

# **Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 10, 2026**

*Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.*

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

# SUNDAY/PRAISE

## GATHERING SONG "Praise"

I'll praise in the valley  
Praise on the mountain  
I'll praise when I'm sure  
Praise when I'm doubting  
I'll praise when outnumbered  
Praise when surrounded  
'Cause praise is the water  
My enemies drown in

*Pre-Chorus:*  
*As long as I'm breathing*  
*I've got a reason to*

*Chorus 1:*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

I'll praise when I feel it  
And I'll praise when I don't  
I'll praise 'cause I know  
You're still in control  
'Cause my praise is a weapon  
It's more than a sound  
My praise is the shout  
That brings Jericho down

*Pre-Chorus:*  
*As long as I'm breathing*  
*I've got a reason to*

*Chorus 2:*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*I won't be quiet*  
*My God is alive*  
*How could I keep it inside*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign  
Praise 'cause You reign  
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the  
grave  
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful  
Praise 'cause You're true  
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than  
You (Repeat)

*Chorus 3:*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
Praise the Lord oh my soul

"Praise." Brandon Lake, Chandler Moore, Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Pat Barrett, Steven Furtick. © Brandon Lake Music; For Humans Publishing; Maverick City Publishing; Capitol CMG Genesis; Capitol CMG Paragon; Housefires Sounds; Writer's Roof Publishing; Music by Elevation Worship Publishing. CCLI #858354.

## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

## SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

## SONG OF PRAISE      “Blessed Assurance (My King Is Coming)”

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 (My King Is Coming).” 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.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

[We confess together] **Holy Lord, we confess that we have fallen short. We turn our backs when we could embrace. We remain silent when we could speak. We speak when we could listen. We close the door when we could fling it wide open. We judge when we could seek understanding. We cling when we could give. Forgive us, O God, for being sinful, and help us to continue to grow into the people you created us to be, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## RESPONSIVE READING FROM GOD’S WORD

Psalm 66:8-20

P: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

**C: Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

P: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**C: You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

P: You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**C: I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

P: those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

**C: I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**

P: Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

**C: I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

P: If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

**C: but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

P: Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

## READING FROM GOD'S WORD

John 14:15-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

## KIDS' MESSAGE

Pastor James

### RESPONSE SONG: "Firm Foundation (He Won't)"

Christ is my firm foundation  
The rock on which I stand  
When everything around me is shaken  
I've never been more glad  
That I put my faith in Jesus  
'Cause He's never let me down  
He's faithful through generations  
So why would He fail now

*Chorus 1:*

*He won't He won't*

I've still got joy in chaos  
I've got peace that makes no sense  
So I won't be going under  
I'm not held by my own strength  
'Cause I've built my life on Jesus  
He's never let me down  
He's faithful in every season  
So why would He fail now

*Chorus 2:*

*He won't He won't*

*He won't fail*

*He won't fail (no)*

Christ is my firm foundation  
The rock on which I stand  
When everything around me is shaken  
I've never been more glad  
That I put my faith in Jesus  
'Cause He's never let me down  
He's faithful through generations  
So why would He fail now

*Chorus 2*

(Oh) Rain came and wind blew

But my house was built on You

(And) I'm safe with You

I'm going to make it through

Yeah I'm going to make it through

'Cause I'm standing strong on You

Yeah I'm going to make it through

'Cause my house is built on You

Christ is my firm foundation

The rock on which I stand

When everything around me is shaken

I've never been more glad

That I put my faith in Jesus

'Cause He's never let me down

He's faithful through generations  
So why would He fail now

*He won't fail  
He won't fail  
He won't*

*Chorus 3:  
He won't He won't*

"Firm Foundation (He Won't)." Austin Davis, Chandler Moore, Cody Carnes. © 2021 A.L.K.D. Music; Capitol CMG Paragon; Writer's Roof Publishing; For Humans Publishing; Maverick City Publishing. CCLI #858354.

## MESSAGE

"Why Are You Here Now?"

Pastor Johann

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

## OFFERINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor James

*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:** Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, hear our cry and heal our land.  
Let kindness lead us to compassion, bring us back again.

**People:** *Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy on us now.*

"Kyrie Eleison." Words and music by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Matt Maher, and Matt Redman. © 2016 S.D.G. Publishing, Said and Done Publishing, Sixsteps Music, Sixsteps Songs, Thankyou Music, Worship Together Music, worshiptogethersongs.com (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Be Essential Songs, Fellow Ships Music, I Am A Pilgrim Songs, So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC). CCLI #858354.

## 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.**

## SENDING SONG

"Forever"

Give thanks to the Lord  
Our God and King  
His love endures forever  
For He is good, He is above all things  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise, sing praise  
With a mighty hand  
And outstretched arm  
His love endures forever  
For the life that's been reborn  
His love endures forever

*Pre-Chorus:  
Sing praise, sing praise  
Sing praise, sing praise*

*Chorus:  
Forever God is faithful  
Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us  
Forever*

*From the rising to the setting sun  
His love endures forever*

By the grace of God  
We will carry on  
His love endures forever

*Pre-Chorus*

*Chorus (2x)*

Sing praise, sing praise  
Sing praise, sing praise  
Oh, sing praise, sing praise

Sing praise, sing praise

*Chorus*

*Chorus 2:*

*Forever You are faithful*

*Forever You are strong*

*Forever You are with us*

*Forever*

*Forever*

"Forever." CCLI Song # 3148428 Chris Tomlin © 2001 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs CCLI License # 858354

## BLESSING & SENDING

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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](mailto:jeff@gslcva.org)

Serving Today	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Pastor James
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Johann
<b>Ushers</b>	Paul Devine (lead) David Johns
<b>Greeter</b>	*(door)
<b>Guest Welcome</b>	Georgia Thorstenson
<b>Engagement</b>	Heidi Cooper
<b>Praise Team</b>	Tara Planeta (violin) MaryAnn Perkel (cello) Steve Mutter (guitar) Scott Clement (bass) Paul Jung (drums) Jackie Huffman (vocals) Matt Hardy (leader; piano)
<b>Projectionist</b>	Jeff Donahue
<b>Audio Engineer</b>	Scott Shepherd
<b>Livestream Manager</b>	Adam Sherman
<b>Closer</b>	Martin Farley
<b>Kitchen Cleanup</b>	*

\* = unfilled as of May 6

**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](mailto: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 (Randy and Melanie Stockman); 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 Franker), 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**

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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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**Julie Schorfheide, Communications Assistant**

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**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

## ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK FROM GOD'S WORD

### From the New Testament

Acts 17:22-31

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup> "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

### From the New Testament

1 Peter 3:13-22

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.