

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 21, 2024

Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes it seems that when others are in need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

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 participate in the life and ministry of Good Shepherd. For information about our congregation, visit gslcva.org. Also, please fill out a Welcome card, which you'll find near the hymnals, and place it in the offering plate near the doors to the sanctuary.

Our worship reflects the liturgical tradition of the Christian church. During the summer, Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, third, and fifth Sundays at the 9:30 a.m. "traditional" services in the sanctuary. Our summer schedule runs through September 1.

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 sanctuary, 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 Bible studies for adults on Sunday mornings during the summer. See News and Announcements for class information. Sunday School classes for children and youth resume in the fall.

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 (enter "flowers" in the search area on the homepage).

J. S. Bach

Please stand

Invocation, Confession, and Forgiveness

The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. You may kneel or remain standing.

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

Please stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Hymn of Praise “This Is the Feast” **Music in hymnal, page 155**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.
O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Please sit

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the “flock” of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David’s line to save Israel and Judah.

- L: ¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.
²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.
³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.
⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:11-22

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God’s chosen people. Through Jesus’ death, however, they are included in God’s household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

- L: ¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Alleluia

Music in hymnal, page 156

Holy Gospel

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Music in hymnal, page 157

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

P: ³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Music in hymnal, page 157

Please sit

Hymn of the Day

"Be Still, My Soul"

Hymn No. 752

If you think your child might be unable to sit through the entire service, this would be an appropriate time to take him/her to the nursery.

Message

"An Invitation to Quietness"

Pastor James

Musical Reflection

Please stand

Nicene Creed

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
 begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.
 Through Him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
 by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary
 and was made man.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
 He has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
 Amen.**

Please sit

Announcements

Pastor Johann

Offering

Please fill out a Welcome card and place it in the offering plate.

Anthem

“Laudate Dominum”

W. A. Mozart

Sarah Damers, soprano

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes; laudate eum omnes populi.
 Quoniam confirmata est super nos misericordia ejus, et veritas Domini manet in æternum.

*(Praise the Lord, all nations; praise Him, all people.
 For He has bestowed His mercy upon us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.)*

Please stand

Offertory Prayer

**C: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the
 feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this
 meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition, the prayer leader will say, "In your mercy..."

The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."

Please see the News and Announcements sheet for a listing of intercessions.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface and Proper Preface

Music in hymnal, page 160

Sanctus [Holy, Holy, Holy]

Music in hymnal, page 161

Lord's Prayer

**C: 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 Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini [The peace of the Lord]

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Agnus Dei [Lamb of God]

Music in hymnal, page 163

Please sit

Distribution

We believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, according to His Word: "This is My Body . . . this is My blood" (Matthew 26:26-27), and that in this sacrament our Lord gives us forgiveness of our sins, unity with God, and strength for a life of service.

We invite all baptized Christians who have made their First Communion, examined themselves, discern the body and blood of Christ in the sacrament for the forgiveness of their sins, and sincerely seek to amend their lives to join us at His Table.

Distribution procedure: Please come forward by the center aisle or as instructed by the usher. Fill the rail, beginning at the end near the wall. Kneel. Cup your hands to receive the bread. Then, take an individual cup from the tray as it is passed. **Cups in the innermost circle of the communion tray contain juice** for those who do not wish to drink wine. **For those who need gluten-free wafers:** Bring with you one of the brightly colored pieces of paper from the pews and hand it to the communion assistant who is distributing the wafers. That person will bring a gluten-free wafer to you.

Distribution Hymns	“The Lamb”	Hymn No. 547
	“Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious”	Hymn No. 548

Serving Today	
Worship Leader	Pastor Johann
Preacher	Pastor James
Crucifer	*
Acolyte	*
Scripture Reader	Henry Eickelberg
Prayer Leader	Melinda DeWan
Cantor	Sarah Damers
Communion Assistants	Pastor Johann (host) Pastor James (host) Walt Peter (tray) Paul Kasulis (tray)
Ushers	Jim Smith (lead) David Ellison Allen Millman Jeff Peterson
Organist	Anne Lee
Altar Guild	Linda Fekete
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	
Livestream Manager	Matt Hardy
Greeter	Donna Harper (door) Carolyn Linke (welcome center)
Guest Welcome	Paul Kasulis
Engagement	Heidi Cooper
Opener	Ric Nickerson
Closer	Martin Farley
Coffee Setup	Wenda Smith
Kitchen Cleanup	Drew Lipman

* = unfilled as of July 18

Board of Servant Leaders

Laura Blackburn, chair
Rob Fekete, vice-chair
Drew Lipman, secretary

Larry Austin
Paul Kasulis
Jennifer Pelletier
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, 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 (Bill and Lisa Schuler), 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 Franker), 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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Gary James, Assisting Pastor

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Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager

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Jeff Donahue, Communications Director

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Heidi Cooper, Director of Engagement

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Anne Lee, Organist & Director of Choirs

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Michele Clair, Administrative Assistant

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Holly Vanderhoof, Community Service Coordinator & Youth Ministry Director

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Matt Hardy, Video Production Specialist

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Michelle Tenhaeff, Children's Ministry Coordinator

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Reid Otterbacher, Communications Assistant

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Chloe Vanderhoof, Social Media Assistant

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Please note that the church office is closed on Mondays.

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