



**October 6, 2024**

20th Sunday after Pentecost  
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

**Introduction to the day**

Today's gospel includes Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

This worship is being streamed live via Facebook and will be posted to our Website and X (formerly Twitter).  
The camera captures anyone in the first few pews of our worship space and beyond extending to the altar.

**PRELUDE  
LIGHTING OF CANDLES  
RINGING OF BELL  
WELCOME**

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly stands.

Please respond with the words printed in bold.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

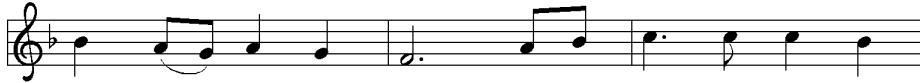
**GATHERING SONG *All Our Welcome* (ELW 641) See next page.**



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen  
 Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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**GREETING (ELW p. 184)**

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

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 188)**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

*Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).*

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken.”

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 8

<sup>1</sup>O LORD our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—  
<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;  
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**  
<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,  
<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,  
human beings that you should care for them?**  
<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor you crown them.  
<sup>6</sup>**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:**  
<sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle,  
even the wild beasts of the field,  
<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**  
<sup>9</sup>O LORD our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

*Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God’s right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.*

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>2:5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
or mortals, that you care for them?

<sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;  
you have crowned them with glory and honor,

<sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,<sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* (ELW 172)**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -  
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

### **GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16**

*Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. Children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

The assembly stands.

**HYMN OF THE DAY *Children of the Heavenly Father* (ELW 781)**



*Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,*  
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



*stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.*  
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958  
Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune  
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 189)**

**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 OF INTERCESSION**

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

*Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy." Those worshipping respond with the hymn on the next page, "Hear Our Prayer" (ELW 178).*



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:  
 peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.  
 God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Text and music: Paul Address, b. 1956  
 Text and music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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

**Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 189)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

The assembly is seated.

**OFFERING (ELW p. 190)**

*We are grateful for your gifts, and they are needed to continue the work of the church. For those worshipping online, options on ways to give are found on our website ([www.wbbethany.org](http://www.wbbethany.org)). Thank you! After the offering is gathered, the people of God stand and sing the hymn below as the gifts are brought forward.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN To God Our Thanks We Give (ELW 682)**



Re - a - mo le - bo - ga, re - a - mo le - bo - ga,  
 To God our thanks we give, to God our thanks we give,  
 re - a - mo le - bo - ga mo - di - mo wa ro - na.  
 to God our thanks we give, our thanks to God we give.

Text: Botswanan traditional, as taught by Daisy Nshakazongwe; tr. I-to Loh, b. 1936  
 Music: REAMO LEBOGA, Botswanan traditional, as taught by Daisy Nshakazongwe  
 Text and music © 1986 World Council of Churches and the Asian Institute for Liturgy and Music

**OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 190)**

Let us pray.

**Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**DIALOGUE (ELW p. 190)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

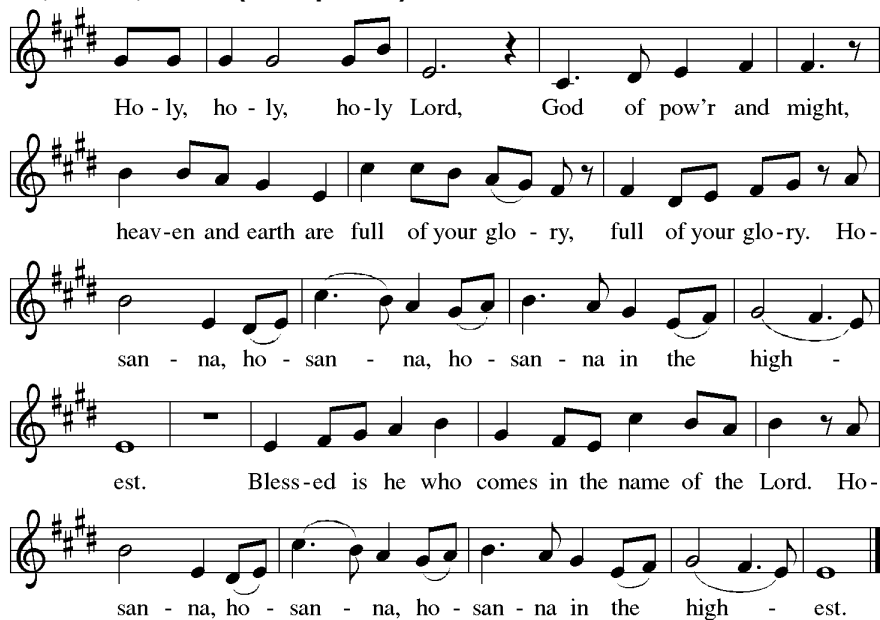
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE (ELW p. 190)**

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:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 190)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 190)**

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.



## LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 191)

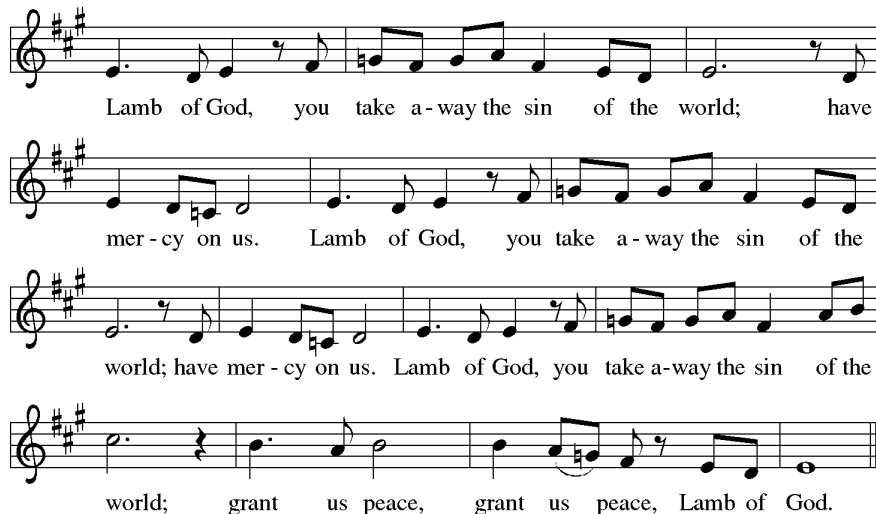
Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly is seated.

## COMMUNION

*Communion today will be distributed around the altar. The cups in the center of the tray contain white grape juice. All other cups are wine. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. All gathered who believe Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior are invited to come to Holy Communion with repentant hearts believing that Christ forgives our sins and guides our lives. Strengthened, forgiven, and nourished through this meal the Spirit sends us forth in service and to proclaim the good news of Christ's love. Children and adults who do not take communion may come forward for a blessing.*

## COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 191)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## For the Beauty of the Earth (ELW879)



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

## Now Thank We All Our God (ELW 840)



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voic - es,  
2 Oh, may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,



who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es;  
with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spir - it blest, who reign in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,  
the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

The assembly stands.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 191)

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG All Creatures, Worship God Most High! (ELW 835)**



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and  
 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and  
 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the  
 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor  
 grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,  
 throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in  
 grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:  
 clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -  
 care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:  
 fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

**BLESSING (ELW p. 192)**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL (ELW p. 192)**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the Great Hall following worship.*

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		
Ministers of:	Today	October 13
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	Heidi Christensen	Del Hughes
Hospitality (Greeter)	Jon & Laura Twing	Al & Claudia Beyer
Technology	Dale Swenson	Dave Poppen
Worship (Altar Care)	Kent & Beth Kaufman	Kent & Beth Kaufman



Thank you for worshipping with us today. Just as Jesus welcomed the stranger, we believe all are welcome here. Please join us again next week. For more information about our life together in Christ, visit: [www.wbbethany.org](http://www.wbbethany.org)

Parents, grandparents,  
mentors, children & youth



RSVP  
Appreciated

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

**FAITH FORWARD  
FAMILY OPEN  
HOUSE**

6-7:30 PM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Walking tacos and Faith Forward  
family activity stations.

Please bring a pair of new, packaged socks  
for Socktober that will go to Shelter House.

### Land Acknowledgement

Bethany Lutheran is located in the original and ancestral homelands of the Iowa, Sauk, Fox, Kickapoo and Oceti Sakowin peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

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### Stewardship Commitment Card

### Bethany Lutheran Church

Names: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

With a grateful heart, I/we commit to **Pray Often**, **Serve Joyfully**, and **Give Generously**

Please contact me/us with opportunities to participate more intentionally to **Pray Often**

Please contact me/us with opportunities to be more involved in Ministry to **Serve Joyfully**

Please count on me/us to **Give Generously**:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Annually