



*Stories Jesus Told*  
*"The Pharisee and the Tax Collector"*



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Glencoe Union Church

May 12, 2024

PRELUDE

*Meditation on "O Perfect Love"  
Prière à Notre-Dame from Suite Gothique*

Don Hustad  
Leon Boëllman

WELCOME

Erin R. Raska

\*GATHERING SONG *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

**All: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

Choir: Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
He is the King of creation.

**All: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

Choir: Come let us praise the living God,  
Joyfully sing to our Savior.

**All: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

Ken Crews

\*OPENING HYMN *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Hymn No. 12

CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER

Erin R. Raska

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that 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.**

*(time for silent confession)*

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we might delight in your will  
and follow in your ways, to the glory of your name.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

By dying, Christ destroyed our death.

**In rising, Christ restores our life;**

In giving us his Spirit,  
**He grants us peace.**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*All are invited to greet one another with signs and words of peace: "The Peace of Christ be with you."*

During the Passing of the Peace, **children 1st-4th grade** are invited to join Ms. Cristina for Sunday school. Children will be met by Cristina at the back of the sanctuary.

**\*RESPONSE**

*O for a World*

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,  
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,  
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 18: 9-14

Ken Crews

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' "I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

**ANTHEM**

*Set Me as a Seal*

René Clausen

Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm,  
For love is strong as death.  
Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can the floods drown it.

**SERMON**

*"Stories Jesus Told:  
The Pharisee and the Tax Collector"*

Ken Crews



## *Welcome to Glencoe Union Church*

We are delighted that you are here and trust you will find yourself at home among us, where our mission is to Love God, Love Others and Love the World. If you are visiting today, we invite you to fill out a Visitor Card found in the pew back and place it in the offering tray at the rear of the Sanctuary. To stay up to date on GUC's news, events and opportunities sign-up for our weekly email by emailing us at, [office@glencoeunionchurch.org](mailto:office@glencoeunionchurch.org).

We look forward to meeting you and please don't hesitate to reach out to either of the GUC pastors.

Rev. Erin Raska, Senior Minister, [erin@glencoeunionchurch.org](mailto:erin@glencoeunionchurch.org), 847-858-0925

Rev. Ken Crews, Associate Minister, [ken@glencoeunionchurch.org](mailto:ken@glencoeunionchurch.org), 773-569-1115

### *Fellowship Hour*

We believe that our worship extends beyond the Sanctuary and into the Great Hall for a time of refreshment and fellowship. All are invited to join us immediately following today's service.

Our Coffee Hour hosts today are members of the GUC Choir:  
V Steinbaum, Risha Hussain & Aaron Amhof

*You may contribute online to the ongoing ministry of  
Glencoe Union Church by visiting our website,  
([www.glencoeunionchurch.org](http://www.glencoeunionchurch.org)).*



## This Week at GUC

<b>Sun, May 12, 5:00-6:30 p.m.</b>	Pitch Youth, Grades 8-12, Youth Room
<b>Mon, May 13, 4:00 p.m.</b>	Interfaith Knitting Ministry, Great Hall
<b>Tues, May 14, 7:00 p.m.</b>	Adult Education: Storytelling Workshop, Great Hall
<b>Wed, May 15, 7:30 p.m.</b>	Choir Rehearsal, Cornell Room
<b>Sun, May 19, 10:00 a.m.</b>	Pentecost Sunday; New Members Joining
<b>Sun, May 19, 11:15 a.m.</b>	LCN Lunch-packing, Cornell Room
<b>Sun, May 19, 4:00-6:00 p.m.</b>	C24/7 Junior Board Info Session, Cornell Room

## **Storytelling Workshops:**

**Tuesday, May 14, Rescheduled: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

This workshop will invite each us into the spiritual practice of telling our own stories and noticing how those stories are a part of a larger story; God's story. Former GUC Associate Pastor, Rebecca Anderson, will lead our time together. This workshop promises to be fun, and funny, meaningful, and will move us towards a deeper understanding of how God is at work in our lives.

**June 1, 9am - 12pm**

How to build a (better) story; gather for a fun, conversational (but structured!) workshop, generating ideas and getting some tools in the mix to craft your own stories.

What's in it for you:

- Tools for the craft of true, first person storytelling.
- How to listen for your own stories.
- How to build a story. (Spoiler: by knowing what it's about, and what to leave out!)
- Structure, delivery, and how to land that elusive mic-drop last line.

Come work on a story for GUC summer worship or just to flex your storytelling muscles.

**Women's Breakfast: Sat, May 18, 9:30 a.m.**

Consider joining other GUC women for this potluck breakfast and the opportunity to build friendship and community!

We begin with a warm, full breakfast, an inspiring reading, along with insightful conversation and reflection. We hope you will join us!

To RSVP please contact Virginia at [office@glencoeunionchurch.org](mailto:office@glencoeunionchurch.org)

**Knitting Ministry: Monday May 20, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

Bring your needles and yarn, or just an interest in learning and laughing, and enjoy this wonderful opportunity for fellowship and service.

Amazing teachers are glad to help you learn!

Questions? Contact Laurie Jaffe at [lauriejaf@gmail.com](mailto:lauriejaf@gmail.com).

**Men's Breakfast: Sat, May 29, 8:00 a.m.**

Join other GUC men for fellowship and a delicious hot breakfast in the Cornell Room.

To sign-up or to learn more about the breakfast, contact Kevin Kohlstedt at [kkohlstedt@gmail.com](mailto:kkohlstedt@gmail.com).

### **GUC Book Club: Thurs, May 23, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

Gather with fellow readers at GUC in the Great Hall. Looking ahead we will be reading:

May 23 - "American Dirt" by Jeanine Cummins.

June 27 - "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride.

July 25 - "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt.

For more information please contact Paula Giovacchini at [paula@giogroupinc.com](mailto:paula@giogroupinc.com).

### **Choir Sunday, June 2, 10:00 a.m.**

The Chancel Choir is excited to announce the musical offering for our annual Choir Sunday. During our Sunday worship service on Sunday, June 2, we will present the hauntingly beautiful Requiem by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924). Written while he was serving as maître de musique at the church of Sainte-Marie-Madeleine in Paris, this gorgeous Romantic setting of the traditional catholic Mass for the Dead has become one of the most beloved large-scale choral works of the nineteenth century. Similar to the Requiem settings by Maurice Duruflé and Johannes Brahms, the piece functions as a consolation to the living rather than a maudlin lament on the impermanence of our earthly existence. As the composer wrote: "It has been said that my Requiem...is a lullaby of death. It is thus that I see death: as a happy deliverance, an aspiration towards happiness above, rather than as a painful experience." The Chancel Choir will be joined by an orchestra of local professionals for our presentation of extraordinary, powerful work. You won't want to miss it!

### **Looking Ahead:**

#### **Bike & Brunch is back! Saturdays, June 8, & July 13, 9:30 a.m.**

All skill levels are invited to join. We meet at GUC and bike to our brunch destination. Look for more details coming soon. For questions or more information contact Cheryl Miller at [ckinsman@cgjungcenter.org](mailto:ckinsman@cgjungcenter.org).

#### **An Evening with GUC Friends at Ravinia: Sunday Evening July 21.**

Chicago Symphony Orchestra with Marin Alsop performing. We gather at Ravinia to share a picnic dinner and music! More details to come.

# SPRING SEASON OF SERVICE

**La Casa Norte Lunch-making, Cornell Rm, Sundays,  
May 19th, & June 16th, 11:15am**

GUC members are invited to gather the 3rd Sunday of each month to help prepare 100 lunches for clients of La Casa Norte. Scan the QR code to sign up.



**C24/7 Junior Board Info Session & Callout Meeting  
Sunday, May 19th, 4pm-6pm, Glencoe Union Church**

The C24/7 Junior Board, made up of high school students, partners with the C24/7 ministry to help support, build relationships and connect resources for the C24/7 After School Program in Rogers Park.

Students in 8th-12th grade, and their parents, are invited to come learn more about the Junior Board and C24/7. Guests will enjoy activities, learning opportunities, and pizza!

Please RSVP to [ken@glencoeunionchurch.org](mailto:ken@glencoeunionchurch.org).



**STARE AT THE SUN**  
CHICAGO'S NEW-MUSIC CHAMBER CHOIR

**Saturday, May 18, 8:00pm**  
Wicker Park Lutheran Church, Chicago

**Sunday, May 19, 4:00pm**  
Winnetka Congregational Church, Winnetka

**You Through Me**  
featuring Caroline Shaw's *To The Hands*



A.J.'s choir Stare at the Sun is presenting their spring concert program next weekend. The concert explores the issue of human migration and the ways in which categorization of demographic groups allows us to become callous to the experiences of individuals. We are looking forward to performing **Caroline Shaw's** breathtaking cantata *To the Hands* and a new work by Filipina composer **Anya Lagman** concerning one's relationship to their country of ethnic heritage. The program's titular piece, *You Through Me*, is **Alex Berko's** musical love letter to the public spaces in our communities that cultivate human connection. We'll also sing some fantastic new works by the winners of our **first-ever Call for Scores**: Xingzimin Pan, Max Vinetz, and Alissa Voth.

Tickets are pay what you will with no minimum. Cash and card accepted at the door.