

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 28, 2025

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

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 basket on the Welcome/resource table or hand it to an usher.

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/giving (look for the sponsorship form at the bottom of that page).

SUNDAY/PRAISE

GATHERING SONG "Stand in Your Love"

When darkness tries to roll over my bones
When sorrow comes to steal the joy I own
When brokenness and pain is all I know
I won't be shaken I won't be shaken

Chorus:

*My fear doesn't stand a chance
When I stand in Your love
My fear doesn't stand a chance
When I stand in Your love*

Shame no longer has a place to hide
I am not a captive to the lies
I'm not afraid to leave my past behind

I won't be shaken I won't be shaken

Chorus

There's power that can break off every
chain
There's power that can empty out a grave
There's resurrection power that can save
There's power in Your name power in Your
name

Chorus (2x)

Standing in Your love

"Stand in Your Love." Josh Baldwin, Mark Harris, Rita Springer. © 2018 Capitol CMG Paragon; Gateway Create Publishing; Gateway Worship Publishing; Be Essential Songs; Coastal Lyric; Bethel Music Publishing. CCLI #858354.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "Blessed Assurance (My King Is Coming Soon)"

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation purchase of God
Born of His Spirit and washed in His blood

*Chorus: This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long*

Perfect submission all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blessed
Watching and waiting looking above
Filled with His goodness and lost in His love

Chorus

My King is coming soon
He will roll the clouds away

Light of heaven bursting through
Oh what a glorious day

My King is coming soon
He will roll the clouds away
Light of heaven bursting through
(And) Until that glorious day

Chorus

This is my story this is my song
My King is coming soon
He will roll the clouds away
Light of heaven bursting through
Until that glorious day

This is my story

This is my story this is my song

"Blessed Assurance." Fanny Jane Crosby, Matthew West, Pete Kiple, Phoebe Palmer Knapp. © 2013 Meaux Jeux Music; Pence Songs Now The Richer; Songs From The Indigo Room; Songs of Southside Independent Music Publishing; Get Ur Seek On; Remaining portion is unaffiliated. CCLI #858354.

RESPONSIVE READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Psalm 146

P: Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

P: Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

C: When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

P: Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

C: who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

P: who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

C: The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

P: The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

C: The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Luke 16:19-31

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

KIDS' MESSAGE

Elizabeth Huang

RESPONSE SONG: "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

Chorus:

Bless the Lord O my soul, Oh Oh Oh my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before, O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass and whatever lies
before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger

Your name is great and Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing

The end draws near and my time has come

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Chorus

Worship Your holy name

Lord I'll worship Your holy name

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)." Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman. © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, worshiptogether.com songs (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI # 858354.

MESSAGE

"Who Do You See?"

Pastor James

MUSICAL REFLECTION

OFFERINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor Johann

Please take this opportunity to fill out the Welcome Card and hand it to one of the ushers or place it in the basket on the Welcome/resource table as you leave.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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

Band: You hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father

You hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father

People: *Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy*

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy

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.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

[We confess together] **God of grace and mercy, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions; time and time again we have failed to love You with all that we have; we have failed to love our neighbors and those in need. Forgive the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. For our sins we deserve separation from you. But Lord, You are overflowing with mercy. Bring back to life within us the joy of Your saving grace; heal our brokenness, give light to our path, and rest to our souls. Give us the desire and the power to grow in Your image, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Some notes about Holy Communion

We believe that Jesus 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 received their First Communion, examined themselves, acknowledge the true body and blood of Jesus Christ in the sacrament for the forgiveness of their sins, and sincerely seek to amend their lives to join us in this holy meal.

The cups in the innermost circle of the communion tray contain juice for those who do not wish to drink wine.

COMMUNION SONG “Even If”

They say sometimes you win some
Sometimes you lose some
And right now right now I’m losing bad
I’ve stood on this stage night after night
Reminding the broken it’ll be alright
But right now oh right now I just can’t

Pre-Chorus 1:

It’s easy to sing

When there’s nothing to bring me down

But what will I say

*When I’m held to the flame like I am right
now*

Chorus 1:

*I know You’re able and I know You can
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand
But even if You don’t
My hope is You alone*

They say it only takes a little faith
To move a mountain
Well good thing
A little faith is all I have right now

*Pre-Chorus 2: But God when You choose
To leave mountains unmovable*

*Oh give me the strength to be able to sing
It is well with my soul*

Chorus 1

Chorus 2:

*I know the sorrow and I know the hurt
Would all go away if You just say the word
But even if You don’t
My hope is You alone*

You’ve been faithful
You’ve been good all of my days
Jesus I will cling to You
Come what may

'Cause I know You're able
I know You care

Chorus 1

Chorus 2

It is well with my soul
It is well it is well with my soul

"Even If." Bart Millard, Ben Glover, Crystal Lewis, David Arthur Garcia, Tim Timmons. © 2017 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing; 9t One Songs; Ariose Music; D Soul Music; All Essential Music; Letsbebeautiful; Tunes of MercyMe; Crystallized. CCLI #858354.

BLESSING & SENDING

SENDING SONG

"Receive Our King"

Light my heart like a candle
Let it burn for only You
Join my song with the angels
Tell ev'ryone the news

Pre-Chorus:

*That You came as a child
Beside us in our struggle
Now we come lifting high
The Name that's like no other*

Chorus:

*Jesus, Wonderful Counselor
Prince of Peace
Son of God, here with us
We receive our King*

Turn my eyes to the wonder
Let me see You as You are
Be my life be my center
In my night be the brightest star

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Prepare Him room
Let the light of the world shine through
(Repeat 3x)

Chorus (2x)

Light my heart like a candle,
Let it burn for only You

"Receive Our King." Jared Anderson, Meredith Andrews. © 2016 Curb Songs, Mesmerized Music, Integrity Worship Music. CCLI #858354.

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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

Serving Today	
Worship Leader	Pastor Johann
Preacher	Pastor James
Ushers	Goodwyn Morgan (lead) Jeannie Johns
Greeter	Brian Cors (door)
Guest Welcome	*
Engagement	Heidi Cooper
Praise Team	Tara Planeta (violin) MaryAnn Perkel (cello) Peter Revell (bass) Julian Berkowitz (drums) Jackie Huffman (vocals) Matt Hardy (leader; piano, guitar)
Altar Guild	Sharon Gurtz
Projectionist	Jan Pelletier
Audio Engineer	Scott Shepherd
Livestream Manager	Adam Sherman
Closer	Martin Farley
Kitchen Cleanup	Jan Morgan

* = unfilled as of September 24

Be a part of the SUNDAY/PRAISE community by serving in our worship gatherings as greeters, ushers, singers, instrumentalists, AV support, and others. Interested? Contact us by emailing gslc@gslcva.org or calling 703-437-5020.

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

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Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager

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Jeff Donahue, Communications Director

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Anne Lee, Organist & Director of Choirs

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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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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

ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK FROM GOD'S WORD

From the Old Testament

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather for sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria. ⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall, ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music, ⁶ who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

From the New Testament

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.