

# **Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 3, 2025**

*Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.*

**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](http://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 August 31.

**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/giving](http://gslcva.org/giving) (look for the sponsorship form at the bottom of that page). Today's flowers are sponsored by Tom Kubic in celebration of Carol's birthday.

**Prelude** Suite gothique (Op. 25), 3. Prière à Notre-Dame Léon Boëllmann  
**Welcome** Pastor Johann

*Please stand*

**Opening Hymn** “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” **Hymn No. 821**  
Verses 1-4

### **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 152-53**

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

**Salutation and Prayer of the Day** **Music in hymnal, page 156**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*Please sit*

## First Reading

## Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

L:       <sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,  
          vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

L:       This is the Word of the Lord.

C:       **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

## Colossians 3:1-11

*Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God’s love in Christ.*

L:       <sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. <sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Alleluia**

**Music in hymnal, page 156**

**Holy Gospel**

**Luke 12:13-21**

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

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

**Music in hymnal, page 157**

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

P: <sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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 Thou My Vision"

*see next page*

*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.*

# Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

## Message

“Qoheleth – The Preacher”

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

*"All Because of God's Amazing Grace"*

arr. Lister/Tom Fettke

*Richard Jacobson, tenor/baritone*

Amazing grace, oh how sweet the sound  
That saved a poor sinner like me  
Though once I was lost, yet now I am found  
Though I was blinded, now I see

And it's all because of God's amazing grace  
Because on Calv'ry's mountain He took my  
place

And someday, some glorious morning

I shall see Him face to face  
And it's all because of God's great grace  
Through disappointment and danger, too  
Through labors and sorrows we've come  
But God's grace has guided safely through  
And it will surely lead me home

And it's all because of God's amazing grace

Because on Calv'ry's mountain He took my  
place  
And someday, some glorious morning  
I shall see Him face to face

And it's all because of God's great grace  
And it's all because of God's great grace  
God's grace

*Please stand*

### **Offertory Prayer**

**C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good, and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, 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.*

## **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.

**Return to your seat via the aisle next to the windows.** Place your empty communion cup in the bowl near the end of the rail. If you are unable to walk to the communion rail, please speak to an usher, and we will bring the sacrament to you.

**Distribution Hymns**    “All Depends on Our Possessing”  
                                  “Lord of All Hopefulness”

**Hymn No. 732**  
**Hymn No. 738**

*Please stand*

## Prayer after Communion

**P:**        Nurturing God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name.

**C:**        **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**        “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

**Hymn No. 842**

## Dismissal

**P:**        Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**C:**        **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**              “Blessed Assurance”

arr. Herbert Colvin

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

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***Please join us for coffee and conversation following the service.***

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<b>Serving Today</b>	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Pastor Johann
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor James
<b>Crucifer</b>	*
<b>Acolyte</b>	*
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Henry Eickelberg
<b>Prayer Leader</b>	Lisa Dorn
<b>Cantor</b>	Richard Jacobson
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Pastor Johann (host) Pastor James (host) Jamie Ellor (tray) Chris Miller (tray)
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Micsan (lead) Dan Pelletier Rob Fekete Brian Cors
<b>Organist</b>	Anne Lee
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Diane Ellor
<b>Projectionist</b>	Jeff Donahue
<b>Audio Engineer</b>	Adam Sherman
<b>Livestream Manager</b>	Matt Hardy
<b>Greeter</b>	Dick Orth (door) Donna Harper (welcome center)
<b>Guest Welcome</b>	Deanine Thrash
<b>Engagement</b>	Heidi Cooper
<b>Opener</b>	Ric Nickerson
<b>Closer</b>	Martin Farley
<b>Coffee Setup</b>	Wenda Smith
<b>Kitchen Cleanup</b>	Mia Millman

\* = unfilled as of July 30

### **Board of Servant Leaders**

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

Larry Austin  
Drew Lipman  
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**

Room 201; pastorjo@gslcva.org; 703-439-2754

**Gary James, Assisting Pastor**

Room 209; pastorgary@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Sarah Brazell, Preschool Director**

Room 101; preschool@gslcva.org; 703-437-4511

**Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager**

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**Jeff Donahue, Communications Director**

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**Heidi Cooper, Director of Engagement**

heidi@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Anne Lee, Organist & Director of Choirs**

Room 215; anne@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x807

**Michele Clair, Administrative Assistant**

Room 210; michele@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x806

**Holly Vanderhoof, Community Service Coordinator & Youth Ministry Director**

Room 208; holly@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x213

**Matt Hardy, Praise Band Director & Video Production Specialist**

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**Michelle Tenhaeff, Children's Ministry Coordinator**

childministry@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Julie Schorfheide, Communications Assistant**

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**Reid Otterbacher, Communications Assistant**

commassist@gslcva.org

**Chloe Vanderhoof, Social Media Assistant**

chloe@gslcva.org

*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

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

