

14th Sunday after Pentecost | August 30, 2026 | 10:45 AM



Today's Scripture reading from the Letter to the Romans is one of many passages that speak to God's desire for us to live TOGETHER in love, forgiveness, and service as a family in Christ. TOGETHER, we are followers of our Shepherd, Jesus!

✠ IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

SONG SET *Michael Amidei, Infinite Grace Team*
Please refer to the screens for the song lyrics.

We Believe
Rise My Soul

INVOCATION *Pastor Brad Stoltenow* *Matthew 28:19b*
Pastor (P): We call on the name of the Triune God—the name into which we have been baptized: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation (C): Amen!

CONFESSION OF SIN AND FORGIVENESS

SONG You Alone Can Rescue

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 15:15-21 *David Hudson, Lector*
O LORD, You know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In Your forbearance take me not away; know that for Your sake I bear reproach. Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by Your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because Your hand was upon me, for You had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will You be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail?

Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before Me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as My mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING Romans 12:9-21
Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.
Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with

those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28

From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord! This shall never happen to You." But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a hindrance to Me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

Then Jesus told His disciples, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save His life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with His angels in the glory of His Father, and then He will repay each person according to what he has done. Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ!

GUESTS AND MEMBERS CONNECT *Please fill out the Connect Card, either by hand or with the QR code. You may also add prayer requests to your information. Thank you!*



OFFERING *for giving options: ShepherdHillsChurch.org/Give*
Children's Bulletins are available on the entrance table as you enter the Gym.

FAITH MILESTONE *Susan Shoaf*
 *Something important is happening here. These families are passing on a legacy of faith. It is important for all of us to have faithful people to support us in our faith journey. For young people such as these that starts with their families. But it doesn't end there. The Bible paints a picture of the church as a family, with God as our Father. And we need each other to help us be strong in the faith. We are gathered here to bless these young people as they Grow in Christ by attending the Pre-Confirmation class.*

CONGREGATION SPEAKS A BLESSING
P: Shepherd of the Hills, it is our turn to bless these young men. You may reach out your hands in blessing as together we say:
C: **Dear beloved children, we praise and thank God for you. May God bless and keep you in the one true faith. May God pour His Spirit upon you, to keep you in faith. We will pray for you. We will support you as you Grow in Christ. Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen!**

SONG Immortal Invisible

MESSAGE “What Picking Up the Cross Looks Like” text: Matthew 16:21-28



STATEMENT OF FAITH ~ THE NICENE CREED

ALL: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen!

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

ALL: 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!

HOLY COMMUNION: PREPARATION

Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. *1Corinthians 11:28-29*

Since those who take Christ's body and blood without understanding His true presence do so to their harm, and since the sacrament of Holy Communion is a faith statement confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or hold a confession differing from that of this church and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and wish to receive the sacrament are asked first to speak with a pastor.

DISTRIBUTION

*You will be ushered forward for Communion.

*If you are not communing but wish to come up and receive a blessing, you may keep your hands folded.

*You may request wine without alcohol and/or a gluten-free wafer.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

In Christ Alone

Psalm 23

Please stand for the Blessing.

GOD'S WORD OF BLESSING

In this Divine Service, by the gift of faith, the Holy Spirit has opened our hearts and minds to receive His graces. We now leave this house of worship to share HISTORY!

Please be seated for the Announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG They'll Know We Are Christians

☩ **TO GOD ALONE ALL GLORY!** ☩

TOGETHER, we are Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

and Early Learning Center.

Called into faith, as baptized and beloved children of God,

TOGETHER we:

- + worship one God: Father, Lord, Spirit
 - + joyfully celebrate our unity
 - + willingly submit to our Creator
 - + lovingly care for one another
 - + seek to serve our community
 - + walk in hope toward heaven
- AMEN!



There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

~Ephesians 4:4-6

**LORD, LAY SOME SOUL UPON MY HEART AND LOVE THAT SOUL THROUGH ME;
AND MAY I GLADLY DO MY PART TO WIN THAT SOUL FOR THEE. AMEN!**

CONNECT CARDS Guests and members, please:

- ◆ fill out a Connect card, or
- ◆ scan the QR code to connect with us online

Cards are on clipboards at the end of a row. These methods include a space to share prayer requests with our pastors.

We look forward to praying for and connecting personally with YOU!

