

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Building up God's people through His word for His world

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 10, 2023

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

We especially welcome our guests who are worshipping here today. What a privilege to greet you! If you have no church home in the area, we invite you to be a part of the life and ministry of Good Shepherd. For information about our congregation, visit gslcva.org. Also, please fill out a Welcome card (inside this bulletin) and place it in the offering plate near the doors.

Our worship reflects the liturgical tradition of the Christian church. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, third, and fifth Sundays at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Our informal worship service, Sunday/PRAISE, features contemporary music and is held in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, with communion celebrated on fourth Sundays.

To all worshippers: The presence of children in worship is a gift to the Body of Christ and a reminder that our congregation is growing. Remember that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Please welcome our young ones and give their parents a smile of encouragement or a helping hand, if needed.

To the parents of young ones, here are a few suggestions for worshipping with your children: Relax! God put the wiggles and giggles in kids; don't feel that you have to suppress them in His house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front, where it is easier to see and hear what's going on. Quietly explain the parts of the worship service and actions of the pastor, ushers, communion assistants, etc. Sing the hymns and songs, pray, and voice the responses aloud. Children learn worshipful behavior by copying you. If you have to leave the worship service with your child or stand up and walk around the back of the room, feel free to do so, but please come back! And finally, if you so choose, . . .

You are welcome to use our nursery, as well as our parents' room next to the nursery, if your young ones need a break from the service. The Parents' Room is also a comfortable place where mothers may nurse their babies. The worship service is livestreamed to a monitor in the Parents' Room.

We offer Sunday School and a variety of Bible studies and spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth, and adults on Sunday mornings. All Sunday School classes meet at 9:30 a.m.

Flowers and plants in our worship areas are supported by financial donations to the Flower Fund. These floral offerings beautify the church, uplift service participants, and remind us of God's good creation. You can find information about being a flower sponsor on the bulletin board near the Fellowship Hall and at gslcva.org/ministries/worship, under "Flower Sponsorships." Today's flowers are given by Donna Carrens in memory of her mother, Dorothy Molesky.

SUNDAY/PRAISE

GATHERING SONG "Here for You"

Let our praise be Your welcome
Let our songs be a sign
We are here for You, we are here for You
Let Your breath come from heaven
Fill our hearts with Your life
We are here for You, we are here for You

Chorus:

*To You our hearts are open
Nothing here is hidden
You are our one desire
You alone are holy
Only You are worthy
God let Your fire fall down*

Let our shout be Your anthem
Your renown fill the sky
We are here for You, we are here for You
Let Your Word move in power
Let what's dead come to life
We are here for You, we are here for You

Chorus (2x)

Let it fall ... let it fall ... let it fall

We welcome You with praise
We welcome You with praise
Almighty God of love, be welcome in this
place

We welcome You with praise
We welcome You with praise
Almighty God of love, be welcome in this
place

Let ev'ry heart adore, let ev'ry soul awake
Almighty God of love, be welcome in this
place

We welcome You with praise
We welcome You with praise
Almighty God of love, be welcome in this
place

Be welcome in Your house, Lord
Be welcome in Your house

"Here for You." Words and music by Jesse Reeves, Matt Maher, Matt Redman. © 2011 Chrysalis Music Ltd., sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, Valley of Songs Music (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "Holy, Holy, Holy (Savior and King)"

Holy holy holy Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to
Thee
Holy holy holy merciful and mighty
God in three persons blessed Trinity

Holy holy holy all the saints adore Thee
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim falling down
before Thee
Which wert and art and evermore shall be

Chorus:

*You are Lord You are Lord
You reign eternally
You are Lord God Almighty
My Savior and my King*

Holy holy holy all hath fallen from Thee
Through the blood of Christ Thy Son
This soul can be redeemed
Justice truth and mercy join with love to
crown Thee
Savior of sinners soon returning King

Chorus

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

[We confess together] **Holy Lord, we confess that we have fallen short. We turn our backs when we could embrace. We remain silent when we could speak. We speak when we could listen. We close the door when we could fling it wide open. We judge when we could seek understanding. We cling when we could give. Forgive us, O God, for being sinful, and help us to continue to grow into the people you created us to be, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING FROM GOD'S WORD Psalm 119:33-40

³³Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.**

READING FROM GOD'S WORD Matthew 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

KIDS' MESSAGE "Don't Get Even – Get Ahead" Pastor James

RESPONSE SONG: "O Praise the Name (Anástasis)"

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Savior on that cursed tree

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone

Messiah still and all alone

Chorus:

O praise the Name of the Lord our God

O praise His Name forevermore

For endless days we will sing Your praise

Oh Lord oh Lord our God

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

Chorus

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

Chorus (2x)

Oh Lord oh Lord our God
Oh Lord oh Lord our God

"O Praise the Name (Anástasis)." Benjamin Hastings, Dean Ussher, Marty Sampson. © 2015 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing).
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MESSAGE

"Christian Conflict Management"

Pastor Johann

MUSICAL REFLECTION

OFFERINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor James

Please take this opportunity to fill out the Welcome Card and hand it to one of the ushers as you leave.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

After the pastor says "Lord, hear our prayer," we respond by singing:

Band: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, hear our cry and heal our land.
Let kindness lead us to compassion, bring us back again.

People: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy on us now.

"Kyrie Eleison." Words and music by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Matt Maher, and Matt Redman. © 2016 S.D.G. Publishing, Said and Done Publishing, Sixsteps Music, Sixsteps Songs, Thankyou Music, Worship Together Music, worshiptogethersongs.com (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Be Essential Songs, Fellow Ships Music, I Am A Pilgrim Songs, So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC). CCLI #858354.

THE 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.

SENDING SONG

"From Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)"

What gift of love could I offer to a King
What weight or worth could be held
Within my offering
When He alone is worthy

A glory song is inscribed upon my heart
This treasure held in an alabaster jar
I break
To bring Him all the glory

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below*

What sacrifice could be equal to His own
The cross of Christ has declared
That there is naught I owe
Yet I know I owe Him all

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

Our Father God the infinite
 The matchless King magnificent
 The living Christ the servant Son
 The prophesied the saving One
 The Holy Ghost gift from above
 The faithful Friend the seal of love
 This life this heart this song to Him
 My all in all my everything

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavenly host
 Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost
 (Repeat)
 Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost*

"From Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)." Brooke Ligertwood, Chris Davenport, Scott Ligertwood. © 2019 Hillsong MP Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

BLESSING & SENDING

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Serving Today	
Worship Leader	Pastor James
Preacher	Pastor Johann
Ushers	Paul Devine (lead) Jim Ellis
Greeter	Karen Kidwell (door)
Guest Welcome	Brian Cors
Engagement	Kelly Nield
Praise Team	Lisa Barker (violin) Maryanne Perkel (cello) Steve Mutter (guitar) Julian Berkowitz (drums) Kathy Otterbacher (vocals) Dan LaMaestra (leader; piano, vocals) Peter Revell (bass)
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	Scott Shepherd
Livestream Manager	Matt Hardy
Closer	Martin Farley
Kitchen Cleanup	Goodwyn Morgan

Board of Servant Leaders

Linda Terlecki, chair
Rob Fekete, vice-chair
Drew Lipman, secretary

Laura Blackburn
Paul Kasulis
Goodwyn Morgan
Deanine Thrash

Core Ministry Areas

Worship

Team Leaders: Georgia Thorstenson and Julie Schorfheide; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

The Worship Team encompasses music, seasonal celebrations, arts, worship schedule, Sanctuary Choir (Anne Lee), Handbell Choir (Anne Lee), traditional worship, and contemporary worship (Dan LaMaestra), the worship spaces, and support personnel (e.g., ushers, greeters, acolytes).

Discipleship

Team Leader: Pastor James

The Discipleship Team oversees adult education, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, children's ministry (Michelle Tenhaeff), and youth ministry (Holly Vanderhoof).

Parish Life

Team Leader: Brian Cors; Staff Liaison: Heidi Cooper

The Parish Life Team helps foster our community through Life Groups, member engagement, fellowship events, new member inclusion, concerts, public events, picnics, and intergenerational events, and reaches out to guests who worship at Good Shepherd.

Mission

Team Leader: Pastor Johann

Through the Mission Team, Good Shepherd supports a variety of mission efforts: world and local (John and Deborah Linn), synod/district, social ministry and community service (Holly Vanderhoof). Evangelism, publicity, media, and social media (Jeff Donahue) support these efforts.

Congregational Care and Nurture

Team Leader: June McGurn; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

The Congregational Care and Nurture Team helps support the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health of the congregation through literature, programs, and opportunities to serve others at Good Shepherd. This ministry's volunteers help in many ways: at memorial services and receptions; through member care visits and transportation; by sending cards for life events; and by arranging meals ("Take Them a Meal" team, Caroline Ruppert) for the sick and infirm, for their families, and for families with newborns.

Administration

Team Leader: Pastor Johann

This team is in charge of property (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Frankner), communications (Jeff Donahue), contracts, church office, calendar/program management, and technology (Gary Budzier).

Good Shepherd's Staff

Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor

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fb.com/goodshepherdva

Instagram.com/gslcva

Connect with us by liking our Facebook page and following us on Instagram. Find them by searching @gslcva on those platforms. We also encourage you to subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow us on Vimeo so that you don't miss any of our virtual services, kids' message, and more. Questions? Contact Communications Director Jeff Donahue, jeff@gslcva.org

Good Shepherd is a member congregation of the Southeastern District
of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK FROM GOD'S WORD

From the Old Testament

Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

From the New Testament

Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.