



# The Light

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Pastor's Page ...

*"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."* Luke 6:36

During my time of living in the Twin Cities, I would frequently worship at a small congregation in NE Minneapolis, called "Mercy Seat." Part of my draw there was not just that services were held Sunday evenings at 5:00pm (hey, seminarians like to sleep in, too!), but more importantly, the liturgy was both Lutheran and solely composed by members who shared their gift of music, whether that be singing, instrumentation, or composing.

One of the evenings, a guy by the name of Ben Kyle led everyone through his composed Lutheran liturgy. Following the general Lutheran liturgy order (kyrie, hymn of praise, great thanksgiving, etc), the music combines moody country grooves, soulful harmonies, and fantastic melodies all in one service.

I'll always remember that first time that I worshipped in that Massa Deux liturgy, because during the communion time, Ben picked up his guitar and sang an acoustic version of a song that he composed simply called, "Mercy." The song begins like so (or you can YouTube it if you'd like):

*May every word be spoken and every truth be told  
May every promise be unbroken and every gift turned into gold  
Let there be mercy, mercy, mercy...*

*May every curse be broken and every hope revealed  
May every blessing be unbroken and every broken heart be healed  
Let there be mercy, mercy, mercy...*

I've been drowning myself in these words lately, as another election season is dividing more than uniting, as there is hurt and brokenness in relationships and in life, injustice and inequality, wars and conflicts, and overall a sense of "when will enough be enough?" Or even, "when will there be mercy, mercy, mercy...?"

Now, I don't pretend to be more gracious and merciful than any of you. I know that it's hard to be merciful, especially if you disagree with another about a topic that you're passionate about, or if you feel that you've been wronged by another. In those instances, it is more like self-righteous justice is much, much easier to achieve than mercy.

During the month of November, we will hear all about mercy, namely God's good and gracious mercy towards each of us. We will start out by remembering and celebrating all those who have died in the faith (All Saints Sunday) and we will end with the expectation and hope that is in the birth of Christ in human flesh and dwelling among us (First Sunday of Advent). In-between these two bookends, we will give thanks for the blessings that God has given us and overall be reminded of the mercy, grace, and peace that comes from God alone.

As All Saints Sunday will remind us that we belong to God's family by virtue of our baptism, the first Sunday of Advent will seek to assure us that the reign of God is ultimately in Jesus' *merciful* hands. A mercy that will begin in a stable in Bethlehem, will lead to a cross on Golgotha, and ultimately resurrection from a tomb. A mercy that grabs each of us as we are, and changes us into merciful people to ourselves and to one another.

May we share with others (both those we agree with and those we don't) this mercy that has so freely been bestowed and given to us...in short, *"let there be mercy, mercy, mercy..."*

*Grace, Mercy, and Peace,*  
Pastor Martha

November

2016



ELCA



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Butte, MT 59701  
Pastor Martha  
McCreight  
Office: (406) 723-9182  
office@gloriadeibutte.org  
pastor@gloriadeibutte.org  
www.gloriadeibutte.org  
Worship: 10:30 a.m.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT GLORIA DEI

Nov. 1 – 7:00 PM – Worship and Music Committee meeting  
Nov. 2 – 10:00 AM – Quilters meet in small hall  
Noon – Stewardship Committee mtg.  
Nov. 6- All Saints Day  
Nov. 13- WELCA Thank Offering Service  
Noon – Dime a Dip Potluck  
Nov. 15 – 7:00 PM – Church Council meeting

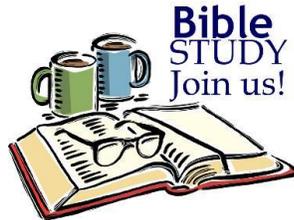
Nov. 10 – 11:00 AM – WELCA  
Nov. 15 – 11:30 AM – Altar Guild  
**Nov 18 – Noon – November *Light* article deadline**  
Nov. 20 - Consecration Sunday “What’s Your Talent”  
Nov. 24-25 – Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving  
Nov. 27- First Sunday of Advent  
Nov. 28 – 6:00 PM – Quilting in the small hall for St. James Foundation  
Nov. 30 – 6:00 Advent midweek worship with Soup Dinner

## SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY TEXTS

November 6 *All Saints Day*  
Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18  
Psalm 149  
Ephesians 1:11-23  
Luke 6: 20-31

November 13  
Malachi 4:1-2a  
Psalm 98  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
Luke 21: 5-19

November 20 *Consecration Sunday*  
Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Psalm 46  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23: 33-43



November 27 *First Sunday of Advent*  
Isaiah 2: 1-5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13: 11-14  
Mathew 24: 36-44

**Men’s Bible Study** Thursday at 7:00 AM at Perkins. We will not meet on November 24.

**Women’s Bible Study** is held every Tuesday morning at 9:00 AM at Gamers.

**WELCA** Bible study, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, is a video series called “Loved by God.”

## Sunday School Notes

Attention Sunday School Parents: On Sunday, November 27th the Sunday School kids will begin rehearsing their Christmas program, “We Three Copper Kings: A Mining City Christmas.” Rehearsal will continue through Sunday, December 18th, when they will present the play. There is a tentative rehearsal scheduled for Friday afternoon, time TBA, December 16th. There are both speaking and non-speaking parts available. Please contact Susanne at 406-391-4829 for more information.

## FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

**“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever”  
1 Chronicles 16:34**

We all have so much to be thankful. We have family, friends, children, grandchildren, pets, warm houses, and food just to name a few. We also have a lot to be thankful for here at Gloria Dei. Pastor Martha, a new church secretary named Mariya (if you haven’t yet met her, stop by the office and say hello), Sunday school teachers, church council members, music leaders and choir, the quilters, ushers, lectors, committee members, this list also goes on and on.

I’m grateful and thankful to be a part of such an amazing church community. Thankful to all of you, the members, who make up Gloria Dei. My heart is still full after the Mission Possible fundraising dinner that was here several weeks ago. Thank you to you and your friends for making this event for our youth an incredible one!

God’s Peace!

Janel

The Service Committee invites you to bring new and “Gently Used” coats to the church for the community coat collection! Coats for younger children are most needed! There will be a container available for the coats in the Narthex.





Lutheran World Relief  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

**SERVICE COMMITTEE**  
**Dime-A-Dip Dinner to Benefit**  
**LWR HAITI CRISIS FUND**

**On Sunday, November 13th, following worship,** bring your favorite dish for a great Gloria Dei Potluck! The meal will be an opportunity to raise funds to help benefit those affected by Hurricane Matthew in Haiti. **Members and friends are invited to provide that recipe you've been wanting to try! Or, if your last name begins with A-J, bring a Salad; those whose last names begin with K-P, bring a Main Dish and folks whose last names begin with Q-Z, provide a dessert. Please be generous; your donations will benefit LWR!**

**WELCA in November**

Women of Gloria Dei, please join us on Thursday, *November 10* in the church library at 11 a.m. as we continue our fun and informative Bible Study led by Doris Schultz. Following the Bible Study, we will have a short business meeting and planning session for the Thankoffering Service on *November 13*. If you can't make the meeting, try to join us for lunch in the small fellowship hall at noon.

After lunch, Susanne Whelchel will present a short program on her Underground Railroad sampler quilt made up of 15 squares, each with a special meaning for slaves traveling on the super-secretive network of abolitionists and safe "stations" on the way to Canada and freedom. Certain quilt squares sent messages of safe and unsafe routes, caches of food, clothes, and tools, and compass directions. Quilts were hung on fences or clothes lines, as if hung out to dry. Please join us for "the rest of the story" on *November 10th!*

**Thankoffering Service on November 13**

The Thankoffering service is a time to celebrate Women of the ELCA and share our commitment to the churchwide women's organization. We invite you to see what the women of Gloria Dei do at the local level and stay for the dime-a-dip dinner to follow!



**THE WELCA TURKEY** will soon be found on a table in the Narthex. Take one of its "feathers" and purchase the item taped to the feather. WELCA supplies the church kitchen with coffee, cleaning supplies, trash bags, etc. and the women are once again asking for some help with this task. Bring the items back to the church and place them in the kitchen the next time you come by the church. Many thanks to you! Your donations are appreciated



**WELCA COOKIES DUE NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**

Betty McDaniel  
Sara Jaksha  
Evonne Holman

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE PROJECTS**

October and November are the Stewardship Committee's two busiest months. Our most sincere thanks for the tremendous support the congregation showed to the October "Mission Possible" dinner and auctions, which raised \$7,500 (after expenses) for Youth Mission/Service projects in 2017 and beyond. Special thanks to the committee members—Bob Green, Marilyn Krause, Janet Janney, Deanna Johnson, and Pete Madison—who gave so much time to this project and to Janel Morgan and Sunvee Rosenleaf for the fantastic decorations!

November brings us to Consecration Sunday on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Our focus this year is on using our talent(s) for God. Committee members will present temple talks on Sundays Nov. 6, 13, and 20; then during worship on the 20<sup>th</sup>, we will fill out our Talent Pledge Cards. Following worship, we will celebrate our God-given talents in fellowship and a simple soup and bread meal.

***Remember, TALENT isn't just for competition shows or reality TV—it's God's gift to you!***



Dave & Kathy Murto Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Loren & Vicky Hanni Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>



Elsa Janney	Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup>
LaVonne Nuthak	Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Myrtle Marjamaa	Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup>
Harley Davidson	Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup>
Abbey Hanni	Nov. 7 <sup>th</sup>
Adria Bentley	Nov. 13 <sup>th</sup>
Georgia King	Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup>
Lorraine Arvila	Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup>
Lil Skates	Nov. 17 <sup>th</sup>
Olivia Scott	Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup>
Kaden Hanni	Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup>
Scott Nuthak	Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>
Annika Jensen	Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Tammi McDaniel	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup>
Terri Johnson	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup>
Adam Arntson	Nov. 26 <sup>th</sup>
Shirley Rossman	Nov. 26 <sup>th</sup>
Dan Sharon	Nov. 26 <sup>th</sup>

## October Newsbrief:

### Martin Luther's View of Creation

How to think about and relate to the world around us has probably been a challenge since the earliest times of the human race. And probably also since the beginning, people have done that relating and thinking in markedly different ways.

Just think of some of the words we may use: nature... the natural world... ecosystem... creation... Each seems to refer to something of the same realities; but of course, each bears its own constellation of meanings. And think of the long (and sometimes very unhappy) history of how people of faith have engaged the realities behind the words. For example, it sometimes feels like it's a long way from Gerard Manly Hopkins's sonnet that begins, "The world is charged with the grandeur of God," to concerns about pollution, climate change, and ecological collapse. Yet people of faith might still find themselves wanting somehow to hold it all together as they find themselves called into the ongoing conversation - and action - about these realities and concerns.

Our forebears in the faith still offer us some useful resources in the conversation, even though they may not have had words like "ecology" in their vocabulary. In this month's Reformation Newsbrief, Tonya Eza, who serves as pastor of Hope Lutheran Church in Powell, Wyoming (among other roles), briefly cites some elements of Martin Luther's thought that can help us continue to develop a useable and faithful frame of reference for our own thinking about and relating to the world around us. Check it out at the Montana Synod web site.

-Bob Quam

#### HELP US HELP OTHERS

If you yourself are hospitalized or in need of a pastoral care visit, or if you know of someone who is, **please let Pr. Martha know directly by calling her cell phone (406) 565-3592**, in addition to contacting the church office by calling 723-9182 or emailing [office@gloriadeibutte.org](mailto:office@gloriadeibutte.org)

### **Assistive Listening Devices**

are available from the ushers each Sunday. They are easy to use and have received "rave reviews" from those who have tried them. If you would benefit from one, be sure to check it out.