Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026

Today, Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

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 "Days of Elijah"

These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the Word of the Lord
And these are the days
Of Your servant Moses
Righteousness being restored
And though these are days
Of great trials
Of famine and darkness and sword
Still we are the voice
In the desert crying
Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Chorus:
Behold He comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
So lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill
Salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel
The dry bones becoming as flesh
And these are the days
Of Your servant David
Rebuilding a temple of praise
And these are the days of the harvest
The fields are as white in the world
And we are the laborers
In Your vineyard
Declaring the Word of the Lord

Chorus

There is no God like our God
There is no God like our God
There is no God like our God
There is no God like our God
(Repeat)

Chorus (2x)

"Days of Elijah." Robin Wright. © 1996 Song Solutions Daybreak. CCLI #858354.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "This Is Amazing Grace"

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus:
This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy

Chorus

"This Is Amazing Grace." Jeremy Riddle, Josh Farro, Phil Wickham. © 2013 Phil Wickham Music; Seems Like Music; Sing My Songs; Bethel Music Publishing; WC Music Corp.; 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 70

P: Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.
C: Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
P: Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.
C: Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the Lord!"
P: But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.

READING FROM GOD'S WORD — Matthew 25:1-13

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women
took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were
wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks
of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.
6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise,
'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not
be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with
him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came
also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'
13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

KIDS' MESSAGE — Elizabeth Huang

RESPONSE SONG: "Yes and Amen"

Father of kindness You have poured out grace
You brought me out of darkness
You have filled me with peace
Giver of mercy You're my help in time of need
Lord I can't help but sing

Chorus 1:Faithful You are
Faithful forever You will be
Faithful You are
All Your promises are Yes and Amen
All Your promises are Yes and Amen

Beautiful Savior You have brought me near
You pulled me from the ashes
You have broken ev'ry curse
Blessed Redeemer You have set this captive free
Lord I can't help but sing

Chorus 1

Chorus 2: Faithful You are
Faithful forever You will be
Faithful You are
All Your promises are Yes and Amen

I will rest in Your promises
My confidence is Your faithfulness
I will rest in Your promises
My confidence is Your faithfulness
(Repeat)

Chorus 2 (Repeat)

All Your promises are Yes and Amen
All Your promises are Yes and Amen

"Yes and Amen." Chris McClarney, Nate Moore, Tony Brown. © 2016 Bethel Worship Publishing; Mouth Of The River Music; Songs Of Simply Hymns Music; Tony Brown Music Designee; Thankyou Music. CCLI #858354.

MESSAGE "The Reality of Waiting" — Pastor James

MUSICAL REFLECTION

OFFERINGS & OPPORTUNITIES — Pastor Johann

Please fill out the Welcome Card in your bulletin and place it in the offering basket.

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, Be Essential Songs, Fellow Ships Music, I Am A Pilgrim Songs, So Essential Tunes. 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 Reign"

You are good You are good
When there's nothing good in me
You are love You are love
On display for all to see
You are light You are light
When the darkness closes in
You are hope You are hope
You have covered all my sin

You are peace You are peace
When my fear is crippling
You are true You are true
Even in my wandering
You are joy You are joy
You're the reason that I sing
You are life You are life
In You death has lost its sting

Chorus 1:
(Oh) I'm running to Your arms
I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love will always be enough
Nothing compares to Your embrace
Light of the world forever reign

You are more You are more
Than my words will ever say
You are Lord You are Lord
All creation will proclaim
You are here You are here
In Your presence I'm made whole
You are God You are God
Of all else I'm letting go

Chorus 1

Chorus 2:
I'm running to Your arms
I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love will always be enough
Nothing compares to Your embrace
Light of the world forever reign

My heart will sing no other Name
Jesus Jesus
(Repeat 4x)

Chorus 1

Chorus 2

Light of the world forever reign

"Forever Reign." Jason Ingram, Reuben Morgan. © 2009 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia, So Essential Tunes, Spirit Nashville Three. CCLI #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

Serving Today	
Worship Leader	Pastor Johann
Preacher	Pastor James
Ushers	Paul Devine (lead) Jim Micsan
Greeter	Kelly Nield (door)
Guest Welcome	Heidi Cooper
Engagement	Heidi Cooper
Praise Team	Tara Planeta (violin) MaryAnn Perkel (cello) Peter Revell (bass) Steve Mutter (guitar) Paul Jung (drums) Jackie Huffman (vocals) Matt Hardy (leader; piano)
Projectionist	Jeannie Johns
Audio Engineer	Scott Shepherd
Livestream Manager	Adam Sherman
Closer	Martin Farley
Kitchen Cleanup	Drew Lipman

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

Tony Esse, chair
Paul Devine, vice-chair
John Purtilo, secretary
Rob Fekete
Andrew Otterbacher
Dan 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

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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 5:18–24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house
and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

From the New Testament — 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.