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Last Sunday of the Church Year November 22, 2020

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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

Sabbatical Interim Pastor – Ron Weidler

Cell Phone 630-721-8830 or email: rweidler@sbcglobal.net

Pastor Ben Squires – On Sabbatical until after Thanksgiving

Katrina Johns, Equipping Coordinator

Cell Phone: 224-908-0412 or email: katrina@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org

THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW SERVICE

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Matthew's Gospel.

Matthew is the focus of Year A Gospel readings in the Lectionary.

Opening Hymn

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

LSB 851 sts. 1–2, 4

1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,
4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your

life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the

lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.

And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
Till our cold and self - - ish na - tures, Warmed by
Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to

count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful
You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py
stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of

and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.
and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.
all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

Invocation (Based on Matthew 11:28-30)

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Jesus says, “Come to Me all who are weary, and I will give You rest.
Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me.
For I am gentle and lowly in heart.”

C: **For You have promised we will find rest for our souls.**

P: For His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.

C: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution (Matthew 22:34-40;19:16-26;18:13-14,19-20;20:28)

P: When asked “Teacher, what is the great commandment in the Law?”, Jesus said,

C: **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your mind.
And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

P: Jesus said, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor,
and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

C: **This brings us sorrow, Lord,
Because we treasure many things which are not focused on You.
Who then can be saved?**

P: Jesus declares, “With people this is impossible,
but with God all things are possible.”
He rejoices more over finding one lost sheep than over the ninety-nine that
never went astray. It is not His will that one of you should perish.

C: **For the Lord has promised:
Where two or three are gathered in His Name,
He is among us with His forgiveness.**

P: Indeed, He is here in the power of His forgiveness for you today.
He comes not to be served
but to serve, to give His life as a ransom for you.
Therefore, 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.**

Gloria in Excelsis (based on Matthew 20:28)

LSB 971, st. 2

2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.
Refrain
Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,
And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

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Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Anthem

We, Thy People, Praise Thee

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.

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, God of every nation!

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

Days of wonder, days of beauty, days of rapture filled with light

Tell thy goodness, tell thy mercies, tell thy glorious might.

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

For thy blessings, for thy bounty, joyful songs to thee we sing,

Songs of glory, songs of triumph to our God and King.

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24 (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. . . .

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.**

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

1 Corinthians 15:20–28 (ESV)

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song of Praise

We Bow Down



1. You are — Lord of cre - a - - tion and Lord of my — life, Lord of the land .
2. You are — King of cre - a - - tion and King of my — life, King of the land .



— and the — sea. You were — Lord of the heav - - ens be - fore there was —
— and the — sea. You were — King of the heav - - ens be - fore there was —



time, and Lord of all lords You will be. We bow — down _____
time, and King of all kings You will be. We bow — down _____



— and we wor - ship You, — Lord. We bow — down _____ and we wor - ship You, —
— and we crown You the — King. We bow — down _____ and we crown You the —

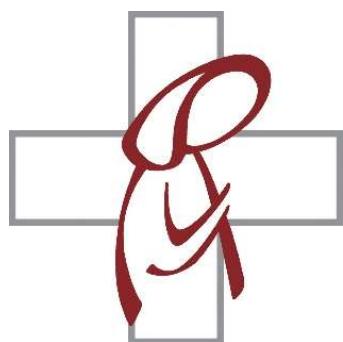


Lord. We bow — down _____ and we wor - ship You, —
King. We bow — down _____ and we crown You the —



Lord. Lord of all lords You will be! _____
King. of all kings You will be! _____

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Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31–46(ESV)

³¹[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Acknowledgements

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires; with the assistance of the Pastors of Circuit 1 of the Northern Illinois District (LCMS).

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Hymn of the Day**Christ, Our Human Likeness Sharing**

LSB 847; tune: 417

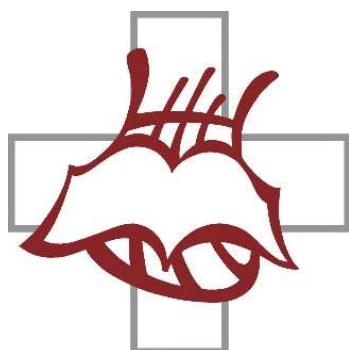
1 Christ, our hu - man like - ness shar - ing, Heav - en's love on
 2 Hear the word that Christ has spo - ken, Help the weak, the
 3 Christ, in ev - 'ry con - gre - ga - tion Build Your tem - ple,
 4 Come, O liv - ing Christ, re - new us, As of old in

earth por - trayed; Christ the Shep - herd, tend - ing, car - ing,
 hun - gry feed; See the pow'rs of dark - ness bro - ken,
 stone by stone, With Your word as firm foun - da - tion
 wind and flame; With the Spir - it's pow'r en - due us,

In His death our ran - som paid: Christ the Sav - ior,
 Sin - ners par - doned, cap - tives freed: Christ the Sav - ior,
 For a faith ma - tured and grown: Christ the Sav - ior,
 Ser - vants of Your sav - ing name: Christ the Sav - ior,

Christ the Ser - vant, Be Your life in us dis - played.
 Christ the Ser - vant, Help us meet our neigh - bor's need.
 Christ the Ser - vant, Make in us Your Gos - pel known.
 Christ the Ser - vant, Christ whose king - dom we pro - claim.

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Sermon What Does This Mean and How Is This Done? Matthew 25:31-46

Confession of Faith from Matthew 11:2-6; 16:13-16

P: When John the Baptist heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?”

C: **Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see:
the blind receive their sight and the lame walk,
lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear,
and the dead are raised up,
and the poor have good news preached to them.
And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”**

P: Jesus asked His disciples, using the title “Son of Man” to speak about Himself, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”
And the disciples said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”
Then He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?”
And I also ask you, disciples here today, “Who do you say that Jesus is?”

C: **Simon Peter replied,
and we also say,
“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Amen.**

Prayers

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

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 (Blessing) (Based on Matthew 28:18-20)

P: As Jesus said to His disciples before He ascended into heaven, He says to you,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.
And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn Crown Him with Many Crowns

LSB 525 sts. 1, 4-5

1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave
5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,

Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.
And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.

A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And
His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who
Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown

hail Him as thy match-less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.
Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king of all.

Announcements



NOVEMBER 2020 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**NOVEMBER 22 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
WRAP UP OF ANIMATE: PRACTICES 10:15-11:15AM***

NOVEMBER 25 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP – 6:30PM

**NOVEMBER 29 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
ENRICHMENT & RECAP OF
SABBATICAL EXPERIENCE 10:15-11:00AM*
INDOOR COMMUNION 11:15AM -NOON**

**BECKY LANZITO & KAREN LEICHT – ORGANISTS
ANN SOUZA - MUSIC DIRECTOR
MANDI DIVER – CHOIR/NEW MUSIC ACCOMPANIST
DAVID ZIEGLER - HANDBELL DIRECTOR**

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR INDOOR COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING AN USHER CONTACT ELDERS@BETHELGURNEE.ORG OR KATRINA JOHNS AT KATRINA@BETHELGURNEE.ORG. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THE ANIMATE SERIES, OR NEED MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KATRINA.

***THESE SESSIONS ARE VIA ZOOM.**

Bernie's Blessing

We will again be collecting coats and blankets for Bernie to distribute on the streets of Chicago on Christmas Eve. For over 23 years the people of Bethel have donated many, many coats and blankets that are given to the homeless who are out in the cold and bad weather. As the weather turns cold and you realize a new coat would be nice, bring the old one for Bernie's blessings. Or, if you see a good deal on a new coat, we will gladly accept the new coat, too. Blankets of all kinds will also be accepted. Starting November 29th and until December 16th, the coats and blankets can be dropped off with the Bethel office during office hours or during communion. Contact the Bethel office at 847-244-9647 with any questions or to arrange your drop-off.



Poinsettia Orders

Orders for red poinsettia plants to decorate our worship area on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be taken until December 9th. **The cost for a plant is \$11, and orders are due in the church office by Wednesday, December 9th.**

Since we are not meeting in person we request that you attach a note to your payment with the following information:

- How many plants are you ordering?
- Is the pointsetta
 - In memory of...
 - In appreciation of...
 - To the Glory of God



They will be available for pickup after the Christmas day worship service during communion or arrange to pick them up with the church office the following week. Contact the church office at 847-244-9647 with any questions.