

GOD'S GENEROSITY STORIES

SERMON SERIES - NOVEMBER 11, 18, 22 & 25



The antidote to materialism
is generosity.

*The heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
but my salvation will be forever.*

Isaiah 51:6

**LAST SUNDAY OF
THE CHURCH YEAR
NOVEMBER 25, 2018**

Today's Liturgist: Seminarian Jacob Stoltzman

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

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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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: JJ Jones
Comm/Asst. Elder: Mike Bandman
Acolytes: Griffin Pavletic, Jacob Plapp
Lay Readers: Sam & Clint McDonald
Ushers: Don Heidlauf, Al Diercks
Greeters: Chuck & Julie Johnson,
JJ & Janet Jones
Fellowship: **OPEN**
Nov. Altar Guild: Diane Mundrick
Nov. Counters: Monte Stoltzman

Sunday 10:45AM

Bob Souza
Jack Warneke
Jake Kruse, Kate Kruse
Pat Rasmussen, Sheila Bunnell
Jay Souza, Scott Mundrick
The Pellettiere Family,
Larry & Linda Peters
Deborah Wuethrick
Bill & Kathy Schwartz

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

Maria Kube in memory of her husband, Calvin.

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

GENEROSITY SERVICE

A service celebrating God's generosity to us—especially in His generous salvation offered as a gift to us in Jesus Christ. May that generosity transform us.

Opening Hymn

Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

LSB 663



- 1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a - wak -
2 Watch a - gainst the dev - il's snares Lest a - sleep he find
3 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de - feat
4 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you tri -



en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a - wares o'er -
you; For in - deed no pains he spares To de - ceive and
you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be - tray and
fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's mer - cy



tak - en; For the foe, Well we know, Is a
blind you. Sa - tan's prey Oft are they Who se -
cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less
sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.
cure are sleep - ing And no watch are keep - ing.
friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.
hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.

- 5 But while watching, also pray
To the Lord unceasing.
God protects you day by day,
Strength and faith increasing,
So that still
Mind and will
Shall unite to serve Him
And forever love Him.

Invocation

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

Generosity Praises

based on 1 Cor. 2:12; 2 Cor. 9:11; Prov. 11:25; Rom. 12:6,8; James 1:17

A: We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God,

C: that we may understand what God has freely given us.

A: You will be made rich in every way

C: so that you can be generous on every occasion.

A: A generous person will prosper;

C: The one who refreshes others will also be refreshed.

A: We have different gifts, according to the grace,

the gift of God, given to us. If it is encouraging, **C: let him encourage;**

A: if it is contributing to the needs of others, **C: let him give generously;**

A: if it is leadership, **C: let him lead diligently;**

A: if it is showing mercy,

C: let him do it cheerfully.

A: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above,

C: coming down from the Father of lights. Amen.

Confession and Absolution (Forgiveness)

based on Titus 3:3-7

A: Confess—admit your sin before the Lord and before one another.

**C: In our sinful condition, we were foolish, disobedient,
deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures.**

We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

A: But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,

C: He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done,

A: but because of his mercy.

C: He saved us through the washing of rebirth—

A: Your baptism into the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: He saved us through the renewal by the Holy Spirit—

A: The Spirit He poured out on you generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

C: So that, now we are made right in God's eyes,

A: We are justified by his grace, a free gift to us through God's generosity. We are forgiven, made right, justified in the Name of the Father, the Son, & the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen! Now we inherit all the riches of the kingdom of God as His children.

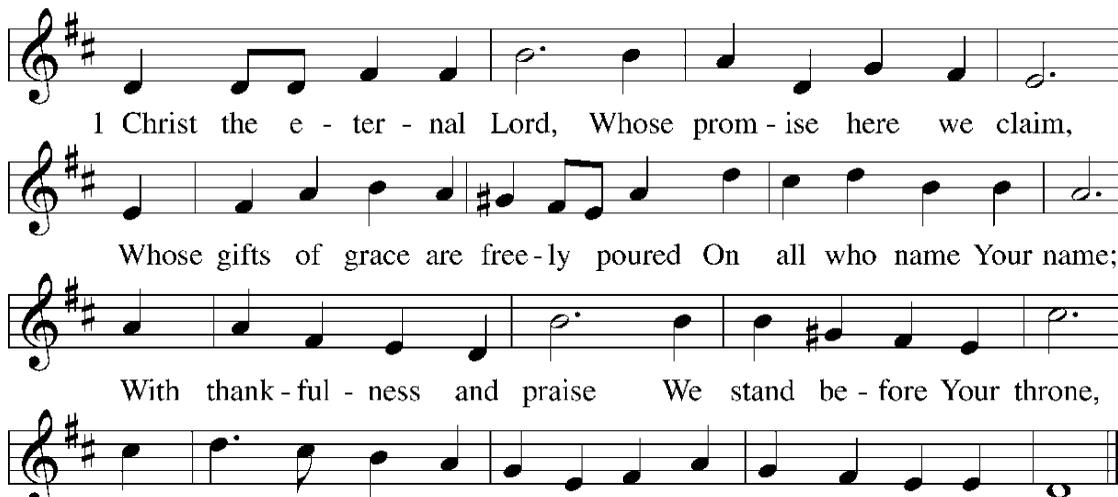
A: We inherit the gift of the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Christ the Eternal Lord

LSB 829, st. 1



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Christ the Eternal Lord'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in treble clef. The lyrics are: 'I Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, Whose prom - ise here we claim, Whose gifts of grace are free - ly poured On all who name Your name; With thank - ful - ness and praise We stand be - fore Your throne, In - tent to serve You all our days And make Your glo - ry known.'

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Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

A: The Lord be with you.

C: *And also with you.*

A: Let us pray. O Lord, You invite us to consider the things of this world which appear fixed and sure--the heavens above and the earth below. But you also show us in Your Word that the old earth will wear out like a garment and the people of Earth will come under Your final judgment. Help us, dear Father, to endure that day by clinging in faith to that which will never be destroyed: Your salvation--the deliverance from all evil. To You is this victory, with Your Son, Our Lord, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 51:4–6 (ESV)

⁴“Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

Jude 20–25 (ESV)

²⁰But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²²And have mercy on those who doubt; ²³save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

²⁴Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,

²⁵to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24–37 (ESV)

A: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter.

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

²⁴[Jesus said:] “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

A: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn of the Day

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

LSB 516



1 “Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing,” The watch - men on the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; “A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!”
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Sermon

Isaiah 51:4-6

Offering Preface

based on King David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-14

A: Praise be to you, O Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

C: ***Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power
 and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
 for everything in heaven and earth is yours.***

A: Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

C: ***Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.***

A: In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

C: ***Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.***

A: But who are we that we should be able to give as generously as this?

C: ***Everything comes from you,
 and we have given you only what comes from your hand. 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 (Sung as the offerings are brought forward to the altar) LSB 787, sts. 4&5



4 Lord Je - sus brought His of - fer - ing And
5 Lord, help us all, with You, to yield What -
laid it on a tree; There gave Him - self, His
ev - er love de - mands And free - ly give, as
life, His love For all hu - man - i - ty.
You have giv'n, With o - pen hearts and hands.

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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.

Confession of Faith

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.—And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.—I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

Generosity Praises

based on Psalm 106:1-5,47-48

A: Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: **his love endures forever.**

A: Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise?

C: **Remember us, O Lord, when you show favor to your people,
come to our aid when you save them,**

A: that we may enjoy the prosperity of your chosen ones,
that we may share in the joy of your nation

C: **So we may join your inheritance in giving praise.**

A: Save us, O Lord our God,

C: **and gather us from the nations,**

A: So that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.

C: **Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.**

A: Let all the people say, "Amen! Praise the Lord."

C: **Amen! Praise the Lord.**

Benediction

A: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve us.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

LSB 697



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And
 2 To us on earth He came to bring From
 3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who
 4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its
 sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's
 died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle
 con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.
 u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.
 hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.
 forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

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Announcements

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