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Twenty Fifth Day After Pentecost

November 10, 2024

God's Generosity Brings New Life



As we cross a busy street, a stranger's cry of "WATCH OUT!" will certainly send our heart racing. Such an outburst may not be what we expect to hear, but it is the warning needed for us to get out of the way of an approaching threat. Jesus catches our attention with a similar word today: "Beware." Beware the violence of a

system that devours widows' houses while hiding behind prayers and piety; there is danger here! But this is not the only relationship Jesus urges his followers to pay attention to today. He also invites them to be aware of how one widow in their community is responding: she gives—and gives generously. What might that mean for us?

God gives generously too. We often talk about God's generosity being rooted in God's love for us. From the moment we were baptized, we have been reminded of such love that goes with us through death and into the new life God brings. This love takes seriously all the things that tear apart our lives and world—and pays attention to where healing and repair might take hold.

God is always rooting *for us*, and we trust that Christ's resurrection life will bring us through hardships when death has done its worst. What a gift it is to be gathered into the worshiping community week after week, to again be centered around Christ's table and its generous promises of grace that renew us and make us whole: "The body of Christ, given for you; the blood of Christ, shed for you." This is generosity! This is new life!

Yet we do not stay at the table. We are sent from it, together. Where do we go from here? Where might we share such grace and love this week? Perhaps not only "Beware" but also "Be aware" are our invitations to generosity as Jesus draws our attention to all the important relationships around us.

Presiding Minister: Rev. Scott Bryte

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance Hymn ELW 679 For the Fruit of All Creation

Hymn of the day ELW 583 Take My Life, That I May Be

**Communion Hymn ELW 712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
and ELW 638 Blessed Assurance**

Sending Hymn ELW 441 Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand

Communion- If you need assistance or are unable to come to the communion rail, you can either stand at the step or stay in your seat and Pastor will come to you. If you are unable to receive either the consecrated bread or wine, receiving either one is acceptable.

Membership- There are many ways to be connected with our congregation. Everyone is welcome to participate in any and all congregation activities; and anyone baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is welcome to Holy Communion. We welcome your request for membership.

Pastor Bryte is the preacher this Sunday at Faith as we are doing a pulpit swap. It's a chance for our "sister" congregations to get to know Vicar Wendy and Pr Bryte as the official Interim Pastor at Faith.

We are collecting our favorite hymns for a hymn sing during our November 24 worship service. Please write your 3 favorite hymns on the form and place it in the offering plate, email it to vicarwendyf@gmail.com, or call it into the office! We can find the hymn# if you remember the first line of the hymn. **We will collect these, find the 3-5 most popular and will sing them during the Nov 24 worship service!**

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service, Tues. Nov 26th at 7:00 pm - at Bryan Mawr Church, 2901 State Street, White Oak. See Vicar Wendy or Apryle if you would like to sing in the Community Choir for this service. How glorious to have our community gather in Thanksgiving of God's bounty!

Bruce Campbell, Insurance Services – Will be here on Monday, November 11th noon – 4 to review changes and recommendations in hospital and prescription drugs for the 2025 year.

Council Meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 21st at 12:30

Festival of Trees – Theme this year is Away in the Manger. Volunteers needed to help make ornaments and to set up. Specific dates will be forthcoming. See Daisy, Katrina or Pam to volunteer.

Baking for Mission Agape for Thanksgiving: Drop off for baked goods for Mission Agape is 11/12/2024 from 5pm to 6pm. They are asking recipients to freeze the desserts. They are providing ingredients this year, they are not cooking. Address for Mission Agape is 1201 Prescott Street White Oak, PA 15131. Drop off is at their cafeteria entrance. Parking is available in their lot and walk down to the cafeteria entrance. Mission Agape is located above the gym at Penn State Greater Allegheny.

Mission Agape Toy Drive- We are an official drop off point. Bring unwrapped presents before December 15th. Toys can be dropped off Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays from 9 – 1.

A Noisy Offering on Sunday November 24th will be taken for Mission Agape. Time to clean out your pocket change! Dollar bills also make noise, just not as loud as coins! All money donated will go towards food items requested by Mission Agape. Vicar Wendy will be taking the confirmands shopping with this money and incorporate it into a confirmation lesson.

LifeSpan's Meal on Wheels 15th annual Holiday Sweet Treats Cookie Drive for homebound seniors. Donations being received by Friday, Dec. 6th. See flyer for more information on the bulletin board and in narthex.

Harvest Home and Thanksgiving offerings – When using your Harvest Home and Thanksgiving envelopes (or any envelope marked Harvest Home or Thanksgiving), please keep in mind that your donation will go to Mission Agape and Meals on Wheels.

Bible Storytelling – Please join us this Tuesday, November 12, as we continue our study of St Mark's Gospel. George will be our leader as we focus on The Last Supper, Mark 14:12-26. Margie offered to provide the snacks. Thank you George and Margie!

We will have finished St Mark's Gospel by the beginning of Advent. Stay tuned for our topic for this year's Advent study.

Faith Library -The Faith Library is open to everyone! Read, borrow and return. It's free!