



**GOOD  
SHEPHERD**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



September 12, 2021  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**Building up God's people through His word for His world**

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 12, 2021**

*Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.*

**Flowers and plants in our sanctuary** are supported by financial donations to the Flower Fund. These floral offerings beautify the chancel (area around the altar), uplift the service participants, and remind us all 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/ministries/worship](http://gslcva.org/ministries/worship), under "Flower sponsorships."

**PRELUDE** "Intonation, Versets, and Finale" Giacomo Carissimi

**WELCOME** Pastor James

*(Please stand)*

**OPENING HYMN** "Lift High the Cross" Hymn No. 837

**INVOCATION, CONFESSION, AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. Please kneel/stand.)*

**P** God our comforter.

**C Like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

**P** All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in, † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**C Amen.**

*(Please stand)*

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**KYRIE** [Lord, have mercy]

**Music in Hymnal, Pages 168–169**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** [Glory to God in the Highest]

**Music in Hymnal, Page 170**

## SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**Music in Hymnal, Page 172**

**P** O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

*(Please sit)*

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 50:4–9a**

*The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love*

**L** <sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.  
<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

**L** <sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

ALLELUIA VERSE

**Music in Hymnal, Page 173**

HOLY GOSPEL

**Mark 8:27–38**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the eighth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Music in Hymnal, Page 173**

*This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.*

**P** <sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his

disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Music in Hymnal, Page 173

*(Please sit)*

**KIDS’ MESSAGE**

Pastor Johann

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Come, My Soul, with Every Care”*

**Hymn No. 779**

**MESSAGE**

*“Half-way Check-in”*

Pastor Johann

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor James

**CHORAL ANTHEM**

*“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”*

(see Hymn No. 717 for lyrics)

John Dykes

*(Please stand)*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**C** God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*At the end of each petition, the prayer leader will say "Lord, in your mercy,"  
The congregation responds "hear our prayer."  
Please see the News and Announcements sheet for a listing of intercessions.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.

## BLESSING

**P** People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✠ one God, bless you now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

**Hymn No. 809**

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*"Exultation"*

G. Winston Cassler

+

+

+

**Note: Following the service, please join us for coffee fellowship outside of the main entrance.**

We hope you will continue to connect with us by liking our Facebook page and following our Instagram account. Find them by searching @gslcva within those social media 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' messages, and more! If you have any questions, please reach out to [jeff@gslcva.org](mailto:jeff@gslcva.org).

## Worship Assistants

Worship Leader	Pastor James
Preacher	Pastor Johann
Organist	Julie Stone
Cantor	Jessica Hodges
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue
Guest Welcome	Donna Harper
Greeter	Deanine Thrash
	*
Reader	Melinda DeWan
Ushers	Jim Micsan
	Goodwyn Morgan
	*
Building Closer	

\* = worship assistant needed

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## STAFF

### **Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor**

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### **Gary James, Assisting Pastor**

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### **Kathy Otterbacher, Interim Preschool Director**

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### **Nemeh Azzam, Music Director**

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### **Jeff Donahue, Communications Director**

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### **Heidi Cooper, Director of Engagement**

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### **Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager**

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### **Michele Clair, Office Assistant**

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### **Holly Vanderhoof, Community Service Coordinator and Interim Youth Ministry Facilitator**

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### **Dan Lamaestra, Praise Band Director and Audio Production Specialist**

dan@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

### **Matt Hardy, Video Production Specialist**

matt@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

## BOARD OF SERVANT LEADERS

**Vicki Peter, Chair**  
**June McGurn, Vice-Chair**  
**Kathy Eickelberg, Secretary**

**Allen Hodges**  
**Leta Kent**

**Ted Lillestolen**  
**John Stoothoff**

## CORE MINISTRY AREAS

- Worship** Team Leaders: Georgia Thorstenson and Julie Schorfheide;  
Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann  
*music, seasonal celebrations, arts, worship schedule, Sanctuary Choir, Children's Choir (Laura Owens), traditional, contemporary, physical space, support personnel (e.g., ushers, greeters, acolytes)*
- Discipleship** Team Leader: Pastor James (temporary)  
*adult education, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, family ministry, children's ministry, youth ministry*
- Parish Life** Team Leader: Brian Cors; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann  
*Life Groups (Brian Cors), member engagement, fellowship events, new member inclusion (Melinda DeWan), concerts, public events, picnics, intergenerational events*
- Administration** Team Leader: Pastor Johann  
*property (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Franker), communications, contracts, church office, calendar/program management, technology*
- Mission** Team Leader: Vacant; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann  
*world missions, synod, outreach, social ministry, community service, evangelism, publicity, media, social media*
- Congregational Care** Team Leader: Marilyn Voigt; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann  
*member care visits, emergency transportation, maintain roster of the willing, guest follow-up*
- Good Shepherd is a member congregation of the Southeastern District  
of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



# About Good Shepherd...

## **Our vision**

We will be a congregation known for building up God's people through His Word for His world.

## **Worship**

During worship, God comes to us through his gifts of Word and Sacrament. What a joy to respond with prayer and songs of praise. Our worship services give us opportunity to listen to God's word and meditate upon it, thus feeding our faith; and express our concerns for our friends, families, community, and the world through prayer.

## **Serve**

We are called to actively share the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and deed. One way we share is by serving one another and our neighbors in our community and throughout the world. Look at our Community Service Opportunities listing to find a way to serve.

## **Grow**

We are committed to spiritual growth through the weekly gathering for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, and through lifelong learning. In addition to growing in knowledge, we want to grow in love and service to others within and beyond our church community.

## **Connect**

As we grow in our love for Jesus and our neighbors, as we serve our neighbors near and far, we help and encourage one another, challenge one another, and share one another's joys and sorrows. We build strong ties when we gather for worship as well as for events throughout the week. Look inside for many opportunities for connection.



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