

## Introduction

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church 300 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette 743-2931 www.osluth.org Pastor Randy Schroeder

Purdue Lutheran Ministry
330 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2398 www.plm.org
Pastor Kristin Rice

August 25, 2024, 9:00 А.м.

#### All are welcome here

All people of faith, All people of doubt All people of any origin, race, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression All people who seek a compassionate community

#### All are welcome here

Welcome to worship, Welcome to pray Welcome to learn, Welcome to give thanks Welcome to serve God and neighbors

#### All are welcome here

All are redeemed by a gracious God



# The Gathering

#### **Prelude Music**

Christ is the King! (arranged by Nancy Raabe, 2007 Augsburg Fortress)

Blessed Assurance (arranged by Jeff Bennett, 1995 Lillenas Publishing)

**Call to Worship** (based on Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25, written by Nancy C. Townley, and posted on the **Worship Connection** page of the Ministry Matters website. Visit there for other great suggestions for worship on November 6, 2011.)

- PR We are pulled in many directions.
- C Many duties and tasks seek to lay claim on our lives.
- PR This day, in this place, let service to God be your choice.
- C This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.
- PR Blessed be the God of creation who has called us here.
- C Praise be to God who sustains and nurtures our lives. Amen.

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

PR Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C Amen.

PR Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

PR God, our provider,

C help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.
We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.
We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.
We take offense at your teachings and your ways.
Turn us again to you.
Where else can we turn?
Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.

PR Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, + the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C Amen.

#### Gathering Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 853: When Morning Gilds the Skies



Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt. Music: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

All rights reserved. Used with permission. under OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

## Greeting

PR The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

#### **Hymn of Praise**



#### Prayer of the Day

- PR Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

Sit

## The Word

L A reading from the book of Joshua.

#### Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

<sup>1</sup>Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2a</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 34:15-22 (Read responsively by whole verse)

- <sup>15</sup> The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.
- The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
- When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and rescues them from all their troubles.
- <sup>18</sup> The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.
- Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD rescues them from them all.
- <sup>20</sup> He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.
- <sup>21</sup> Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.
- <sup>22</sup> The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

L A reading from the book of Ephesians.

#### **Ephesians 6:10-20**

<sup>10</sup>Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

#### **Gospel Acclamation**





Lord, to whom | shall we go?\* You have the words of e- | ternal life.

PR The Holy Gospel according to John, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### John 6:56-69

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." <sup>59</sup>He said these

things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know

that you are the Holy One of God."

PR The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

**Pastor Randy Schroeder** 

#### Hymn of the Day, ELW (red), hymn 492: Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love,

we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up on the Lord, be ra diant, nev er turn a way.
- 3 An gels fold their wings a round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor ship, bless the ho ly name.



God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.

Those who seek the Lord will lack noth-ing; taste, and have your fill.

Rise to tell God's great-ness for - ev - er, won-drous deeds pro - claim!

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; With One Voice, stanzas, based on Ps. 34 Music: STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young Text and music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

All rights reserved. Used with permission. under OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

#### PR Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.\*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

#### **Prayers**

A Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. (*A brief silence*.) Holy God, you have the words of eternal life. Lead the church to put its trust in Jesus, the living Word. Direct preachers, teachers, writers, and all the baptized in faithful speech and bold witness. Guide all government leaders to be advocates for those caught in the midst of warfare and conflict, especially in Gaza, Israel, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq, Myanmar, Haiti, Russia, Ukraine, Burkina Faso, Sudan, and South Sudan Merciful God,

## C receive our prayer.

A Creator God, we and all creation are sustained by your Word. We pray for all who re mind us of our interconnectedness with all living things. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, ELCA advocacy, and local climate justice advocates. We ask you to protect those in the path of Hurricane Ernesto, the northeastern United States in the midst of record flooding, and those experiencing extreme heat throughout different regions. Merciful God,

# C receive our prayer.

A God of wisdom, as our nation navigates another election cycle, guide our leaders to act justly for the sake of the world. Bring about fruitful conversation among your people and bring about change where you see fit. Sustain all who serve on juries in their deliberations. Merciful God,

## C receive our prayer.

A God of restoration, bring healing and wholeness to all who cry to you. Where pain is sharp, bring a sense of comfort and relief. Where grief runs deep, bring your tender mercy. Care for those on our hearts especially Elly, John and Jeanette, Danny D., Zarema, Zera, and their family in Crimea, Zach, Lynn, Lawrence, Nathan and Haley, Sheila, Suzanne, Jean, and Megan. We pray for the care, safety, and well-being of women and girls around the world. Merciful God,

## C receive our prayer

- A God of new life, protect students and teachers for a new school year. Bring an end to school shootings and cycles of violence. Move us to do all that is necessary to ensure a safe future for our children. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A May your Spirit surround us as we discern our way forward as OSLC. Help us to listen, notice, and connect to your Spirit's leadership. You have called us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we may go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God of every generation, we remember with thanksgiving all who have completed their baptismal journeys. Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- PR We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.
- C Amen.

#### Peace

PR The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

## The Meal

## As we prepare to receive Holy Communion, please read the following:

For today's distribution of Holy Communion, after the Invitation to the Table, the presiding pastor will invite the worship assistants (lector, assisting minister, usher) to commune behind the altar. The presiding pastor will then commune those worshiping online and those in the sanctuary who wish to commune in their pews. Then the presiding pastor will commune those who wish to come up to the altar while the Lamb of God is played.

## Offering

Please feel free to send your regular tithe in the mail, drop it off to the church office or if you have not checked out our website and the "Your Offering Made Easy" tab, this could be your opportunity. (Ted Heise is available to answer any questions about the Vanco Online giving option. His email address is **theise@panix.com**)



Stand

## **Offering Prayer**

A Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.

C Amen.

#### The Great Thanksgiving

PR The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PR Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

PR Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PR It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



PR Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

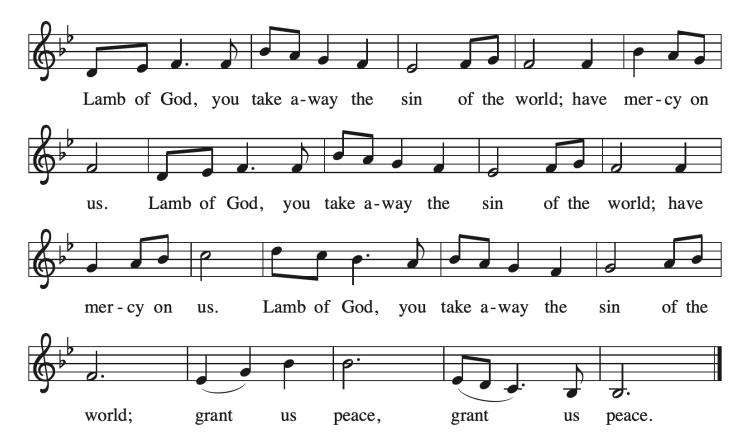
#### **Invitation to Communion**

PR The table set by Jesus is open to all, and in resurrection Christ is present in this simple food and festive drink. Jesus welcomes friends and strangers to this feast, where the grace of God's love and goodness meet us wherever we are. Here we are welcomed, affirmed, and celebrated with the gifts of God, for us, the people of God.

#### Distribution

There are gluten-free wafers and grape juice. Please indicate your need to the server.

#### Lamb of God



#### Communion Hymn: ACS, hymn 967: This Is Christ's Body



Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960 Music: BROKEN AND BLESSED, Anne Krentz Organ Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

All rights reserved. Used with permission. under OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

#### Stand

PR The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and for ever.

#### C Amen.

## **Prayer after Communion**

- A Jesus, Bread of life,
  we have received from your table
  more than we could ever ask.
  As you have nourished us in this meal,
  now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
  In your name we pray.
- C Amen.

## The Sending

#### An Invitation

#### Sending Hymn: ELW (red), Hymn 810: O Jesus, I Have Promised



#### **Blessing**

- PR The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### Dismissal

- A Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
- C Thanks be to God.

Some liturgical words from *Sundays and Seasons.com*. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000782.New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Invitation to Communion from *Common Prayer Pocket Edition*, © 2012 The Simple Way and School for Conversion

**Worship Assistants Today:** Julie Huetteman, Krista Gearhart (Musicians), Russ Hillberry (Cantor), Dick Rahdert (Assisting Minister), Missy Schroeder (Lector), Michaela, Zoe, & River Thompson (Usher), Mike Williams (A-V Specialist), Matt Ohland (Assistant to Mr. Williams)

Pastor Randy is available for pastoral care. Please contact him at: 260-402-4476 or by email: randy@osluth.org

Pastor Kristin is available for campus ministry-related care and support. Please contact her at: 262-758-1235 or by email: pastor@plm.org

We collect toiletries (travel size) to donate to the homeless shelter. The basket for your donations is in the narthex. (Look beneath the buffet.)

Our sanctuary is served by a hearing loop. Wearers of hearing aids should turn their aids to the setting marked T, or T-coil, or Telephone.

**Kid's Worship Bags and Family Room:** The kids' worship bags have been updated with new items that help children follow along with the worship service, storybook Bibles and fun activities to do. For little ones there are quiet toys, books, and activities in the family in the back of the church for the children to play with during the service. Please feel free to let your children explore.

#### **Dates OSLC is Closed in 2024:**

September 2: Labor Day

November 28 and 29: Thanksgiving

December 24 and 25: Christmas

December 31 and January 1 (2025): New Years

## **Centering Prayer Group**

Join us every Monday morning for Centering Prayer online via zoom from 9:00 - 9:30 am. The zoom link will be sent out on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

## **Luncheon Lectio Divina- Praying with Scripture**

Join us every Wednesday at noon via zoom for Lectio Divina. The zoom link will be sent on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Women, Wine (or whatever your preferred beverage) & Feminine Spirituality
Women, Wine (or whatever your preferred beverage) & Feminine Spirituality You are invited
to join us today, Sunday, August 25th, from 2:00-4:00 pm at Wildcat Creek Winery for
Women, Wine, and Feminine Spirituality. (You do not need to be 21 to go to the winery; they
sell soft drinks and wine.) We will discuss the <u>Book Fierce Women of the Bible and Their
Stories of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex, and Salvation by Alice Connor.</u> (You can
click the link to purchase the book from Amazon.) We will discuss Chapter 5– Asherah: So
God Had a Wife, Maybe? Probably. You do not need to read the previous chapters to be able to
participate. Space is limited at the winery; please contact Missy at <a href="missy@osluth.org">missy@osluth.org</a> or
260-402-4477 to let me know if you plan to attend.

#### **Lutheran World Relief School Kits**

OSLC's Faith Formation and Social Justice teams will again join together to collect items for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Last year, we assembled and sent 90 school kits to children worldwide. The need is even greater this year. As we enter July, school supplies will begin to go on sale. This is the perfect time to buy these much-needed items for our school kits. Place items in the designated space near the office in the Narthex. Thank you for your generous support to this worthy cause.

- 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose-leaf paper
- 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- pencil sharpeners
- blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 ½" eraser

## **Purdue Football Game Parking**

It is that time of year again, Football season! That means we need parking attendant volunteers. Volunteers arrive three hours before the game, collect funds for the parking, and park the cars. (There are detailed instructions for the attendants.) The parking proceeds go to our youth gathering event fund and PLM. The next youth gathering is in July 2027. PLM is taking the October 18th game. OSLC must fill the slots for the rest of the home games. Please click on the link or scan the QR code to the Sign Up Genius to find a date for when you can help. I will have a paper copy on the table near the office door. The first three games listed have times; the November game's time is TBD. I will update the Sign Up Genius as soon as I know the time. Thank

You! Purdue Football Parking Sign-Up



#### **Book Club**

Holly Black and Sandra Vana will host a virtual Book Club this fall. The Book Club will read three books and will meet via Zoom. The first meeting is September 19th at 7:00 p.m. At our September meeting, we will set the October and November dates. The September book is "Winter Garden" by Kristin Hannah. To get the Zoom link, email Sandra Vana at <a href="mailto:donklady3@gmail.com">donklady3@gmail.com</a>.

#### **PLM Wednesday Dinners**

Wednesday Dinners at the PLM House begin August 21, at 6pm. All Purdue students are invited to come for a cook-out as we welcome one another to campus for the semester. If you'd like to provide a home-cooked meal or sponsor a Wednesday dinner, please sign up by visiting <a href="mailto:plm.org/givenow">plm.org/givenow</a> or scanning this QR code (below): Talk to Pastor Kristin (<a href="mailto:pastor@plm.org">pastor@plm.org</a>) for more information.



#### **Hearts and Crafts**

Hearts and Crafts will begin again on Tuesday, September 10th, at 1:30 in Fellowship Hall. We will start with easy card making, and you can bring a craft to work on. We plan to meet monthly- we will have a small make-and-take project and then time to work on our own crafts. (May alternate between Tuesdays and Thursdays.) For more information, contact Holly Black at hmwb26@aol.com

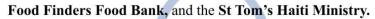
#### Women's Retreat-Wisdom, Prayer & Our Bodies

September 21st, from 9:00 am- 3:30 pm at Ross Hills Camp Join us for a day of prayer, reflection, conversation, lunch, a gentle yoga session, and time in nature. Spiritual Directors Missy Schroeder and Suzanne Clemenz, along with Gentle Yoga Instructor Linda Kelly, will guide the retreat. The attendance fee is \$35.00, payable by check to OSLC. For more information, contact Missy at <a href="missy@osluth.org">missy@osluth.org</a> or 260-402-4477. To sign up, click the <a href="Women's Retreat Sign Up">Women's Retreat Sign Up</a> link, scan the QR Code, or sign up in the Narthex.



# Hunger Hike 2024

Hunger Hike benefits the food security programs of Lafayette Urban Ministry,







Sunday, September 22 at 1:00 pm – Riehle Plaza
Choice of a1.5K <u>OR</u> 4.25 Walk
Costumed Characters, Clowns, DJ, Purdue Pete, Massages,
Hotdogs and more!

To Donate to *Team Our Saviour Lutheran* use the QR Code or go to <a href="https://secure.qgiv.com/event/hungerhike/team/968325/">https://secure.qgiv.com/event/hungerhike/team/968325/</a>

hungerhike.org | info@hungerhike.org



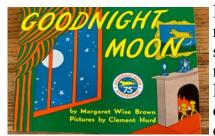


Mark your calendars for Mission Guatemala, Spring Break 2025 - PLM is organizing a spring break trip next year with Mission Guatemala, March 15-22, 2025. Mission Guatemala has been serving God and the people of the central highlands of Guatemala since 2010. Their focus is on health, education and nutrition. Our main goal is building relationships and accompanying our siblings in Guatemala, through cultural immersion, education, and working alongside the local leaders and communities. We will spend some of our time working through one or two small pieces of much bigger projects. Past groups have helped with creating playgrounds, building restrooms and handwash stations at schools, and many other community needs. We will also have opportunities to engage with the local communities and widen our own knowledge of what makes Guatemala unique and special. For more information, please visit www.missionguatemala.com. This trip will be a joint venture of PLM and OSLC, and will be open to current students and alum as well as anyone in the wider community interested in joining us. If you'd like to receive more information or are interested in coming along, please email Pastor Kristin (pastor@plm.org) or Pastor Randy (randy@osluth.org). There will be an informal interest session on September 8th after Breaking Bread at 5pm at OSLC and September 15th at PLM at 7pm.

**2024 Annual Environment and Spirituality Summit** (formerly known as the Green Team Summit) is scheduled for September 22nd-24th. If you are interested and want more information please use this link <a href="https://aes-summit.org/">https://aes-summit.org/</a> or contact Shelley Lowenburg-DeBoer <a href="mailto:shelleyldb@hotmail.com">shelleyldb@hotmail.com</a>

#### Godly Play Invitation-

This Fall, we are experimenting with a new Sunday School method called Godly Play. Many of you experienced Godly Play in June when Carol and Missy held a Godly Play session during the Adult Forum. We witnessed how the kids engaged with the story and the materials. Play-based storytelling is a powerful way of passing on our faith stories to the children at OSLC. We have been working to pull the stories together this summer and prepare the room for Godly Play this Fall. Please take a moment to read this heartfelt message from Carol and consider if you would be interested.



I love everything about storytelling. I love the stories and the messages. I love the familiarity and comfort of sharing time and space with important people. I love that the essence of those moments stays with me forever as part of my very being. When Meghan was little, a precious, awe-inspiring life truth was born deep in me. I discovered the power and the joy of storytelling in the experience of rocking a new baby in a quiet, cozy room and reading

treasured stories like "Goodnight Moon" by Margaret Wise Brown. Meghan was snuggled in warm blankets made by women of her family who gifted her with these reminders of her heritage and the legacy of ancestors who came before her. As she cuddled her Winnie the Pooh bear, the rhythm of the rocking chair and the rhythm of the words in the book soothed my baby and my soul. Repeatedly reading those loved stories built a bridge that spans time and space. Sometimes, we end our calls with the phrase, "Goodnight, moon!" Storytelling is powerful and is our lifeline to those who came before us and still influence us. I am so excited about participating in Godly Play because it takes me right back to my own family stories. I am ready to try my hand at sharing the stories of God and God's people with the youth of OSLC.

Here it comes! A shameless plug for more storytellers to participate in this experience! If you love telling children stories, or if your children are grown and flown and you realize you miss those times, too, please consider joining us as little or as often as you might like in telling the stories of God's people to our children. Thanks for your consideration!

## Carol Grady

\*

If this sparks interest, wonder, or excitement, please get in touch with Carol (cgrady8@comcast.net) or Missy(missy@osluth.org). Carol and I will hold Godly Play-based training for those interested in being storytellers today, **August 25th after the 9:00 am worship** service in our newly updated Sunday School Room. We will walk you through everything you will need to be a storyteller. We hope to have 3-5 storytellers so people have an opportunity to participate, but it is only an occasional Sunday commitment. We have all the stories planned out for the 2024/2025 year, so you will know the story you are telling well in advance and become familiar with it.

We also need door greeters/ helpers in the classroom. This person is the second adult in the classroom and helps prepare the children to get ready and enter the classroom. They also help them with their exploration (play) and art time. We recommend attending one of the training dates if you want to be a door greeter.

#### **About Our Nave**

Against the north wall is the Tree of Life, designed by the late liturgical designer Charles Pohlmann and constructed in 1996 by then-OSLC member Ted Marshall. The processional cross was given to OSLC in memory of Jennie Dana. Many of our paraments were designed and hand-woven by OSLC member Bea Stromberg. The west wall is lined with seven wood carvings depicting the life of Christ commissioned from the late Nigerian carver Lamidi Fakeye. At the center of the nave stands a marble baptismal font, a gift from members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The prints of paintings on the east wall are by nationally known liturgical artist He Qi. The center piece is given by the Church Council in honor of Sam Rasmy for his long-time service as Financial Secretary of OSLC. The Last Supper, by Guatemalan artist Angelina Quic Ixtamer, was purchased by the 2014 Guatemala Mission Team. The OSLC logo was redesigned in 2022 with elements reflecting the unique architecture of the sanctuary, the 2019 addition of the south stained-glass window, our affiliation with the ELCA, and the eternal presence of our Lord and Saviour.

References to the Tree of Life are found in both the Old and New Testaments. It has both literal and symbolic meaning for Christians: it is the literal tree of life in Genesis, and in Revelation it represents everlasting life granted to those who display fruits of the spirit and of righteousness aligned with God's principles.

## Our Saviour's Vision, Mission, and Values (October 4, 2018)

Vision God calls us to be a community of discipleship for all,

making Christ's love real in our daily lives.

**Mission** *Grow in faith and Christian calling* 

Love and serve God and neighbor Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Values Centered in liturgical worship

Outreach to campus and partnership with Purdue Lutheran Ministry

Education and mentoring for all ages Responsible stewardship of resources

Care, compassion and service in the local and global community