

Holy Hospitality Sunday

August 28, 2011



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

"Building a House Where All Are Welcome"

3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

Gethsemane Lutheran Church is a **ONE** congregation,
committed to the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger.

To learn more about **ONE** see www.one.org

Gethsemane Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation.

Our Welcome Statement is on the back of this worship folder.

Sunday Worship – 8:30 & 11:00 am
Church Office – (314) 352-8050; Fax – (314) 352-8051
Gethsemane@swbell.net
www.gethsemanestl.org

Welcome to worship! If you are a first time guest at Gethsemane, please see one of the ushers or greeters for a “Welcome Bag.” We’re delighted you are here!
We ask all members, guests, and visitors to please fill out the blue card in your worship folder and place it in the offering plate.

**Childcare is available for children up to age 4 in the Nursery on the Lower Level.*

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Kendra Nolde	Prkendra-glc@swbell.net	Home phone: (314) 571-9205
Choir Director: Ann Luciani	ptlall4@earthlink.net	(314) 963-0934
Organist: Dawn Riske	driskehoy@juno.com	(314) 457-9040
Parish Visitor: Phyllis Saathoff	Pjs72vu@yahoo.com	(314) 457-9040
Office Administrator: Gary Borkowski	gethsemane@swbell.net	(314) 489-0937

2011 COUNCIL ROSTER

Luke Borkowski	Betsy Bartholomew
Jan Bornemann	Richard Brendel
Rich Brown	Denise Buehrer (Secretary)
Mark Cutelli	Jim Mantia
Darlene McElwee	Keith Paulson
Deb Schaller (President)	Richard G. Schuessler (At-Large)
Peggy Zapf	

Messenger news – call the church office or e-mail information to glc-messenger@swbell.net

Prayer List – call the church office at 314-352-8050

“Now the Feast and Celebration”
[ELW] = *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Worship Book)*

GATHERING

WELCOME & COMMUNITY LIFE

PRELUDE: *Open Our Eyes*

by Bob Cull

Stand

INVOCATION

People of promise, come in faith to name and claim: the God whose love is deeper than the sea, whose welcome is wider than the sky, and whose mercy always takes us by surprise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(adapted from Psalm 15)*

Who is welcome as a guest in God’s house?

And who may abide on God’s holy mountain?

Those who speak the truth without hesitation,

Who speak no ill of anyone,

Who never slight a friend,

Or bear a grudge against a neighbor.

And where is such perfection to be found?

We look at the evidence of our lives and confess:

God, we are not worthy of your hospitality.

We have doubted, delayed and grown weary of the pursuit of justice.

We have blamed others for our own failure to follow Jesus’ example of all-embracing love.

Forgive us, and help us to enter your house with joy,

With hearts and hands open to receive your grace,

Remembering that though none are worthy,

All are welcome in this place.

Hear God’s word of forgiveness, and be gentle with yourselves and with one another:

Whoever you are, whatever you have done,

Wherever you have traveled, God welcomes you home.

God longs to meet you, greet you, teach you,

And make your life a work of beauty.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN: “All Are Welcome”

No. 641 [Red]

GREETING

Presiding Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God from which nothing can separate us, and the life-giving Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING: Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

P The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

²¹From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

Dr. Martin Rafanan

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race”

[Words: Ruth Duck; Tune: Tallis’ Canon ELW 565]

**Diverse in culture, nation, race,
We come together by your grace.
God, let us be a meeting ground
Where hope and healing love are found.**

**God, let us be a bridge of care
Connecting people everywhere.
Help us confront all fear and hate
And lust for power that separate.**

**When chasms widen, storms arise,
O Holy Spirit, make us wise.
Let our resolve, like steel, be strong,
To stand with those who suffer wrong.**

**God, let us be a table spread
With gifts of love and broken bread,
Where all find welcome, grace attends,
And enemies arise as friends.**

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APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

AFFIRMATION OF GOD’S COVENANT WITH US IN BAPTISM

You have made public profession of your faith. Will you proclaim the faith marked by baptism, trusting in God’s promises?

We will.

Will you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

We will.

Will you act to create community, sanctuary, and peace with justice?

We will.

Will you gather at the table remembering grace, offering hospitality to all, expecting love to prevail?

We will.

Will you accept the mantle of discipleship as followers of Christ?

We will.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN: “Baptized and Set Free” verses 1 and 4

No. 453 [Red]

THE PRAYERS

ASSISTING MINISTER With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

O God: We pray for all who work today to share the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ. We especially remember those who gather under the threat of persecution, that they might be sustained. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

From the smallest ant to the tallest tree—your entire creation is a masterpiece and a gift. Help us treat your creation with respect and care. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all nations at war or facing disease and poverty, we ask for your life-giving presence and peace, O God. We pray for clean water and an end to hunger. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Look with compassion on all who are suffering: the unemployed, abused and neglected children, people who are depressed and lonely, and those facing challenges to their health. This morning we pray for Mary, Rich, the Frohlichstein family, Damien, Virgie, Walter, Lillie, Lois, Kim, John, Wilma, Fred, and all those we name before you now, either in the silence of our hearts or spoken from our lips.... Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Look with kindness on this community, O God. Weave us into a net that provides comfort and support, refuge and friendship. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving, O God, we remember all who abide with you in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you.

MEAL

THE OFFERING: *The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

MUSICAL OFFERING: *"They'll Know We Are Christians"* *arr. L. Larson*

Stand

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: **"As the Grains of Wheat"** **No. 465 [Red]**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

AM Let us pray. God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing.

C **Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

ACCLAMATIONS AND AMEN

The acclamation may be sung first by the presiding minister, then repeated by all.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come, come a - gain.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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

Sit

COMMUNION

(The Communion Table is Christ's table. All baptized Christians who believe Jesus Christ is really present for the forgiveness of sins are welcome! Those not receiving the bread and wine are welcome to come for a blessing. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive wine from either the Common Cup or individual glasses. Grape juice is also available in individual glasses.)

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION: "Lamb of God"



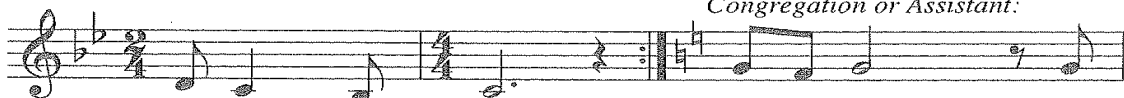
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and



Congregation:
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

“Guide Us To Openness”

[Words: The Rev. W. Robert Martin, III; Tune: Faithfulness – ELW 733. Used with permission.]

**Guide us to openness, Spirit of mercy,
Aid us in seeking God’s justice and grace.
Move us to show Christ’s compassion through witness,
Love first to offer and hate to erase.
Guide us to openness! Guide us to openness!
Let no one ever be shunned or denied.
Make of the Church a bold place of compassion,
That all who seek You may come and abide.**

**Spirit of tenderness, impart Your presence,
Fill both our hearts and our hands with Your care.
Let no one suffer or grieve unattended,
Grant us Your kindness and warmth here to share.
Guide us to openness! Guide us to openness!
Let no one ever be shunned or denied.
Make of the Church a bold place of compassion,
That all who seek You may come and abide.**

**Though there are those who would limit Christ’s graces,
Still we refuse to believe in such lies,
For in this time we have made a commitment
Never to limit love’s power or size.
Guide us to openness! Guide us to openness!
Let no one ever be shunned or denied.
Make of the Church a bold place of compassion,
That all who seek You may come and abide.**

“Gracious Spirit, Hear Our Pleading”

No. 401 [Red]

Stand

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

AM Let us pray. Generous God, we give you thanks that again this day you have opened wide your hand and satisfied us with the food of life, the body and blood of Christ. Sharing your compassionate heart, may we be blessed and given to all who hunger and thirst; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

SENDING

BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful bless us, keep us, and + grant us peace.

Amen

SENDING SONG: “Rejoice, Dear Christians, One and All” by Peter W. Rehwaldt

[Tune: Wie Schon Leuchtet ELW 308 -- O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!]

Written for Pastors Jeff Johnson, Ruth Frost, and Phyllis Zillhart, and the people of First United and St. Francis Lutheran Churches, San Francisco, CA.

Rejoice, dear Christians, one and all!
Have you not heard God’s gracious call
Announcing God’s great blessing?
All people see a glorious sight:
A rainbow shines with heaven’s light,
God’s vibrant love confessing.
 Dance and sing out;
 In the stable
 Spread a table
 All can savor.
God proclaims a year of favor.

The blessings God has showered here
Now spread abroad, both far and near.
Sing out, you heav’nly chorus!
In bread and wine, for us outpoured
Is grace proclaimed by Christ our Lord
In his own dying for us.
 In our trials,
 Give us power
 In the hour
 We most need it.
We are strengthened with the Spirit.

**So let the drummer set the beat
And lead us on with eager feet
The path of our salvation.
God's grace alone shall be our guide
And may we travel, side by side
Reborn, a new creation.**

**Lead us, guide us
In our serving, all deserving
Your great favor**

May our witness never waver.

**The captives are released today,
The pris'ners sent along their way,
And mourning turns to dancing.
The brokenhearted are made whole,
The hungry given heaping bowls,
And outcasts enter, prancing.**

**All are welcomed
To the party
With a hearty
"Peace be with you!"**

Come, let God's love your life renew!

Used with permission.

DISMISSAL: AM Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

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**We invite all members, guests and visitors to join us
for coffee and doughnuts between services
in the Walter ECKman Fellowship Hall downstairs!**

Today, Gethsemane welcomes Pastor Martin Rafanan, Executive Director of Gateway 180: Homelessness Reversed, as our guest preacher for *Holy Hospitality Sunday: A Celebration of Reconciling in Christ*. We also welcome special guests from the local chapter of Lutherans Concerned. We are grateful to the national offices of Lutherans Concerned/North America and especially to the membership of the local chapter for their support and encouragement throughout our Reconciling in Christ discussions. We also recognize and thank everyone at Gethsemane for their participation during the process and for continuing to make this a place where all are welcome. Reconciling in Christ is a program for Lutheran communities of faith to answer the inclusive call of the gospel by welcoming believers of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Congratulations to Jeff and Jessica Hopper on the birth of Molly on Wednesday, August 24th. Proud brother is Lucas; proud grandparents are Norm and Virgie Hopper!

FREED IN CHRIST TO SERVE! Next Sunday, Labor Day Weekend, the theme of our worship experience will be discovering what God is up to in our everyday lives and anointing for service in our daily life. Testimonies of faith and daily life will be shared, and there will be an opportunity to have your hands anointed for ministry and service.

CHURCH PICNIC and RALLY DAY, Sunday, September 11, 2011. The Fellowship Committee invites everyone to be a part of the Gethsemane Church Picnic. Join us at Tilles Park, just blocks north of church, after first service for coffee and donuts ´al fresco! Then stay for the 11:00 a.m. devotion under the park pavilion and after that the picnic begins! Food, MORE Games, and Fellowship with your church family – can’t beat that! The Picnic will be catered once again! Shuttling will be provided, if needed. Please RSVP on the Blue Worship Information Card.

Christian Anti-Semitism Today: What Is It? Where Is It? How Do We Respond? Tonight, Sunday, August 28, 2011, 7:00-8:30 pm at Aquinas Institute of Theology, 23 South Spring Ave., St. Louis. Presenters will be Father John Pawlikowski and Rabbi Yehiel Poupko.

An Interfaith Memorial in Music: Commemorating the 10th Anniversary of September 11, 2001. Sunday, September 11, 5:30-6:30 pm at the Sheldon Concert Hall, sponsored by Interfaith Partnership/Faith Beyond Walls and the Michael and Barbara Newmark Institute for Human Relations at the Jewish Community Relations Council. This event is free and open to the public. General admission seating. Doors open at 4:45 pm. Seating is limited.

Congratulations to our partner school, Mallinckrodt Academy! Mallinckrodt was one of 8 schools receiving a new garden charter from Gateway Greening. Once installed they will have 5 raised beds and all the gardening tools one could ever need. Please mark your calendars for Sept 14 @ 9am for garden installation. It will be filmed by Channel 4 and featured by Kristen Cornett for her bi-weekly green living show.

The Big Blue Mob Is Out to Put an End to Alzheimer's Disease. Join Us! Lutheran Senior Services is a presenting sponsor for the Alzheimer's Association's biggest fundraising party of the year, and we'd love to have you walking with us! Come show your support for the fight against the sixth leading cause of the death in the United States, and have a great time while you're doing it. The walk is September 17th at Busch Stadium. Sign Up and Raise At Least \$20 by Aug. 31 to get a FREE LSS Team T-Shirt!

In late June, record flooding devastated the city of Minot, North Dakota, forcing nearly a third of the residents to evacuate and leaving more than 4,000 homes and businesses heavily damaged. Our brothers and sisters in Minot need our help now. The goal is to have as many flood-damaged homes gutted as possible before the first major snowfall, which could be less than three months away. **This is an all-call for volunteers from around the country.** Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota has set-up a volunteer hotline, and anyone interested should call 218-443-4970 to register. You can also visit www.lssnd.org to find volunteer registration forms and other important information about volunteering.

JOINT NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY: Item for the month of August is school supplies and children's underwear and socks. **In addition, the shelves are almost empty. The following items are in need:** Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Canned Meat, Peanut Butter and Jelly (July food item), Toilet Paper.

Coffee hour: Volunteers are needed to host the coffee hour on October 2 and October 16. Please sign-up on the sheet in the hallway if you are available to help on any of these dates.

This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving. Gethsemane relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Please contact the church office for details.

The **Tilles Park Neighborhood Association's** next general meeting is Tues., 8/30, at the Police Officers' Assoc. Hall, 3710 Hampton. The guest speaker will be from Home Eco on Macklind Ave. Its "general store" approach offers ways for us to live a greener, healthier, more sustainable life.

Lutheran College Fair: Sunday Sept. 11 at LCMS International Center, 1333 S. Kirkwood Rd. 7:00pm financial aid seminar, 7:30-9:00pm college fair reception. For more information visit www.lutherancolleges.org/events

Sale, Sale, Sale: *3rd Annual Rummage Sale*, Bethany Lutheran Church, Sat., 9/10, 8:00am-2:00pm, 407 Fairview, Webster Groves. Goal is to raise \$2,000 for the people of Joplin. *Lindbergh Spirit of St. Louis Marching Band Flea Market*, Sun. 9/11, 8:00am-3:00pm, Lindbergh High School, 5000 S. Lindbergh Blvd. Over 175 booths!

August 21, 2011: **Attendance** 98 (8:30 service), 26 (11:00 service), 124 total
Giving \$3,111 (\$4,030/week needed)

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar
August 28- September 4, 2011

8/28 Sunday Holy Hospitality Sunday	8:30am & 11:00am 10:00am	Worship Services: A Celebration of Reconciling in Christ Confirmation Meeting: Youth & Parents
8/29 Monday	6:00pm 7:00pm	Angel Wings Bell Choir Choir
9/1 Thursday	6:45pm	Property Committee
9/4 Sunday	8:30am & 11:00am 10:00am	Worship Services: Freed in Christ to Serve, with anointing of hands for ministry in daily life Forum on ELCA Churchwide Assembly, by Pastor Kendra

Gethsemane is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation Affirmation of Welcome

Christ's welcome knows no boundaries! Therefore, our welcome knows no boundaries and we invite all people to full participation in the life of the congregation.

We at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Saint Louis embrace...

People of any race or ethnicity...

People who are male, female, transgender, or any other gender identity...

People of any age...

People wherever they are, or wherever they have been, on their faith journeys...

People who are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated or partnered...

People who are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or any other sexual orientation...

People with a variety of political perspectives...

People who have, or had, addictions, phobias, abortions, or a criminal record...

People who are homeowners, renters, living with parents, or homeless...

People who are fully-abled, disabled, or of differing abilities...

People of differing educational backgrounds...

People of any socio-economic condition...

People not mentioned above, all of whom are created and loved by God!

As we celebrate and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation, we pledge to ourselves and to all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people in our life together and in our outreach to the world. We are committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith.