Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Building up God's people through His word for His world

Reformation Sunday October 27, 2024

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

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. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, third, and fifth Sundays at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Our informal worship service 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 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 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. See News and Announcements for class information.

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). Our flowers are sponsored by David and Donna Shebat in honor of the marriage today of their daughter, Melissa, and David Witkop; and by Jeff and Stacey Tyley in celebration of Reformation.

Prelude "Lord, Be Glorified" arr. Derek K. Hakes

Bell Choir

Welcome Pastor James

Please stand

Opening Hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Hymn No. 657

Invocation, Confession, and Forgiveness

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

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

- P: Gracious God,
- C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
- P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.
- C: Amen.

Please stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Kyrie [Lord, have mercy] **Music in hymnal, pages 168-69**

Hymn of Praise "Glory to God in the Highest" **Music in hymnal, page 170**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day Music in hymnal, page 172

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please sit

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

- L: 31The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.
- L: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No humans make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death, a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

- L: ¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.
 - ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Alleluia

Music in hymnal, page 173

Holy Gospel John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Music in hymnal, page 157

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

P: 3¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Music in hymnal, page 173

Please sit

Kids' Message

"God's Love"

Pastor James

Hymn of the Day

"Thy Strong Word"

Hymn No. 578

Verse 1-3: All Verse 4: Choir

Verse 6: All

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

"You are Justified"

Pastor Johann

Musical Reflection

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please sit

Announcements Pastor James

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

Anthem

"The Heavens Are Telling" (from *The Creation*) Franz Joseph Haydn Sanctuary Choir; Stephanie Batchelder, soprano; Richard Jacobson, tenor; Eugene Stromecki, bass

The heavens are telling the glory of God; the wonder of his work displays the firmament. Today that is coming speaks it the day. The night that is gone to following night. The heavens are telling the glory of God; the wonder of his work displays the firmament. In all the lands resounds the word, never unperceived, ever understood. The heavens are telling the glory of God; the wonder of his work displays the firmament.

Please stand

Offertory Prayer

C: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition, the prayer leader will say, "God of grace ..."
The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."
Please see the News and Announcements sheet for a listing of intercessions.

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.

Blessing

P: God all mighty, God most merciful + bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn "The Church's One Foundation"

Hymn No. 644

Verse 1: All Verse 2: Women Verse 3: Choir Verse 4: Men

Verse 5: All

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude "God of Grace"

arr. Crutchfiled

Organ and Brass Quintet

As your schedule permits, please be seated during the postlude for a time of prayer and reflection.

+

Please join us for coffee and conversation in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

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We hope you will continue to 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' messages, and more. Questions? Contact Communications Director Jeff Donahue, jeff@gslcva.org

Serving Today

	8:00	11:00
Worship Leader	Pastor James	Pastor James
Preacher	Pastor Johann	Pastor Johann
Crucifer	*	*
Acolyte	*	*
Scripture Reader	Chris Miller	Andrew Otterbacher
Prayer Leader	Melinda DeWan	Nancy McGarry
Cantor	Kathy Otterbacher	Eugene Stromecki
Ushers	Ric Nickerson (lead)	Paul Devine (lead)
	Jim Smith	David Johns
	Jim Christian	Marty Gurtz
	Jamie Ellor	Phil Miller
Choir Director	Anne Lee	Anne Lee
Organist	Anne Lee	Anne Lee
Altar Guild	Kristi Nickerson	Sharon Gurtz
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	Matt Hardy	Adam Sherman
Livestream Manager		Matt Hardy
Greeter	David Ellison (door)	Brian Cors (door)
	Janet Lillestolen	Jeannie Johns
	(welcome center)	(welcome center)
Guest Welcome	Paul Kasulis	Heidi Cooper
Engagement	Heidi Cooper	Heidi Cooper
Opener	Allen Millman	
Closer		Martin Farley
Coffee Setup	Wenda Smith	
Kitchen Cleanup		Jan Morgan

^{* =} unfilled as of October 23

Thanks to our instrumentalists: Hart Guonjian-Pettit, trumpet; Donny Albrecht, trumpet; Jacob Wiggins, French horn; Nicholas Hogg, trombone; Cameron Farnsworth, tuba

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 (Matt Hardy), 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 Ruppar) 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 and contracts (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Franker), communications (Jeff Donahue), and technology (Gary Budzier).

Good Shepherd's Staff

Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor

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Gary James, Assisting Pastor

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Sarah Brazell, Preschool Director

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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, Praise Band Director & 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