



Stewardship Sunday - The Giving in Service

October 22, 2023

Welcome to Northdale Lutheran! We are so glad you are joining us to proclaim what God has done and to sing his praises. Here the Lord also comes to us and strengthens us with his mighty Word. Take a moment to meet and greet those around you! Also:

- ❖ Restrooms are in the entrance and through the nursery hallway.
- ♿ ❖ Handicapped accessible restroom facilities are located through the nursery hallway and back in the preschool area.
- ❖ To help keep the sanctuary as a quiet place of worship and meditation and for your convenience, a Nursing Mother's Room is available in the back of the sanctuary. This is a private place for nursing mother's and infant children if needed during worship. Please ask an usher if you have need of assistance.
- ❖ Everything you need for worship is printed in the worship folder.
- ❖ There are "Busy Bags" available for young children. They are hanging on the wall next to the organ. Parents - Please keep the busy bags clean and in order before hanging them back up.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Opening Hymn, CW #528 vs 1-4

Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

Please Stand

Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father,**

We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please Be Seated

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord our God, so govern the nations on earth and direct the affairs of this world that your church may worship you in peace and joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading Romans 12:1–8

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Children's Devotion

At this time, we invite all our young people to come forward to hear a special message prepared just for them.

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1–13

¹As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

⁷But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸This is why it says:

“When he ascended on high,
he took many captives
and gave gifts to his people.”

⁹(What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) ¹¹So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Hymn, CW #751

O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

Sermon Daniel 1:3–21

³Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— ⁴young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. ⁵The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

⁶Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. ⁷The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

⁸But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. ⁹Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel, ¹⁰but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

¹¹Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, ¹²"Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. ¹³Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." ¹⁴So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

¹⁵At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. ¹⁶So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

¹⁷To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

¹⁸At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service. ²⁰In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

²¹And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

SERVE THE LORD FAITHFULLY!

- 1. Where He places you,**
- 2. With the gifts He gives you.**

Please Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please Be Seated

Offering

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34) The members of Northdale Lutheran joyfully give our offerings to the LORD in response to the many ways he has blessed us. Online giving is now set up and available through our membership software entitled Breeze. You can give through Breeze two ways: 1) You can give by texting "Give" to (813) 652-0408. 2) You can go to <https://northdale.breezechms.com/give/online>.

Please Stand

Prayer of the Church

Blessing

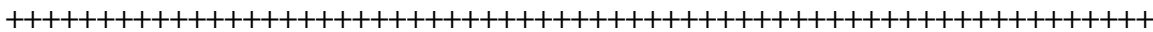
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Please Be Seated



Announcements:

Fall Festival 2023!

We will be having our annual **Fall Festival on Saturday, October 28th from 10:00am - 2:00pm**. Today there are chances to sign-up for volunteer positions.

Pastor Appreciation

We will be celebrating *Pastor Appreciation Month* on October 29th with a cake for Pastor Guse after the 10:30am service. There is a donation box in the back of church if you would like to remember Pastor with a gift.

NCA Open Forum

If you would like to find out what's been going on at our academy and some new upcoming things as well, join us for an online open forum on **Thursday, October 26th at 6:30pm**. The link to the forum is <http://meet.google.com/hkj-pqqo-ztv>

John Kim Sr. Funeral

Visitation will begin at 1:00pm, and service will be at 2:00pm. Visitation and service will be here at Northdale Lutheran with a light reception and gathering to follow.

Trivia Potluck Night

Come join us for our annual Trivia Potluck Night on Friday November 3rd at 6pm. Please bring a dish to share. Prizes to be won and fun to be had! Kids are encouraged to come along.

Stewardship Sundays

Over these next weeks we will be focusing on the Christian's Giving. As Christians we give of our time, talents, and offerings in our service to God and for the advancement of his kingdom. We will be focusing on; *The Principles of Giving, The Value of Giving, and The Joy of Giving.*

"Prayers For".....

"I urge then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people." (1 Timothy 2:1) As a body of Christ, we can show our love by praying for one another. Please submit all your prayer requests to the church office - office@northdalelutheran.org

Congregational Prayers For....

(Jim and Shirley Doer) for Don Bublitz undergoing treatments for blood clots, *(Tim and Jamie Spiegelberg)* 16yr old daughter Tatum as doctors are struggling to find a cure for her rare disease, *(Kim family)* for John Kim Sr who finished his earthly race in faith and was called home to his eternal rest this past week. *(The War in Israel)* asking the Lord to protect the innocent and to bring this time of hostility to a peaceful end.

Contact Information

Pastor Matthew Guse: 920-517-9000 Pastor@NorthdaleLutheran.org
Principal Dane Mattes: 920-588-7599 Dane.Mattes@NorthdaleLutheran.org
EC Director Joanne Mattes: 920-588-7596 Joanne.Mattes@NorthdaleLutheran.org

Serving Today

Music: 8:30/10:30 - Elizabeth Guse
Ushers: 8:30- Busch
10:30 - Smayling/Schebel

Serving Next Week

Music: 8:30/10:30 - Dane Mattes
Ushers: 8:30 - Romehildt/Schofer
10:30 - Allan/Faucette

2022-2023 Year to Date Offerings Through August 2023

General Offering Received: \$41,513.97
General Offering Budgeted:\$45,833.34
Ahead or (Short) Year to Date: \$-4,319.37
Average Weekly Offerings Received (9 weeks): \$4,613
Average Weekly Offerings Budgeted (52 weeks): \$ 5,288