

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

945 W. Round Bunch Rd., Bridge City, TX 77611

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## Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 16, 2020

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE**                      Variations on *Distress*                      - Edwin Childs

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to**



*For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord; let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. **Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **FIRST LESSON**

**Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 67

*Worshipers are asked to join the choir in singing the refrain as indicated below. The choir will chant the psalm text.*



Let all the peo-ples praise you, O God.

*May God be merciful to us and bless us show us the light his countenance and come to us. Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations. Let the peoples praise you O God; let all the people praise you.*

### **REFRAIN**

*Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity, and guide all the nations upon earth. Let the peoples praise you O God; let all the people praise you. The earth has brought forth her increase; may God, our own God give us his blessing. May God give us his blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him. **REFRAIN***

## SECOND LESSON

## Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] <sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

<sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Worshipers are invited to join the choir in singing the refrain; the choir will chant the verse.*



*Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom and  
cured every sickness among the people.*

## **GOSPEL**

**Matthew 15:21-28**

The holy gospel, according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup>He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup>She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## **SERMON**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come”  
**ELW 610**

## **THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. Bless us and make your face shine upon all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and town, and for those who need your healing (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation grace to find our life refreshed in you. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for mission in your name. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints, join us also with them on the great day of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SHARING THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## **RECEIVING THE OFFERING**

**ANTHEM**      “Healer of our Every Ill”      - Martyr Haugen

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**      *Please stand if you are able.*

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word,

wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. **Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

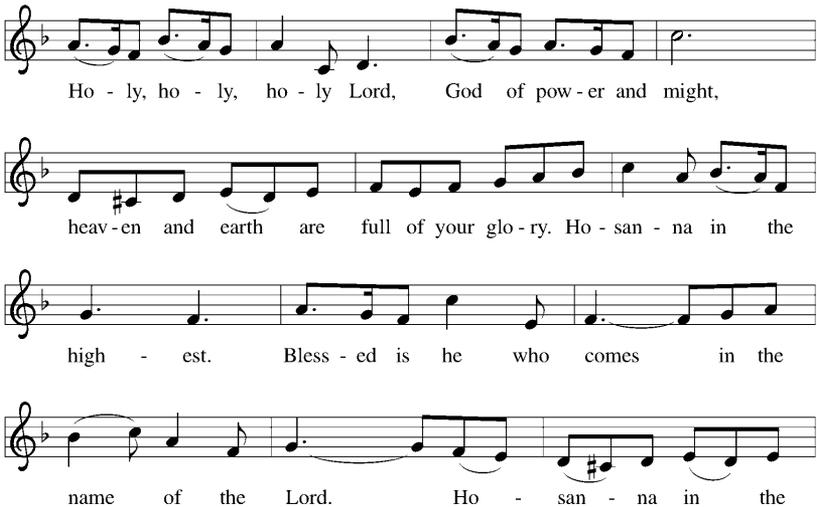
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

ELW 193a



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.  
**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.**

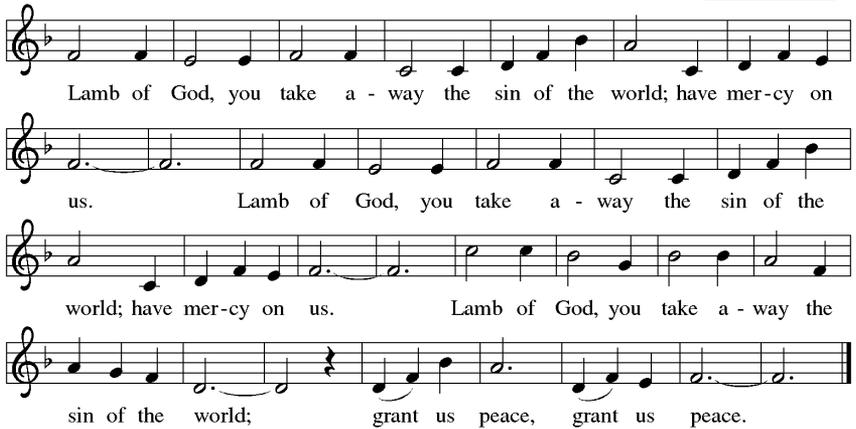
**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

*Please be seated.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

**ELW 195**



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION**

“Impromptu”

- Smith N. Penfield

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Please stand if you are able.*

Let us pray. God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. **Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

**ELW 886**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace; serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

“Vesper Hymn”

- Thomas P. Ryder

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## Worship Is Practice

It is just about time to move back into the rhythms of the academic year. Our summers may be quite different from household to household, but the school year often brings similar patterns. We are heading back to alarm clocks, early mornings, quick breakfasts, lunchboxes and lunch money, “I can’t find my other shoe!,” bus stops, backpacks, and bell schedules. While our summers may have been filled with family and friends, school is packed with people we don’t necessarily know well, understand, or even like. This seems like the perfect time to remember that amid the stress and people we encounter, Jesus says that our words have the power to defile us (Matt. 15:11).

How might the patterns of worship help us use words that sanctify rather than defile us?

We begin with words like “Forgive us . . .” as we humble ourselves before God. After confession and forgiveness, we often sing a song of praise, lifting sweet words of love to God. And in the Kyrie, our lips form the words “Lord, have mercy.” When a worship leader greets us with “The Lord be with you,” we return the greeting: “And also with you!” We stand for the gospel and sing an acclamation, which often includes the phrase “You have the words of eternal life.” After the gospel is read, we cry, “Praise to you, O Christ!” As we share the peace of Christ, we look people in the eye and declare to them that Christ’s peace is theirs. In worship, we practice the life we are to live all week. Our mouths are filled with truth, humility, praise, and gratitude—nothing that defiles.

What a gift it is to gather with a community of believers each week to sing and pray words of love and light, practicing together the sometimes-difficult work of using our words to build up, rather than tear down, our neighbors.