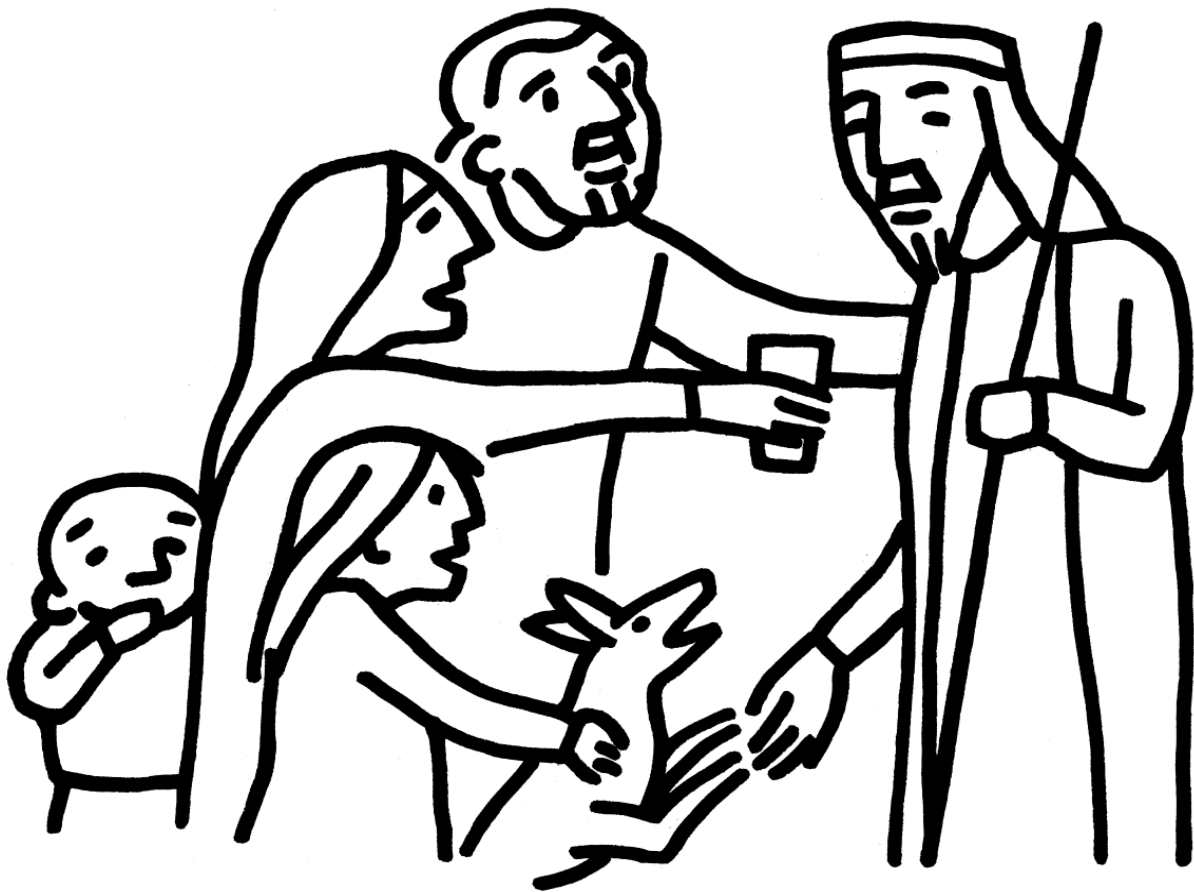




**GOOD  
SHEPHERD**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



September 26, 2021  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 26, 2021**

*Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.*

**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."

**Baptized in today's service** is Colin Thomas Poberezny (born November 29, 2020), son of Jack and Erica Poberezny, sponsored by Scott and Laura Hostovich.

**PRELUDE**

*"Lead Me, Lord"*

Samuel Wesley/  
John Leavitt

**WELCOME**

Pastor James

*(Please stand)*

**OPENING HYMN**

*"Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good"*

**Hymn No. 819**

**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

Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29

*What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?*

**L** <sup>4</sup>The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; <sup>6</sup>but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

<sup>10</sup>Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup>So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? <sup>12</sup>Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'?"

<sup>13</sup>Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to

me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ <sup>14</sup>I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

<sup>16</sup>So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

<sup>24</sup>So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent.

<sup>25</sup>Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

<sup>26</sup>Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” <sup>28</sup>And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” <sup>29</sup>But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

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

SECOND READING

James 5:13–20

*Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.*

- L** <sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.
- <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.
- <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.
- <sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup>you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

- 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 9:38–50

- P** The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the ninth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

Music in Hymnal, Page 173

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.*

- P** <sup>38</sup>John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. <sup>42</sup>“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>“For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

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

Music in Hymnal, Page 173

*(Please sit)*

**BAPTISMAL HYMN**

*“God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It”*

**Hymn No. 594**

Verses 1 and 5

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

**Colin Thomas Poberezny**

Pastor: As this child is received into the Christian Church, let us make confession of the faith into which we baptize.

Pastor: Do you renounce forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

**All: I do renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**All: Yes, I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

**All: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who 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.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**All: Yes, 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.**

+ + +

Pastor: Through Baptism God has added Colin Thomas to His own people to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

**All: We welcome you into the Lord’s family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, to work with us in His kingdom.**

Pastor: And you, Colin, the Lord bless you in all your ways from this time forth and even forevermore.

**All: Amen.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun”*

**Hymn No. 868**

**MESSAGE**

*“Stumbling Blocks Within”*

Pastor Johann

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor James

*(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

*"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"*

**Hymn No. 918**

#### DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### POSTLUDE

*"All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"*

Paul Manz

+

+

+

**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	Deanine Thrash
Greeter	Donna Harper
	Kelly Nield
Reader	Georgia Thorstenson
Ushers	Jim Micsan
	Rob Fekete
Building Closer	*

\* = worship assistant needed

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## STAFF

**Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor**

Room 201; pastorjo@gslcva.org; 703-439-2754

**Gary James, Assisting Pastor**

Room 209; pastorgary@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Kathy Otterbacher, Interim Preschool Director**

Room 101; preschool@gslcva.org; 703-437-4511

**Nemeh Azzam, Music Director-(on leave)**

Room 215; nemeh@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x807

**Jeff Donahue, Communications Director**

Room 209; jeff@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Heidi Cooper, Director of Engagement**

[heidi@gslcva.org](mailto:heidi@gslcva.org); 703-437-5020

**Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager**

Room 212; georgia@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x803

**Jeannie Johns, Administrative Assistant**

Room 211; jeannie@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x802

**Michele Clair, Office Assistant**

Room 210; michele@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x806

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

Room 206; holly@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x213

**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

**Julie Stone, Interim Organist**

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: John and Debbie Linn; 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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1133 Reston Avenue  
Herndon, VA 20170  
703-437-5020

[gslc@gslcva.org](mailto:gslc@gslcva.org)  
[gslcva.org](http://gslcva.org)

[fb.com/goodshepherdva](https://fb.com/goodshepherdva)

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