Bethany Lutheran Church 4644 Clark Avenue Long Beach, CA 90808 <u>www.bethanylutheran.org</u> (562) 421-4711

3 rd SUNDAY IN LENT	+	+	+	MARCH 20, 2022
				9:30 AM

+ God Gathers Us In His Presence +

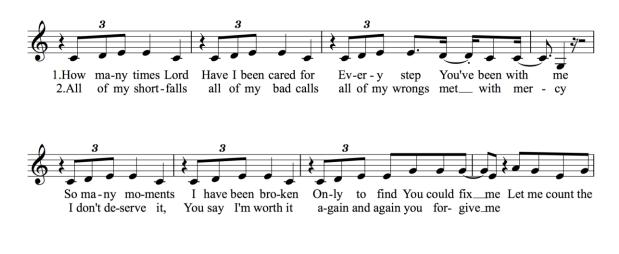
 PRELUDE:
 "Rejoice Greatly"
 Intermediate Bells

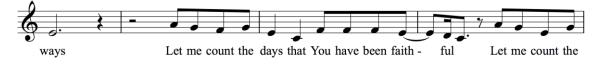
 ~ Susan E. Geschke
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 - Susan E. Geschke

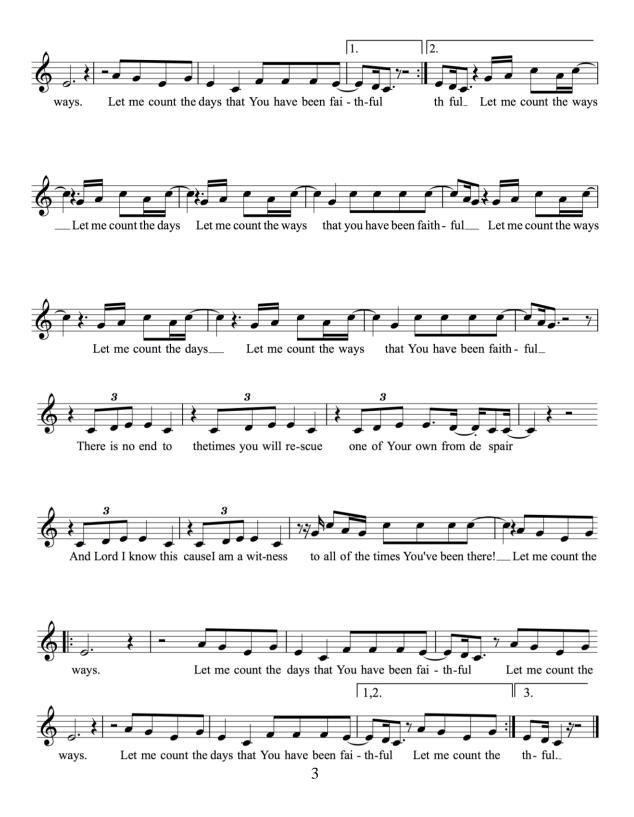
WELCOME

OPENING HYMN:

"Let Me Count the Ways"







OPENING SENTENCES / INVOCATION:

Leader:	By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established. (<i>Proverbs 24:3</i>)
People:	As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. (Joshua 24:15)
Leader:	By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. (<i>Proverbs 24:4</i>)
People:	As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. (Joshua 24:15)
Leader:	In Christ you are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (<i>Ephesians 2:22</i>)
People:	As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. Amen! (Joshua 24:15)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: (Based on Deuteronomy 6 & Ephesians 2)

Leader:	Lord, You are One,				
	and You have called us to love You with all of our heart, soul and might;				
	and You have commanded that Your Word should be on our hearts.				

People:O Lord our God, the One and only
by our own actions our households have not been filled with love.
We confess before You our lack of love.
We have not loved You as we should.
We have not loved others as we love ourselves.
We have been self-centered and self-satisfied.
Yet, out of Your eternal love for us You sent Your Son
to show us how to love and to love us even unto death.

(People's response continues on next page.)

People: In His name we ask Your forgiveness and pray that You would fill us with His Spirit, so that we may truly love and serve You. Loving others as You have loved us. Loving not just those who love us, but those who count us as enemies. Through Your lavish love, forgive us and help us to forgive others. Write Your love upon our hearts. Use our hands to bring that love to others. Keep Your love before our eyes that we may see You in others. Make our households places of love and forgiveness once again. Amen. Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together,

Amen!

People:

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Leader: Lord, thank You for hearing our prayers even though they may be messy and imperfect at times. Write Your Word upon our hearts and enable us to teach Your Word as we sit together and as we walk the way, as we lie down and as we rise so that our household may know You.

grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

People: Amen.

+ God Gives Us the Gift of His Word +

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 6:6-9

T ake to heart these words that I give you today. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you're at home or away, when you lie down or get up. Write them down, and tie them around your wrist, and wear them as headbands as a reminder. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. – GW®

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 5:1-11

Now that we have God's approval by faith, we have peace with God because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done. Through Christ we can approach God and stand in His favor. So we brag because of our confidence that we will receive glory from God. But that's not all. We also brag when we are suffering. We know that suffering creates endurance, endurance creates character, and character creates confidence. We're not ashamed to have this confidence, because God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Look at it this way: At the right time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for ungodly people. Finding someone who would die for a godly person is rare. Maybe someone would have the courage to die for a good person. Christ died for us while we were still sinners. This demonstrates God's love for us.

Since Christ's blood has now given us God's approval, we are even more certain that Christ will save us from God's anger. If the death of His Son restored our relationship with God while we were still His enemies, we are even more certain that, because of this restored relationship, the life of His Son will save us. In addition, our Lord Jesus Christ lets us continue to brag about God. After all, it is through Christ that we now have this restored relationship with God. - GW®

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

"Don't be troubled. Believe in God, and believe in Me. My Father's house has many rooms. If that were not true, would I have told you that I'm going to prepare a place for you? If I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again. Then I will bring you into my presence so that you will be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where You're going. So how can we know the way?"

Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one goes to the Father except through Me. If you have known Me, you will also know My Father. From now on you know Him through Me and have seen Him in Me."

Philip said to Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father, and that will satisfy us."

Jesus replied, "I have been with all of you for a long time. Don't you know Me yet, Philip? The person who has seen Me has seen the Father. So how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? What I'm telling you doesn't come from Me. The Father, who lives in Me, does what He wants. Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and that the Father is in Me. Otherwise, believe Me because of the things I do.

"I can guarantee this truth: Those who believe in Me will do the things that I am doing. They will do even greater things because I am going to the Father. I will do anything you ask the Father in My name so that the Father will be given glory because of the Son. If you ask Me to do something, I will do it. - GW®



HOUSEHOLD HUDDLE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 20TH

SHARE your highs and lows:

Ask each person in your household to share something positive that happened or an encounter that brought them joy over the past day or week. It could be a connection with a friend or co-worker, it could be a book they are reading or something fun that happened at the grocery store. After sharing a high, each person can share a low. These might include things that were hard, sad, or difficult. It might be a strained relationship or a disappointment at school. Highs and lows are shared in confidence and should not be shared outside the huddle unless expressly permitted. Often time what is shared during the highs and lows can inform the prayer that you will share together later in the huddle.

READ A Bible verse or story:

Reading for this week: Deuteronomy 6:6-9

TALK about the reading:

- This reading calls households to consistently have the words of the Lord on their minds and flow through their actions.
- Why is this important for households? Why is this hard for households?
- What is your household currently doing to keep the words of the Lord in the forefront of your life together?
- What things would you like to add to what your household is doing so that others might be blessed?

PRAY for one another:

Thinking about what has been shared already in your household huddle, how can you pray for one another today?

BLESS one another in words and actions:

Have someone read the following blessing aloud to the members of your household.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.







+ We Give Thanks for God's Word +

OFFERING: The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

+ The Service of Holy Communion +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your* gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

+ God Sends Us Forth for Lives of Love and Service +

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING:

- Leader: Peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have. (1 Samuel 25:6)
- People: Amen!

CLOSING HYMN:

"Nothing but the Blood"



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When you enter a Bethany Lutheran Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur.

Bethany Lutheran Church takes photographs and/or makes audio and/or video recordings of members involved in church related activities. Staff and/or participants may use such photographs or video records to recall activities or participants. In addition, such photographs and audio/visual recordings may be used in Bethany Lutheran Church's publications, advertising materials to let others know of our ministry, and/or streaming and website hosting of worship services.

By entering the service/event premises, you consent to, photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming, promotional purposes, advertising, inclusion on web sites, and/or any other purpose by Bethany Lutheran Church. You release Bethany Lutheran Church, its clergy, church officers, employees, laity, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, and/or publication of photographs, computer images, video and/or sound recordings.

By entering the service/event premises, you waive all rights you may have to any claims for payment or royalties in connection with any exhibition, streaming, webcasting, or other publication of these materials, regardless of the purpose. You also waive any right to inspect or approve any photo, video, or audio recording taken by Bethany Lutheran Church or the person or entity designated to do so by Bethany Lutheran Church.

SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Children's Sermon... Kayleigh Lopez Lector... Josette Utke Artist in Residence... Blake Flattley Liturgist...Karl Fink Intermediate Bell Director... Sara Cerulle

Organist/Keyboard... Kevin Bowers Preacher... Pastor Seth Moorman

THE BETHANY BLUEPRINT

Having been called to Faith in Christ, moved by the love of God the Father and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the members of Bethany Lutheran Church are committed to:

> Worshiping Faithfully (Acts 2:42, 46) Forming Spiritually (Colossians 1:10-14) Serving Passionately (Ephesians 2:10) Giving Proportionately (Luke 21:1-4) Sharing Intentionally (Matthew 28:19-20)

WEEKLY CHIMES

THE PARISH LIFE OF BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH 4644 CLARK AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808 562-421-4711 www.bethanylutheran.org

> WEEK OF MARCH 20 – 27, 2022

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Suzanne Reed	Claude Potter	Doug Crawford	Heidi Moyer-Miser
John Fredrickson	Ron Miner	Grace Hennings	
Mary Mendez	Levi Rose	Evelyn Rucks	

FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God by Rona Kramer:



Wishing a very

Tappy Birthday"

to my wonderful Mom!

Love, Rona

WORSHIPING FAITHFULLY: Hebrews 10:25

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY'S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN ...

You can hear them as podcasts on our website <u>www.bethanylutheran.org</u>.

THE SAME TEXT WILL BE EXPLORED AT ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP SITES:

Bethany Lutheran in Long Beach, Holy Cross in Cypress; and of course on the Live Streamed via our YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/c/BethanyLutheranLongBeach</u> at Bethany's 9:30AM Worship Service.

LUKE IN LENT

This season there will be no midweek Lenten worship services. However, this Lenten Season, we will walk the *Via Dolorosa* (that is "The Way of Suffering") with the One who is The Way to Life, The Way of Life and The Living Way itself, Jesus Christ. We will be using the *Living Way Bible Study* materials that correspond to the Historic Luke readings in the season of Lent.

We meet at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Cypress.

Need a copy of the week's lesson...

- For a hard print copy of the lessons, you may pick it up in the church office at Bethany.
- For an electronic copy, please email Cindy Morrison at cmorrison@bethanylutheran.org.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES



Luke in Lent on Wednesdays March 23, & 30 and April 6 Living Way Bible Study at 7:00 PM at Holy Cross in the Parish Hall (Read more about "Luke in Lent" at the top of this page.)

> <u>Palm Sunday, April 10th Worship Service</u> Worship at 8:00 and 9:30 AM at **Bethany** Zoom Worship at 10:00 AM with **The Gathering** Worship at 11:00 AM at **Holy Cross**

<u>Maundy Thursday, April 14th Worship Service</u> Worship at 1:00 and 7:00 PM at **Bethany** (The 1:00 PM Worship Service will be Live Streamed)

Good Friday, April 15th Worship Services

Worship at 1:00 PM at **Bethany** (*This Worship Service will be Live Streamed*) Evening Worship at 7:00 PM at **Bethany** Worship at 7:00 PM at **Holy Cross**

Easter Festival, April 17th Worship Services

Worship at 8:00 and 9:30 AM at **Bethany** Zoom Worship at 10:00 AM with **The Gathering** Worship at 11:00 AM at **Holy Cross**





WELCOME TO THE BIBLE QUIZ

The answers to these questions will be found in next week's Sunday Chimes, along with 3 new questions. See how many questions you and your family can answer.

- Multiple Choice: The prophet Ezekiel twice used the same word when he said: "... the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the _____, but that the _____ turn from his ways and live...":
 A) Bad B) Sinner C) wicked
- 2. Multiple choice: GOD gave Moses and the people water from a rock. St. Paul compares the rock to: A) The Prophets B) Christ C) Moses
- 3. Fill in the blank: Jesus in the parable of the barren fig tree said, that if after the tree is fed, if it does not produce good fruit it is to be _____ down.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S BIBLE QUIZ

- Multiple Choice: The prophet Jeremiah prophesied that Israel would serve the King of Babylon for how many years? A) 50 years, B) 70 years, C) 100 years
 Answer: 70 years. ~ Jeremiah 25:11
 - Fill in the blank: Jesus said to the people of Jerusalem: "How often would I have gathered your children together as a _____ gathers her brood under her wing...?
 Answer: Hen. ~ Luke 13:31-35

FORMING SPIRITUALLY: Colossians 1:10-14

HOUSEHOLD HUDDLES FOR LENT 2022

One of the key characteristics of Households of Faith is that they spend time with one another. The



Biblical idea of households is far beyond just the nuclear family that may share the same four walls. In the pages of Scripture households included multiple generations, different vocations, and many permutations. You might be surprised to see what makes up your household and how many households you may be a part of. We hope that this Lent you will gather with the households you are a part of for something we call a Household Huddle. A Household Huddle is a time of directed activity that will foster spiritual habits, invite conversations and be open to welcoming others. We would like to encourage you to engage in a household

huddle at least once a week.

The pattern for a Household Huddle includes the following:

- SHARE your highs and lows.
- READ a Bible verse or a story.
- TALK together about how the reading impacted you, share what you think God might be teaching you and ask some questions about the reading.
- PRAY for one another.
- BLESS one another in words and actions.

It will take time to get into a pattern or rhythm with the members of your household so we suggest scheduling the same time and day each week when you begin. To get you started we will provide a basic outline for your household huddle. Feel free to adapt this according to your needs.





EASTER TAKE HOME KITS: This year we are doing something different for our Easter Egg Hunt! Rather than the traditional egg hunt it at Bethany, we are instead providing our families with "Easter Bag Starter Kits" to be used at your home and with your neighbors. We will be distributing the "starter kits" after church services on March 27 and April 3.

The Starter Kit Bags are very colorful and contain: a "*New Day, New Life - Jesus Lives*" book; a plastic bag; two small hearts which contain wild flower seeds to be planted wherever you would like; 12 colorful eggs; and an information card with Bethany service times. You may then add candy or anything else you like to these bags. We are asking each family to take enough bags for your family and

your neighbors. You may have an Easter Egg Hunt at your house with your neighbors and/or do it separately, whichever you choose. We pray these bags will spread the "Good News of Jesus" and at the same time provide an opportunity for you to enjoy time with your neighbors! God's blessings! ~ Bethany Evangelism Committee

SERVING PASSIONATELY: Ephesians 2:10



HELP NEEDED: If you are a woman who has 2 hours a week to help out one of our shut ins, please contact Karl Fink in his office at 562.421.4711 or via email at <u>kfink@bethanylutheran.org</u>. This shut in needs someone to come in on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to fix an easy breakfast, and Tuesday and Thursday late afternoons to heat up an easy meal for dinner. If I am able to get a couple of people who can share this, that would be great. For more

information and any questions, please contact me as soon as you are able. Thanks for your consideration!

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS... However, our processional cross, after many, many years of usage, has unfortunately been cracked at its base. So, until such time that it is either repaired or replaced, we will be suspending **Crucifer and Acolyte service** for our Worship times.



Holy Cross LWML invites the Ladies of Bethany to join our Tuesday gathering. HC LWML meets weekly for fellowship and devotions on Tuesday at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall at

Holy Cross (4321 West Cerritos Avenue, Cypress - 714/527-7225). We work on various projects for Orphan Grain Train and boutiques. You can join in on these projects or bring your own project. We hope that you can join us!





THE BASIN AND TOWEL AWARD

This award recognizes those individuals who have shown their commitment to Christian discipleship by devoting their time and talents in humble service to the ongoing ministry of Bethany Lutheran Church and/or the church at large. If you know of someone who has provided outstanding service to Bethany over a number of years, or has done a single exemplary act, which you feel, requires recognition, please pick up a nomination form in the Church Office. Plaques with the names of all prior recipients is on display in the Church Office/Nursery Hall. To be considered, Nomination forms MUST make it to the Board of Discipleship Box in the Church Office no later than Friday, May 13th.

GIVING PROPORTIONATELY: Luke 21:1-4

THANK YOU, THANK YOU:

Dear Bethany Lutheran Church,

I would like to formally thank all that participated in my fundraiser, it was a great success. It exceeded my expectations and provided \$400 toward the project, also a huge thank you to Sorrento's Italian Kitchen for donating toward the project. I would also like to thank all who have donated directly. The fundraising is a major part of the project. This funding will enable me to continue into the next step of the project, which is to purchase materials and supplies to begin construction. Thank you again for your generosity!

Yours in Scouting, Ryan Martinez



PLEASE HELP: The Humanitarian need in the Ukraine and its neighboring countries is astounding. Nearly 2 million refugees have already fled the Ukraine. LWR, working with partners in Poland and elsewhere in Eastern Europe, is seeking to bring supplies that will reach Ukrainian families who have fled for safety.

The initial response will include providing food, shelter and emergency funds for refugees, in addition to supporting critical health needs through the provision of medical supplies or support for emergency medical services.

Through the end of the month gifts will be matched, up to a total of \$250k by a congregation in WI. You can leave your gift in the white box on the North side of the chancel (make checks out to Bethany and put Ukraine in the note line) or you can send gifts directly to LWR **online at <u>lwr.org/match</u>**.



BRIANNA ESSWEIN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNEY NEWS:

The 2022 Brianna Esswein Memorial Golf Tourney is all set at Lakewood Country Club for Friday, March 25. Start time is once again 1:00 PM. Registration opens at 11:30AM. If you are just coming for the dinner, plan to get there by 5:30, as we are hoping to get that started at 6PM.

Should you have any questions, kindly speak to any of these people on the committee: Marty Callow, Bob Newell, Phil Lopez, Craig Dean, Ted Spaseff, or Marty Platt. Feel free to contact me as well with any questions or concerns. So looking forward to being back at this event again! - Karl Fink



<u>SCRIP</u>: Changes are coming! The Scrip year is coming to a close at the end of March and rebates will be distributed in April. Beginning with the new Scrip year in April (April 2022 -

March 2023) a change in the minimum rebate will be in effect. The minimum rebate eligible for distribution will go from \$2.50 to \$25.00. (Scrip buyers will need to make enough purchases to create \$25 in rebate dollars) This change is taking place in an effort to increase sales. In turn, this will *possibly* create a place for increasing the amount of the rebate that goes towards tuition rebates or your chosen ministry. (At this time 40% of the rebate you earn goes back to the running of the Scrip program and 60% goes to your tuition rebate.) It would be great to be able to change the rebate percentages from a 40/60% split to a 30/70% split.

~ Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator rlopez@bethanylutheran.org or 562-420-7783 ext. 58



At Bethany we know that "our stuff is not our stuff!" All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. His words, His promises, His presence, His gifts, His comfort, His strength are given through the gifts you are now giving Him. We thank and honor you for these gifts, because they thank and honor Him!

There are multiple ways to give to Bethany Lutheran Church including:

Giving Online Text to Give Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Basket

Please see the GIVING link on Bethany's website for more information on how to make your offering. If you need further assistance, contact our Financial Administrator at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: Act 2:44



CLCMS YOUTH GATHERING AUCTION

LCMS Youth Gathering Auction - please join us on **Saturday April 2, 2022** for our LCMS Youth Gathering Auction. **This year's auction will take place at the POA Park**, which is located behind the Long Beach Town Center. **The auction will start at 5:00pm and run until 8:00pm**. This year's theme will be Texas BBQ, in conjunction with our youth heading south to Houston, Texas in July.

The tickets will be \$20 for adults and \$10 for children 10 and under. Ticket sales are OPEN, now through March 27.



Or use this link: <u>https://bit.ly/2022YGAuction</u> We look forward to seeing you at the Auction!