bradley Abbitt, Army—Susan Squires’ cousin  
Steven Furman, Air Force—Margie Tatgenhorst’s nephew  
Andrew Waala, Air Force—Brian & Sherri Waala’s son

## DIVINE SERVICE I

This service is adapted from Divine Service, Setting One, in Lutheran Service Book.

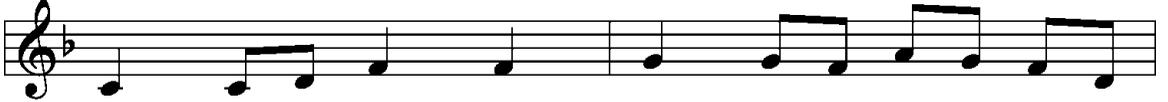
### Opening Anthem

8:00 AM "Jesus You Help & Jesus Said, 'I'm With You'" Cherub Choir  
10:45 AM "I Am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N" Junior Choir

### Opening Hymn

### 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.

## **Invocation**

A: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution (Forgiveness)**

A: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*1 John 1:8-9*

A: We pause in silence to reflect on our personal sins that trouble us.

A: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

A: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## **Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy)**

A: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

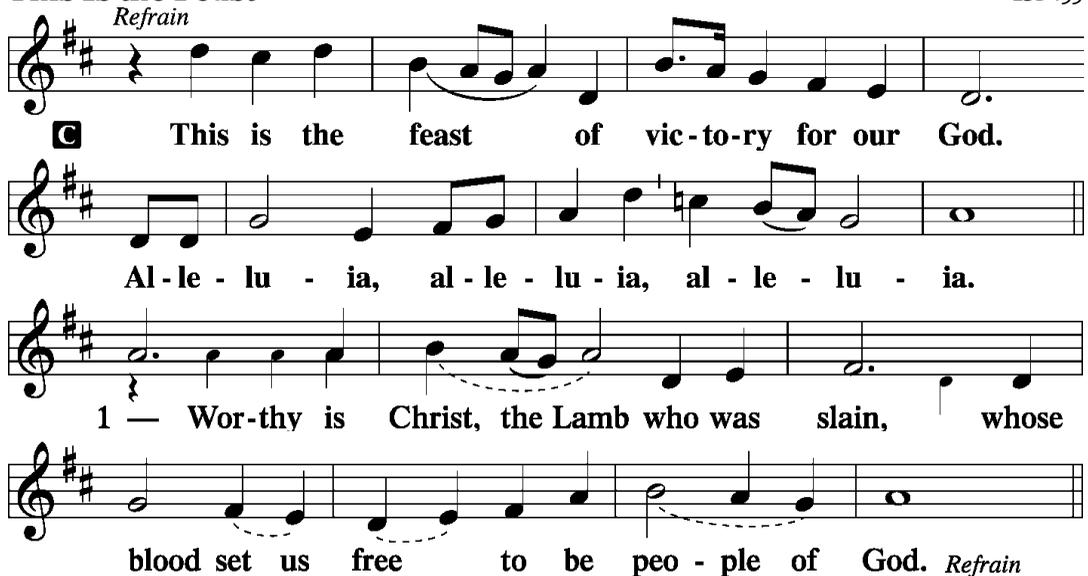
A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

# ***This Is the Feast***

LSB 155

*Refrain*



☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*

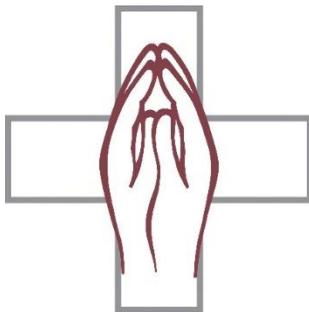
## ***Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)***

A: The Lord be with you.

C: ***And also with you.***

A: Let us pray. Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Grant us so firmly to believe in Your Son Jesus that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ***Amen.***



## **Psalm Reading**

## **Psalm 146 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

<sup>3</sup>Put not your trust in princes,

in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

<sup>4</sup>When his breath departs he returns to the earth;

on that very day his plans perish.

<sup>5</sup>Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God,

<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;

<sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

<sup>8</sup>the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

the LORD loves the righteous.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the sojourners;

he upholds the widow and the fatherless,

but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Epistle (New Testament Letter)**

## **Hebrews 9:24–28 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup>For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup>Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, <sup>26</sup>for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup>And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, <sup>28</sup>so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# Song of Praise

# Counting Every Blessing



5 1. I was blind, now I'm see - ing in col - our. I was dead, now I'm liv - ing for -  
lost, now I'm found by the Fa - ther. I've been changed from a ru - in to



ev - er. I had failed, but You were my Re - deem - er. I've been blessed be - yond all meas -  
tre - ure. I've been giv - en a hope and a fu - ture. I've been blessed be - yond all meas -

9 | 1. | 2.



ure. 2. I was I am count - ing ev - ry bless - ing, count - ing ev - ry bless - ing,

13



Let - ting go and trust - ing when I can - not see. I am count - ing ev - ry bless - ing.

16



count - ing ev - ry bless - ing. Sure - ly ev - ry sea - son You are good to me. I am

19 | 2.



good to me. Oh, You are good to me.

22



Oh, You are good to me.

## **Holy Gospel**

**Mark 12:38–44 (ESV)**

A: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12th chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>38</sup>In his teaching [Jesus] said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces <sup>39</sup>and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, <sup>40</sup>who devour widows’ houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

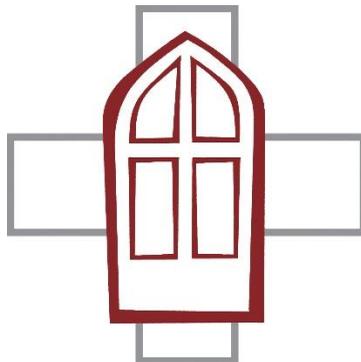
<sup>41</sup>And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. <sup>43</sup>And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. <sup>44</sup>For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

A: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Children’s Message**

## **Sermon**



**Hymn of the Day**      **Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus**

LSB 529



1 Since our great High Priest, Christ Je - sus, Bears the name a -  
2 Since we have a priest who suf - fered, Know - ing weak - ness,  
3 Sac - ri - fice and suf - f'ring o - ver, Now He sits at  
4 Love's ex - am - ple, hope's at - trac - tion, Faith's be - gin - ning



bove all names, Reign - ing Son of God, sur - pass - ing  
tears, and pain, Who like us was tried and tempt - ed,  
God's right hand, Crowned with praise, no more an out - cast,  
and its end, Pi - o - neer of our sal - va - tion,



Oth - er ti - tles, pow'rs and claims— Since to heav'n our  
Un - like us, with - out a stain— Since He shared our  
His pre - em - i - nence long - planned; Such a great High  
Might - y ad - vo - cate and friend; Je - sus, high in



Lord has passed, Let us hold our wit - ness fast!  
low - ly place, Let us bold - ly seek His grace.  
Priest we have, Strong to help, su - preme to save.  
glo - ry raised, Our as - cend - ed Lord be praised!

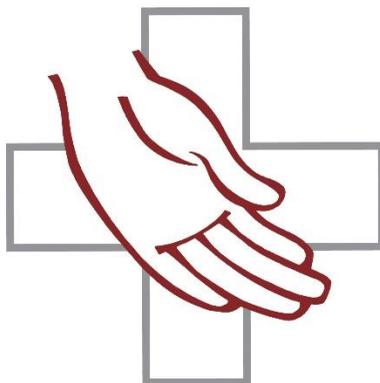
**Confession of Faith**

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.

**Nicene Creed**

**Offering & Prayer Requests (8AM only)**

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

## Lord of All Good

LSB 786

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



1 Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;  
2 We give our minds to un - der - stand Your ways;  
3 Fa - ther, whose boun - ty all cre - a - tion shows;



Use them Your ho - ly pur - pose to ful - fill.  
Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great de - sign;  
Christ, by whose will - ing sac - ri - fice we live;



To - kens of love and pledg - es they shall be  
Hearts with the flame of Your own love a - blaze—  
Spir - it, from whom all life in full - ness flows:



That our whole life is of - fered to Your will.  
Thus for Your glo - ry all our pow'rs com - bine.  
To You with grate - ful hearts our - selves we give.

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## Prayers

### The Lord's Prayer

A: 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.**

## **The Sending**

A: In response to the forgiveness that you have received through Christ: Go forth into the world in peace—the peace of your forgiveness in the cross. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good—the love of God. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint hearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Honor all God’s children. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## **Benediction**

A: The Lord bless us and keep us, the Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

C: **Amen.**

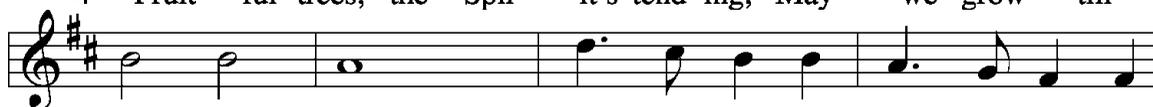
## **Closing Hymn**

## **Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing**

LSB 691



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en  
2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er  
3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern  
4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,  
loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,  
and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,  
har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.  
Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.  
Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.  
Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

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## **Announcements**

**BETHEL**



# ***Fall Fest***

## **BUSINESS DONATIONS**

**The following businesses have generously donated items to make our Fall Fest a success. So please frequent these businesses and support them.**

Cho's Cleaners

Joel Kennedy Construction

Lovin Oven

Mama K's

My Sister's Cottage

Nothing Bundt Cakes

Q Nails

The Shanty/Captain Porky's

Shipping Point

Stevens

### ***Acknowledgments***

This order of worship is from the *Lutheran Service Book*, Divine Service, Setting One.

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# BUDDY BENCH

Spaulding Elementary (Gurnee District 56) recently collected hundreds of pounds of plastic caps from bottles that are turned into a Buddy Bench for their playground. The Buddy Bench is a place for a student to go sit, signaling to others that they're looking for someone to play with. This sounds a lot like



Bethel's "Park Bench" metaphor from our *Mission Glossary*:

"A park bench is anything that brings people together in relationships."

## EVERY PEW IS A BUDDY BENCH

In worship, we're not just individuals. We are brothers and sisters in Christ; Jesus gathers us as a community of disciples in this place. So every pew, every row of chairs is a Buddy Bench. We use our time together as opportunities to introduce ourselves to others, to maybe have to reintroduce yourself and admit your forgot someone's name, to welcome some you haven't met yet, and to watch for ways to encourage one another in Jesus.

## MY WORSHIP BUDDIES

Use this space to write down the names of the people around you today:



## **Gurnee. Waukegan. Waukegan. Gurnee. Neighbors.**

Yet at times, there is the impression of haves and have nots.

As our Gurnee church has been partnering with agencies located in Waukegan, we have been more and more aware of this tension between our communities. In Spring 2018, we organized a series of cleanup efforts, involving churches, PADS, & the City. That series of neighborhood cleanup walks inspired a series of macrophotos from zip codes 60085 and 60031 which were taken in May 2018 during a prayer walk from our church to downtown Waukegan and back. But for each photo you have to ask: is that in Gurnee or Waukegan?

This exhibit is currently having its first showing for the month of November at Christian Neighbors Church (222 N County St. Unit C, Waukegan, IL 60085), curated by their pastor, Luke McFadden.

The photographs will be shown at Bethel for the month of December.

May this lead to more conversation, connecting, and collaboration as we serve the underserved in our communities.