

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

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
July 13, 2025

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

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.

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).

Prelude "Te Deum Laudamus" (Bux218) D. Buxtehude
Welcome Pastor James

Please stand

Opening Hymn "O Bless the Lord, My Soul" **Hymn No. 814**

Invocation, Confession, and Forgiveness

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

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

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

P: Merciful God,

C: **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

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.

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please sit

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's hearts.

L: ⁹ The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, ¹⁰ when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

¹¹ "Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. ¹² It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' ¹³ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' ¹⁴ No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Colossians 1:1-14

The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage.

L: ¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the

power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Alleluia

Music in hymnal, page 173

Holy Gospel

Luke 10:25-37

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

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

Music in hymnal, page 173

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

P: ²⁵ An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Music in hymnal, page 173

Please sit

Kids' Message

"Orpple"

Pastor James

Hymn of the Day

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Hymn No. 845

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 "The Way to Eternal Life"

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

Offering

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

Anthem "All Things Bright and Beautiful"
Sarah Damers, soprano

John Rutter

Refrain:
All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
The Lord God made them all

Each little flow'r that opens
Each little bird that sings
He made their glowing colors
He made their tiny wings

Refrain

The purple-headed mountain
The river running by
The sunset and the morning
That brightens up the sky
The cold wind in the winter
The pleasant summer sun
The ripe fruits in the garden
He made them ev'ry one

Refrain

He gave us eyes to see them
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty

Who has made all things well
Refrain

Please stand

Offertory Prayer

C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

"All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine"

Hymn No. 815

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Allegro, from Sonata No 5

Marcello/arr. Geoffrey Edward

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

+

+

+

Please join us for coffee and conversation following the service.

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

Worship Leader	Pastor James
Preacher	Pastor Johann
Crucifer	*
Acolyte	*
Scripture Reader	Andrew Otterbacher
Prayer Leader	Henry Eickelberg
Cantor	Sarah Damers
Ushers	Ron Voigt (lead) Jamie Ellor John Purtilo Gary Budzier
Organist	Anne Lee
Altar Guild	Diane Ellor
Projectionist	Jeannie Johns
Audio Engineer	Adam Sherman
Livestream Manager	Matt Hardy
Greeters	David Ellison (door) Carolyn Linke (welcome center)
Guest Welcome	Donna Harper
Engagement	Heidi Cooper
Opener	Allen Millman
Closer	Allen Millman
Coffee Setup	Drew Lipman
Kitchen Cleanup	Goodwyn Morgan

* = unfilled as of July 9

Board of Servant Leaders

Rob Fekete, chair
Tony Esse, vice-chair
John Purtilo, secretary

Larry Austin
Paul Kasulis
Jennifer Pelletier
Bernie Schoch

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 this core ministry area, Good Shepherd supports a variety of mission efforts: financial and prayerful partnering with missionaries, worldwide and local (Bill and Lisa Schuler); synod/district, social ministry, and community service (Holly Vanderhoof); evangelism, publicity, media, and social media (Jeff Donahue).

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) 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 Frankner), communications (Jeff Donahue), and technology (Gary Budzier).

Good Shepherd's Staff

Jotham Johann, Senior 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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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