

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 7 & 10, 2024

Live a Life of Startling Generosity

Opening Hymn 803, “Day by Day”

Order of Service (From Supplement) Gathering Rite on the Word of God, Page 11

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and ever-living God, you have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in you. Grant us so firmly to believe in your Son Jesus that our faith may never be found wanting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING

Psalm of the Day (In Hymnal) Psalm 138 vv. 1 & 2

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Verse: Alleluia. *You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion.* Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day 502, “Children of the Heavenly Father”

SERMON..... “The Lord Cares for His Own” 1 Kings 17:8-16

Offering Hymn 750 v. 2, “We Give Thee but Thine Own”

Apostles’ Creed Page 20

Prayers/Lord’s Prayer

Hymn 695, “Take My Life and Let It Be”

Closing Prayer/Benediction

Closing Hymn 749 v. 1, “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16

A widow generously offers up the last bit of food she has to serve the prophet Elijah.

Then the word of the Lord came to him: “Get up! Go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there. I have commanded a woman there, a widow, to provide for you.”

So he got up and went to Zarephath. He came to the city gate, and there he saw a widow gathering sticks. He called to her and said, “Please give me a little water in a jar, so that I can have something to drink.” When she went to get it, he called to her, “Please bring me a piece of bread.” She said, “As surely as the Lord your God lives, I have no food except a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a pitcher. See, I am gathering a couple of sticks so that I can go and prepare it for myself and my son, so that we can eat it and then die.” Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid. Go and do just as you said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from the flour and bring it out to me. Then go and make another for you and your son. For this is what the Lord, the God

of Israel, says. The jar of flour will not run out and the pitcher of oil will not become empty until the day the Lord sends rain to water the surface of the ground.”

So she went and did exactly as Elijah said. He and she, as well as her household, were able to eat for many days. The jar of flour did not run out, and the pitcher of oil did not become empty, just as the Lord had said through Elijah.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

The believers in Macedonia demonstrate startling generosity in collecting an offering to help fellow Christians in need.

Now brothers, we want you to know about the grace of God that was given in the churches of Macedonia: In a severe test of trouble, their overflowing joy and their deep poverty overflowed into an abundance of their generosity. I testify that of their own free will they gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability, pleading with us with an urgent request for the gracious privilege of joining in this service to the saints. And they did this not as we had expected, but in keeping with God’s will they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us. As a result we urged Titus, since he had already made a beginning, to bring to completion this gracious gift on your part. But just as you overflow in every way—in faith, in word, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you also overflow in this gracious gift.

I do not say this as a command, but to test how genuine your love is, by comparing it with the eagerness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that although he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich.

GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44

Jesus points to a poor widow as an example of startling generosity.

He also said to them in his teaching, “Beware of the experts in the law who like to walk around in long robes and receive greetings in the marketplaces. They love the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. They devour widows’ houses and offer long prayers to look good. These men will receive greater condemnation.”

Jesus sat down opposite the offering box and was watching how the crowd put money into it. Many rich people put in large amounts. One poor widow came and put in two small bronze coins, worth less than a penny. He called his disciples together and said to them, “Amen I tell you: This poor widow put more into the offering box than all the others. For they all gave out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all that she had to live on.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEAD USHERS: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart; next Sunday: Don Koch/Doug Schulz

HEAD USHERS please be reminded that as the inclement weather season is approaching that you are responsible for making sure the steps and walkways are shoveled and/or salted for worship services falling on your respective Sundays. We thank you, in advance, for your help with this.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY: No one has signed up to host the fellowship hour which is set for **Sunday, November 24**, immediately following that Sunday's worship service. If you or a group of you would be willing to host this fellowship hour, please sign up on the sheet located on the church bulletin board or speak with Pastor Mose today! Thank you!

IT'S BACK! - ADULT CHOIR! Adult Choir will begin again on **Thursday, November 14**, at **8:00 PM**. The hope is to be able to have a song ready to sing at our Thanksgiving Day worship service. Anyone who is interested in joining this fun-filled group to sing praises to God is welcome. Please just come to our first practice. We welcome all talent, and no one will be turned away. Give it a try! We know you won't be sorry you did!

FYSH GROUP VISITS SHALOM ZOO: All teenagers are welcome to join the FYSH Group for a trip to the Shalom Zoo in West Bend on **Saturday, November 16**. The group will depart from St. Matthew's at **1:00 PM** and will stop at Dairy Queen for supper on the way home. Please bring a donation for the Dodge County Humane Society and money for supper. Please **RSVP** to **Cheri Youngbeck, Suanne Ebert, or Tanya Wald** within the next day or so!

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE: A special Thanksgiving Day worship service will be held on **Thursday, November 28**, at **9:00 AM**. Because of this service, **NO** Thursday evening worship service will be held that night. Our Thanksgiving Day offerings have been designated as follows: **100%** to the **Church Refurbishment Fund**.

REMINDER! - WOMEN IN THE WORD WORKSHOP: The "*Women in the Word Workshop*" is coming up on **Saturday, November 16**. You are invited to **St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Neosho** for a morning of fellowship and learning about using God's Word to guide your life, decision-making, and even how you manage your everyday mood. God's Word is powerful and effective for all these things! Authors Angie Molquentin and Stephanie Ihlen will lead us through the workshop. The day starts with coffee and conversation at **9:00 AM**, workshop from **9:15 AM to 11:00 AM**, updates on area women's ministry activities, followed by lunch from **11:15 AM – NOON**. It will be held in St. Paul's beautiful fellowship hall at **132 E. School Street in Neosho**. There is **no cost** for this event, although we will be grateful for any free-will offerings to help cover the cost of lunch. Encourage your friends to attend with you! To help us plan for food, please register by calling, texting, or emailing **Sam Kesting** at **920-625-2021/samantakesting@gmail.com** or **Rachel Wisniewski** at **920-860-1583/office@bethanyhustisford.com**.

CHURCH DECORATING: Please join us on **Saturday, December 7**, beginning at **11:00 AM** to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. Those in attendance and helping with the decorating will be welcome to take part in a pizza party that day as well. If you plan on attending, we ask that you sign up on the sheet located on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please include your name and the number of people in your family who will be participating. This will help us in deciding how many pizzas need to be ordered. Thank you!

AREA ADVENT SERVICE & CHILI SUPPER: Bethany Lutheran Church in Hustisford will be hosting an Advent service of lessons and carols on **Wednesday, December 4**, for our area WELS congregations. There will be a chili supper from **5:30-6:15 PM**, and the service will start at **7:00 PM**. If anyone would like to bring something for the meal, a dessert to share would be welcome. Bethany is located at 269 N. Lake Street in Hustisford. They hope to see you there!

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 25; Sunday: 106

Offerings: \$5,647.00

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$7,355.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$260.00; Church Refurbishment: \$1,000.00



We invite you to support this ministry through financial offerings out of thanksgiving for the Gospel you have received here. Offerings may be placed in the plates located on the tables at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically.

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday:	Worship Service 9:00 AM
	Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School 10:15 AM
Tuesday:	School Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Wednesday:	Nominating Committee Meeting 6:15 PM
	Church Council 7:00 PM
Thursday:	Communion Worship Service 7:00 PM
	ADULT CHOIR BEGINS! 8:00 PM
	Scrip Order Due
Saturday:	<i>Women in the Word Workshop</i> (@ St. Paul, Neosho) 9:00 AM
Sunday:	Communion Worship Service 9:00 AM
	Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School 10:15 AM