

November 11, 2012
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
10:45 a.m.

Please enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship in silence.

GATHERING

Prelude

Please sign the attendance pad at the end of the pew and pass it down the row.

Greeting and Life of the Church

Choral Introit

"Bless the Lord, O My Soul"

arr. Ron Huff

*Call to Worship (Psalm 146)

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings who cannot save.

When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;

On that very day their plans come to nothing.

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

Whose hope is in the Lord their God.

He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them.

He remains faithful forever.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets prisoners free,

The Lord gives sight to the blind,

The Lord lifts up those bowed down;

The Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the foreigner

And sustains the fatherless and the widow,

But he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!

*Hymn 516

"God Is Here!"

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*Invocation

WORD

Word in Song

"Now Cherith's Brook" from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn

The Reading of God's Word

The Hebrew Scriptures

1 Kings 17:8-16 (p.282)

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Mark 12:38-44 (p.825)

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

In this world of plenty, O God, we have chosen to live lives of poverty:

We have hoarded our blessings,

And have kept more than our share of abundance,

Causing others to know the hard reality of need and want;

Please, forgive us, Gracious God.

We have failed to care adequately for the world's abundant resources,
Bringing scarcity and pain to our planet;

Please, forgive us, Gracious God.

We have denied the goodness that we enjoy,
And have forgotten how to be grateful,
Making ourselves miserable and hurting others;

Please, forgive us, Gracious God.

Remind us, O Lord, of all the good things that we have received;
Remind us how to enjoy the blessings we experience;
Remind us that giving is a source of pleasure and plenty;
Remind us that there is enough to go around.

***And teach us to follow Christ in the ways of love, self-giving and compassion;
Even as You have forgiven us in Christ. Amen.***

Assurance of Forgiveness

Choral Anthem *"The Greatest Thing/Bless the Lord"* Mark Pendergrass/Ron Huff

Time with Children

*Hymn 83 *"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"* SHOWALTER
Children through second grade are dismissed for classes.

Proclamation The Joy of Dependence Andrea Johnson
RESPONSE

Prayers of the Church

Word of Witness Luke Knotts

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Response (hymn 634, vs. 1)

***Great source of all our life, we come with thanks and praise
For countless gifts of love with which you bless our days.
With joyful hearts we come to you, renewing now our gifts of love.***

*Prayer of Presentation

*Hymn 633 *"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"*

*Benediction

*Threefold Amen

*Postlude

**Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome! We pray that you will experience anew the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ as we worship together.

Our thanks to Brad and Heidi Hedberg, sanctuary greeters, Chris Christenson, Mer Crow, Ted Garrison, Dwight Samuelson, Sue Samuelson, ushers; René Nelson, Scripture Reader; Arvid and Lisa Eiesland and Mike and Robin Magnusson, coffee hosts; and Nancy Magill (piano).

WINNETKA COVENANT CHURCH
November 11, 2012

TODAY IN OUR CHURCH

If you are visiting today, welcome! Please join us in the narthex immediately following the worship service for coffee and conversation. All are welcome.

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship and Holy Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Lucia reservations will be taken following the worship service
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. For adults, 1) *The Story* in Room 203 and 2) *Sharing Our Faith Stories* in the Upper Room. More class information is available in the Network.
- 10:45 a.m. Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation
- 7:00 p.m. High League

MONDAY—NOVEMBER 12

- 7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee will meet in the library

TUESDAY—NOVEMBER 13

- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study—The Study of Genesis, led by Joann Larson. All are welcome.
- 9:45 a.m. Playgroup will meet at church. Contact: Kira Johnson
- 6:45 p.m. Christian Formation Board meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Outreach Committee meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Resource Committee meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Diaconate Board meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Mens Basketball
- 7:30 p.m. Mission Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY—NOVEMBER 14

- 10:00 a.m. Staff meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Sunday School Christmas program rehearsal in the Choir Room.
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner: Judi Geake's famous soup. All are welcome.
Cost: \$3.50/adult; \$2.50/child or \$10/family. Cleanup: Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bell Choir
- 6:15 p.m. Singing, Skits and Scripture in the Upper Room. All are welcome.
- 6:45 p.m. Programs for all ages, ending at 7:45 p.m. Explorers (ages 2-3); Voyagers (ages 4-Kindergarten); Pathfinders (grades 1-2); Trailblazers (grades 3-5); Junior High
- 6:45 p.m. Book/Film Group (Prayer Rm), reading *Rediscovering Our Values* by Jim Wallis.
- 6:45 p.m. *The Story* in Room 203
- 6:45 p.m. Choir rehearsal.

THURSDAY—NOVEMBER 15

- 1:00 p.m. Community Kitchen—food preparation in our church kitchen. All are welcome.
Contact: Ted Garrison
- 1:00 p.m. Womens Bible Study - "*David, Seeking a Heart Like His*", by Beth Moore. Contact Claire Macfarland.
- 4:30 p.m. Depart church to serve at the Community Kitchen.
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Board meeting

FRIDAY—NOVEMBER 16

All articles for the **December issue of Network** are due in the church office. *Please note, because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the deadline is earlier this month.*

SATURDAY—NOVEMBER 17

- 8:00 a.m. Mens Fellowship
- 9:30-noon Stephen Ministry area-wide workshop. Presenter: The Samaritan Institute.
Location: First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette (600 Ninth St.). Cost: \$20.

SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 18

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship and Holy Communion
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. For Senior High, a book group will meet in Pastor Christy's office. For adults, 1) *The Story* in Room 203 and 2) *"Sharing Our Faith Stories"* in the Upper Room. Special speaker: Jack Levison, *"The Holy Spirit for the Long Haul"*. His book, *"Fresh Air: the Holy Spirit for an Inspired Life"*, will be available to purchase.
 6:00 p.m. Confirmation
 7:00 p.m. High League

ADVANCE CALENDAR

November 11 and 25, Upper Room. **"Sharing Our Faith Stories,"** We all have stories that shape the defining narrative of our lives. As Christians, our personal stories are both shaped by and woven with the Biblical story—the story of God and God's people. There is power in sharing our stories with one another, for in sharing our stories—in the shaping of them, in the telling and in the listening—we have the opportunity to encounter the living God and to build relationships with others. Come and grow in your faith as you hear the faith stories of others in our congregation.

Tuesday, November 20, 7:00 p.m. **Winnetka Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Service** at Winnetka Presbyterian Church (Willow & Hibbard). Jill Brickman, Northfield Twp Supervisor and manager of the Northfield Township Food Pantry will be the speaker. All are welcome; childcare provided.

Thursday, November 22, **Thanksgiving Day Turkey Bowl**—a tradition of flag football for all ages. Come at 8 a.m. for team selection and warm-up; games begin at 8:30. Location: Avoca Park, located behind Marie Murphy School. All are welcome.

Wednesday, November 28, 5:30-8:00 p.m. **Advent Activities for All Ages.** Join us for a special Wednesday night for all ages focused on starting the Advent season. We'll have dinner together, have a brief time of singing and sharing about Advent, and make Advent/Christmas crafts to take home. Some crafts will be free, others may be made for a small fee to cover the cost of supplies. Join us for this special night! Sign up at church or online beginning next week.

Thursday, November 29, 12 noon. **Quilters and Women's Sharing Group Christmas luncheon** at Graziano's, 5960 W. Touhy, Niles. Reservations are \$20.50. See Esther Johnson on or before Sunday, November 25. All women are welcome to join us for an Italian feast!

Saturday, December 1, 9:00 a.m. **Lucia Breakfast, Program and Boutique.**

- ◆ **Breakfast:** Reservations for the breakfast will be taken today, after the early worship service. Tickets are \$15/adults and \$7.50/children. Reservations sell quickly, so plan accordingly.
- ◆ **Program:** Children through high school and some adults participate in the story of Santa Lucia (celebrated in Sweden as the beginning of the Advent season). All are welcome (men and women) to attend the program, which immediately follows the breakfast, and it is free.
- ◆ **Boutique:** Deli items, baked goods, and other unique items sold by friends in our church available to purchase following the Program. If you would like to have a table to sell items, contact Jane Rivi.
- ◆ There will be **opportunity to bake** for the breakfast and for the sale. Watch your bulletin for details as they become available. Contact Inger Eiesland Schultz or Jen Anderson for more information.
- ◆ **High School Girls:** Rehearsals for the Lucia Program will be held on Sundays in the choir room immediately following the 10:45 service. Questions, contact Kris Heintzelman
- ◆ **Lucia Raffle Donations needed.** We need items for the Lucia Breakfast raffle, which can raise substantial money for Winnetka Covenant Women and is a fun element of the Lucia Breakfast. Suggested donations: gift cards, housewares, toys, stationery, jewelry, sweets, etc. Please contact Julie Bender if you have an item to donate. Please note all donations needed by November 25.

Saturday, December 8, 8:30-noon. **Advent Unplugged: Preparing for the Holidays in a New Way**, an Advent Mini-Retreat in the Upper Room, facilitated by Doug Wysocky-Johnson, Executive Director of Lumunos. All are welcome. Cost: \$15. Complimentary childcare provided—please sign up if needed. Register on the church website (www.winnetkacovenant.org) or call the church office.

Sunday, December 9, 5:00 p.m. **Children's Sunday School program.** Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.. Contact Dawn Pegis with questions.

Sunday, December 16, 5:00 p.m. **Choir Christmas Concert**

NOTICES

Larger print copies of the morning hymns are available on the table in the back of the church near the sound booth. Children's bulletins are also available in the narthex. Please help yourself as needed.

Updated church directories are available to pick up in the narthex after the worship service.

The **handbell choir** has immediate openings for full time and part time ringers. We rehearse Wednesday evenings at 6:00 in the choir room. Please consider joining us!

Kids' Rotation Sunday School, November 11-December 16 - The Covenant: Messengers of the New Covenant. In November and December, Sunday school will be slightly different than our usual rotations because the kids will be practicing for the Children's Christmas program. They will practice from 9:30-10:10 a.m. in the choir room. Then age 4 through grade 5 will be combined for 20 minutes of class time in room 204 (10:10-10:30) for this special workshop, following their Christmas program practice. In the workshop, kids will hear the Christmas story, ponder the future life of Jesus Christ, hear the song, "Mary, Did You Know?" and create a slide show for each of the scenes in the song.

On November 13, the Lou Malnati's Evanston and Wilmette stores will donate 20% of total sales to **Family Promise**. A flyer, available in the church office or on the Family Promise website (www.fpcnorthshore.org) must accompany your order.

The Story: A journey together into the story of God's love, continues Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m., and Sundays, 9:30 a.m. *The Story* is scripture condensed into 31 accessible chapters, allowing the stories, poems and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. Materials will be provided. All are welcome.

On Sunday, October 28, before the Harvest Dinner, we had an informal Q&A session via telephone with **Christine Buettgen**, who is serving as a Covenant Missionary in the Democratic Republic of Congo. If you are interested, there are printed copies of the questions and answers in the narthex by the Missions Display. To keep up with Christine and her work in DR Congo, please visit her blog: www.christinemerle.blogspot.com.

"When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand." *Henri Nouwen*

Stephen Ministry of Winnetka Covenant Church.

Please contact one of our pastors or a Stephen Ministry leader if you would like more information.

Texts for next week: Joel 2:21-27; Psalm 126; Matthew 6:25-33; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those in need

Sue Abram

Charlotte and Owen Anderson (sister and brother-in-law of John Couleur)

Elsie Anderson

Jack Blackburn

Family of Roman Bussetti (nephew of Kitti Steiner)

Richard Carlson (nephew of Jean Larsen)

Kristen Dahl (daughter of Eleanor and Peter Milbratz)

Ray Dahlberg (brother of Marj Hanson)

Carolyn Donnan (sister of Carl Balsam)

Marilyn Drotts

JoAnna Haak (daughter of Cleo Constantin)

Connie Jackson (sister of Marti Crow)

Frank Kassen

Marlene Larson (friend of Mary Nilsen)
David Lopata (friend of Dave and Maria Moreno)
Bruce Peterson (brother of Barb Blackburn)
Dwight Peterson (brother of Bonnie Hawkinson and Kurt Peterson)
Ruth Schmid
Jonathan Schwartz (brother of Mike Schwartz)
Wendy Woehler (niece of Lee Borre)
Kathleen Hanson Zavatsky (sister of Cindy Buettgen, John Hanson and Pamela Hanson)
Stephen Ministers and those for whom they care
Our nation and leaders

Those serving in the military or in Afghanistan:

Chris Haak (grandson of Cleo Constantin)
Ryan Hengell (nephew of Phil and Barbara Kazanjian)
Chris Hillman (friend of Bill & Sue Kelly)
Roger Vanoer

Those we support who are serving on the mission field:

Kara Bladel (Alaska)
Christine Buettgen (Democratic Republic of Congo)
Don and Lillian Dwight (Taiwan)
Brittany Girle (Juarez, Mexico)
Pamela Hanson (Honduras, on home assignment)
Julio and Katie Isaza (Colombia)
Peter and Anna Kim (China)
Jamie and Erica Rose (Alaska)
Gary and Mary Lou Sander (Colombia)
James and Rachel Ventress (Alaska)

WINNETKA COVENANT CHURCH

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Wilmette, Illinois 60091

Church Office: (847) 446-4300 Message Line: (847) 501-4158

www.winnetkacovenant.org

Ministers to the Congregation

Peter Hawkinson, Pastor
Andrea Johnson, Pastor of Discipleship and Outreach
Christy Bouris, Youth Pastor
Arthur A.R. Nelson, Parish Associate
Dawn Pegis, Director of Music
Dominic German, Music Intern
Joshua Smith, Organist
The Stephen Ministers

Our mission is to be a Christian community and to proclaim the gospel, worshiping together in love, nurturing people in the faith, serving others as Christian disciples, and building a world of justice and hope in the name of Christ.

At Winnetka Covenant Church:

We hold grace as our highest value.

We practice honest, open, direct communication.

We speak the truth in love and listen in love.

We believe the best about each other, valuing others above ourselves, as Christ does.
We allow room for mistakes, acknowledging that mistakes are part of the growth process.