

Worship & Sermon Series



14th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, September 15, 2019

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

Katrina Johns, Equipping Coordinator

Direct line: 224-623-0800 or email: katrina@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursday 6:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays and the Thursday prior
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.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated according to the Lutheran Confessions based on the teaching Jesus gave his disciples and us that he is truly present in this meal. Confident that our sins are forgiven, we experience our oneness with him and each other as he gathers us at his table. His true body and blood, given and shed for us, we share in this meal as he invites in Matthew 26:26-28, "Take and eat; this is My Body ... This is My Blood..." Baptized Christians sharing these beliefs are invited to receive Communion. All others are invited to the altar rail for a blessing. Wine can be taken by common chalice, individual cup, or by dipping your wafer into the chalice. Please address questions to the Elders or the Pastor. **Non-alcoholic wine is in purple-colored cups.**

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 Thursday 6:30 PM

Elders:Mike BandmanJJ JonesComm/Asst. Elder:Jeremy LittleOPEN

Acolytes:Owen Squires/Jacob PlappAnnika Chudy/Jake ChudyLay Readers:Joanne Heidlauf, Diane BoehmPat Rasmussen, Ann SouzaUshers:Don Heidlauf, OPENScott Mundrick, Karen Kailer

Greeters: Megerle Family, Pipia Family,

Matt & Kiwol Messmer Javier & Michelle Ramon

Sunday 9:00 AM

Sept. Altar Guild: Becky Anderson Shari Hoppe

Sept. Counters: Monte Stoltzman Bill & Kathy Schwartz

TODAY'S FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

Jim & Donna Gerken in celebration of their wedding anniversary and Maria Kube in celebration of her daughter's 16th wedding anniversary.

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.

Government & Safety

Local, State and Federal government and leaders Local police and fire departments

Local concerns

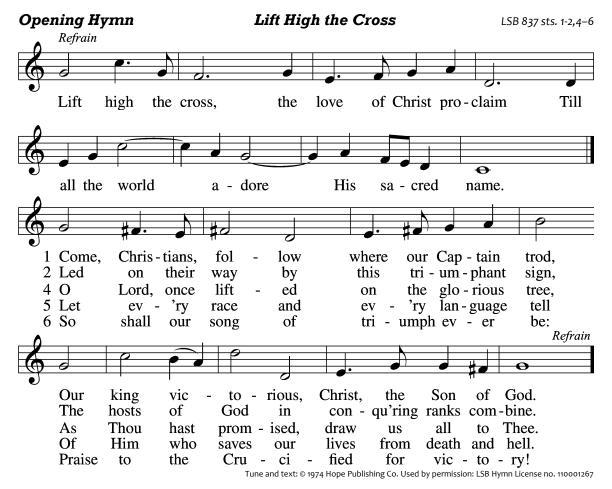
Human trafficking, here locally and across the world Marc & Pedro, men who burglarized Bethel, 30 months probation/rehabilitation

Congregation: Spiritual Conversation

Help us talk about spiritual things that are the source and foundation for life, and build relationships and friendships that include these conversations

THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE SERVICE

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Luke's Gospel. Luke is the focus of Year C Gospel readings in the Lectionary.



Invocation (Based on Luke 2:14)

- P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: Glory to God in the highest,
- C: peace to all the Earth,
- P: and goodwill from God in heaven.
- C: Amen.

(10:45 a.m.) Baptism - Grace Kathleen daughter of Anthony & Tanya Bayless

Confession and Absolution

(Based on the Song of Zechariah—Luke 1:68-79 (LSB 238), along with Luke 3:7-8,10; 15:21)

P: John the Baptist was called the prophet of the Most High,

for He went before the Lord Jesus to prepare His way,

confronting the people and us with our sin, saying:

"Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon?

Produce fruit that shows you have repented.

Produce actions that show you have changed your hearts and lives."

The crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?"

And we find ourselves asking this same question.

- C: Lord, we have sinned. What then shall we do?
- P: God calls on us to confess our sin and seek His forgiveness and mercy, so that these words from the prodigal son in the parable of Jesus become our own words of confession:
- C: Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your child.
- P: John the Baptist, the prophet, went before the Lord Jesus

to give His people knowledge of their salvation

by the forgiveness of their sin.

In the tender compassion of our God,

the dawn from on high shall break upon us

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

C: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;

He has come to His people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,

born of the house of His servant David.

- P: 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.



Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. Almighty God our heavenly Father, through Your dear Son You have made us all Your witnesses. Enlighten by Your Holy Spirit all who speak to others the message of salvation through Jesus' blood and merit. Grant Your blessing upon this congregation, especially those with the gift of evangelism, so that Your Word may reach out and bear much fruit for the growth of Your Church; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Anthem "Alleluia, Fairest Morning" Adult Choir

• Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

Alleluia, fairest morning, Fairer than our words can say! Down we lay the heavy burden Of life's toil and care today. While this morn of joy and love Brings fresh vigor from above.

In the gladness of His worship We will seek our joy today; It is then we learn the fullness Of the grace for which we pray, When the word of life is given, Like the Savior's voice from Heaven.

Let the day with Thee be ended, As with Thee it has begun, And Thy blessing, Lord, be granted, Till earth's days and weeks are done; That at last Thy servants may Keep eternal Sabboth day.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-24 (ESV)

¹¹"For thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GoD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

¹⁷"As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰"Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

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

Reading from the History of the Early Church Acts 8:1b-13 (ESV)

1... And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ²Devout men buried Stephen [who had been stoned to death for his faith] and made great lamentation over him. ³But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

⁴Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. ⁵Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. ⁶And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. ⁷For unclean spirits came out of many who were possessed, crying with a loud voice, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸So there was much joy in that city.

⁹But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. ¹⁰They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." ¹¹And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. ¹²But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



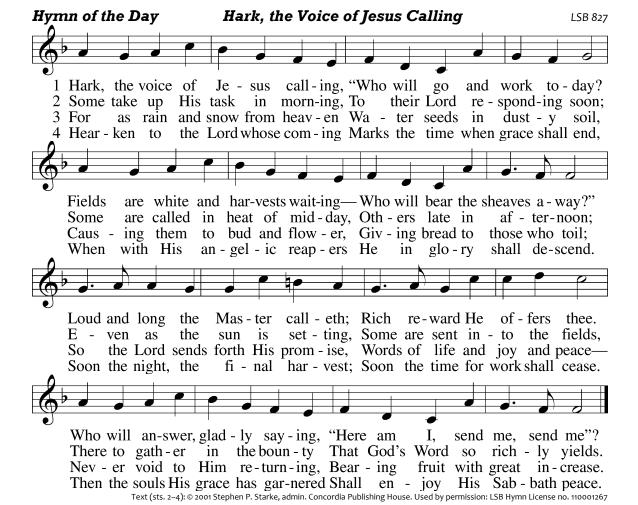
Holy Gospel Luke 15:1–10 (ESV)

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

- P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.



Sermon

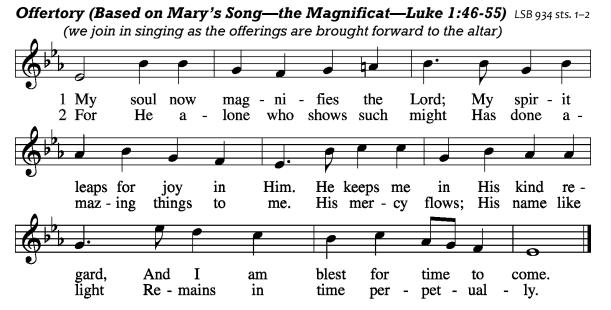
"The Gift of Evangelism"

Confession of Faith from Luke 24:26-27,32; 4:21; 24:44-49

We confess that Jesus interpreted for us the things written about Himself in all the Scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets, so that our hearts burn within us when He opens the Scriptures to us by His Holy Spirit to reveal His grace and mercy. ——As Jesus declared, "Today these words have been fulfilled in your hearing."——He has opened our minds to understand the Scriptures, and shown us, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you—the Holy Spirit." 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.



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Prayers

The Lord's Supper: What We Believe

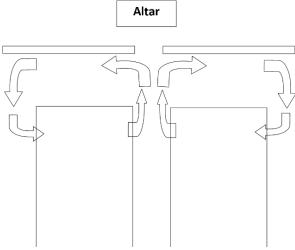
All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.



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 alcoholremoved 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.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.

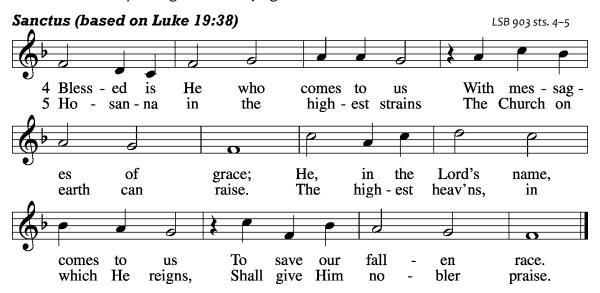


Preface (based on Luke 15:2,6,32)

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Rejoice that it is true: What the enemies of our Lord meant as an accusation of wrongdoing has become our hope and salvation: This man, our Lord Jesus, the Son of God, receives sinners and eats with them.
- C: Rejoice with me!
- P: The Lord receives you as sinners and invites you to eat at His Table.
- C: Rejoice with me!
- P: The Lord has found His sheep that were lost.
- C: Rejoice with me!
- P: For you were dead, and now are alive in Him.
- C: We were lost, and now are found.

Proper Preface for Luke

P: We pray: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Luke, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: You once proclaimed Your saving promise through the prophets of Israel, and by the apostles and evangelists You published the good news of Your saving promise fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Grant that we, being instructed in the doctrine of the blessed apostles and evangelists, may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood and declare His salvation to all the world.

C: Amen.

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 as in the Gospel of Luke

Luke 22:14-20

P: ¹⁴And when the hour [of the Passover meal] came, [Jesus] reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

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.")



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Second Distribution Hymn The Church's One Foundation

LSB 644 sts. 1-5



- 1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je sus Christ, her Lord;
- 2 E lect from ev 'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
- 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
- 4 Through toil and trib u la tion And tu mult of her war 5 Yet she on earth has u nion With God, the Three in One.



She is His new cre - a - tion Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: By schisms rent a - sun - der, She waits the con - sum - ma - tion And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion By wa - ter and the Word. One Lord, one faith, one birth. By her - e - sies dis-tressed, Of peace for - ev - er - more With thosewhose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride: Par - takes one ho - ly ho - ly name she bless - es, One food. saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?" Yet vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are Till with the blest. bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save \mathbf{O} us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, life He died. And for her With ev - 'ry And to one hope she press - es grace en - dued. night of weep - ing And soon the Shall be of the morn song. And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest. That we, like saints be - fore May see You face us, to face.

Post-Communion Prayer (Based on Simeon's Song—Luke 2:29-32)

P: Let us pray. Lord, now You let Your servants go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. Our own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel, the salvation which we have received in the body and blood of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Benediction (Blessing) (Based on the Beatitudes—Luke 6:20-23)

P: The Lord Jesus lifts up His eyes on you, His disciples, and says:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

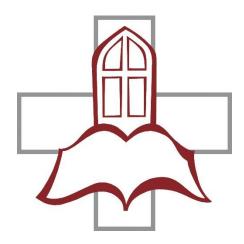
Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you on account of the Son of Man!

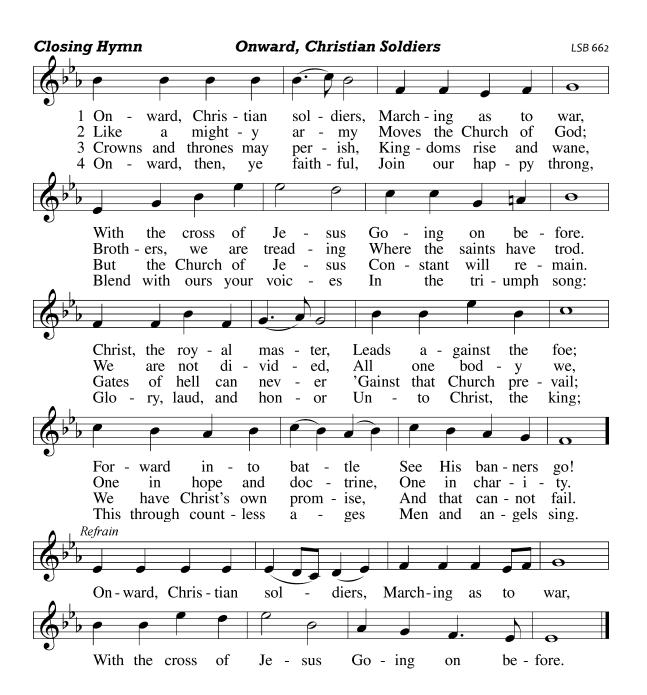
Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,

for behold, great is your reward in heaven."

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

C: Amen.





Announcements





Now what?

Join us on Sunday, September 22 at 9:30 a.m. in the gym for a Celebration of Ministry.

Games, prizes, fun and best of all you will learn where you can share your gifts with your Bethel family and beyond.

Bethel ministry leaders are looking forward to meeting you and telling you all about how we can use our gifts to serve in our church and community.

Acknowledgements

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires.

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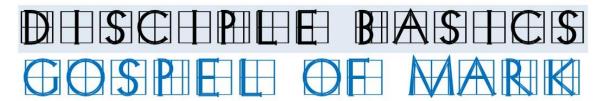
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Luke 3:6-8 used in Confession of Sin and Luke 24:27 used in Confession of Faith are based on Common English Bible (CEB)

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Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study Led by Pastor Squires 9:30-10:30AM in the Fellowship Hall

Let's read the Gospel of Mark—slowly—together.
We'll look at 2 chapters per week,
consider basic questions
and reflect on this Gospel shapes our lives
as disciples—followers of Jesus.

What's Adult Bible Study Like?

- No pre-requirements! We're all learning together.
- A large group in a large room so all are welcome!
- A small group feel with round tables of 6-8 people
- Pastor leads from the front but gets the small groups talking
- Pastor will not call on people and put them on the spot.
- Connecting the Bible with living out our Christian faith.