

*SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST*

*September 18, 2022*

*Worship Service 11:30 AM*



GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN

## MISSION STATEMENT

In response to receiving God's profound love through Christ and being called to be His people, the mission of Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church is to be a family of faith, at work in the midst of a growing community, which through worship, learning, witness and outreach, touches both members and non-members with a continuing challenge to commitment, that brings God into the center of daily life.

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*Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.*

*The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.*

*Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.*

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Our Reader and Worship Leader today is Richards Myers

Today's Special Presentation on "Growing Young" will be given by Stacey Burke

from the Northeast PA Synod Office

The Altar Flowers are presented by Margaret Hinkel in memory

of her husband Edward

\*Denotes Congregation Stands, if you are able.

BELL RINGING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Be Thou My Vision", Tune Slane

GREETING

R: As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers, rather than owners, of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing —we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

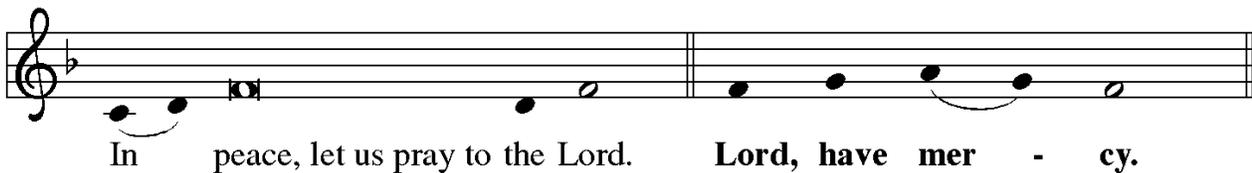
\*GATHERING HYMN # 685      Take My Life, That I May Be

\*GATHERING

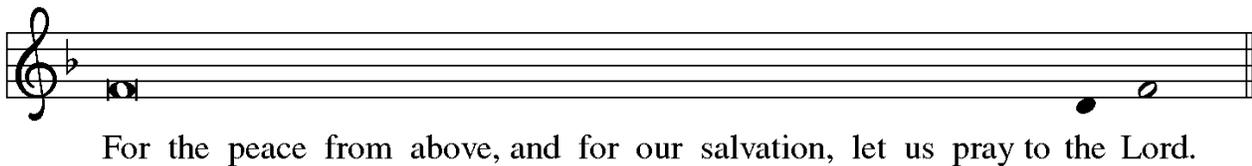
R: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all

**C: And also with you.**

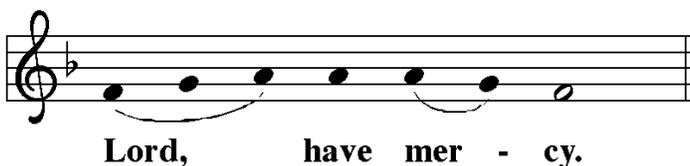
\* KYRIE



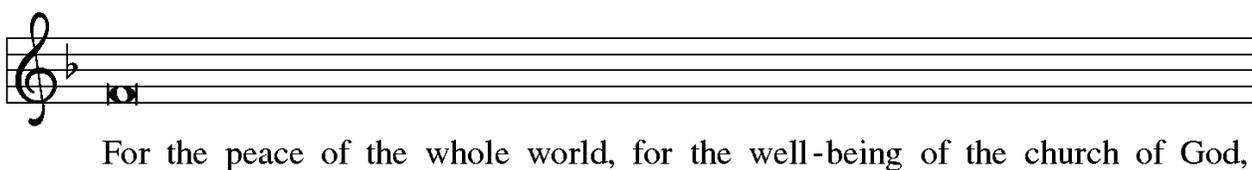
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.      **Lord, have mer - cy.**



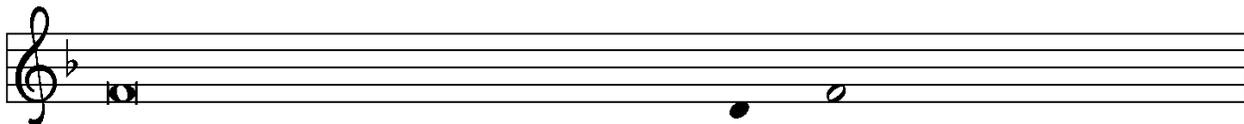
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



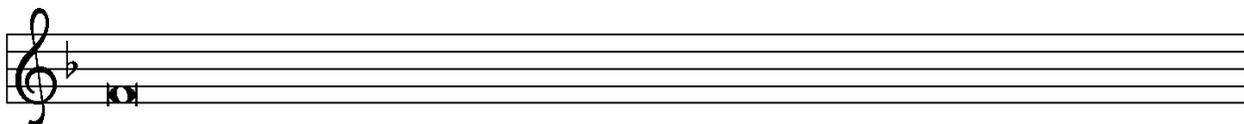
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



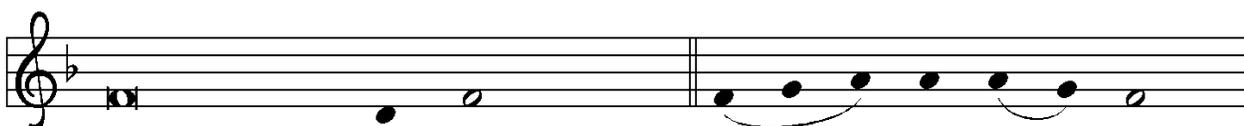
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



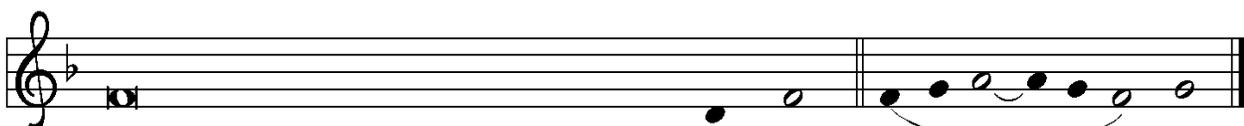
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

R: God among us,

**C: we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another.**

**Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

Reader: <sup>4</sup>Hear this, you that trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
<sup>5</sup>saying, "When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain;  
and the sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,  
and practice deceit with false balances,  
<sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals,  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

R: The word of God

**C: Thanks be to God.**

READING OF PSALM 113 (Read Responsibly)

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;  
praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the name of the LORD be blessed,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

<sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its going down  
let the name of the LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD is high above all nations;  
God's glory above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Who is like the LORD our God,  
who sits enthroned on high,

<sup>6</sup>**but stoops to behold  
the heavens and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

<sup>8</sup>**enthroning them with the rulers,  
with the rulers of the people.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD makes the woman of a childless house  
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Reader: <sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

R: Word of God, word of life

**C: Thanks be to God**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

R: The holy Gospel according to St Luke, the 16<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’

<sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup>He

answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup>"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Presentation by Stacey Burke

HYMN OF THE DAY # 655 Son of God, Eternal Savior

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED

R: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 into hell.**

**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.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

R: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*A brief silence.*

R: God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. Accompany those preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Enlighten preachers, teachers, seminarians, and all those who share your good news with the world. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

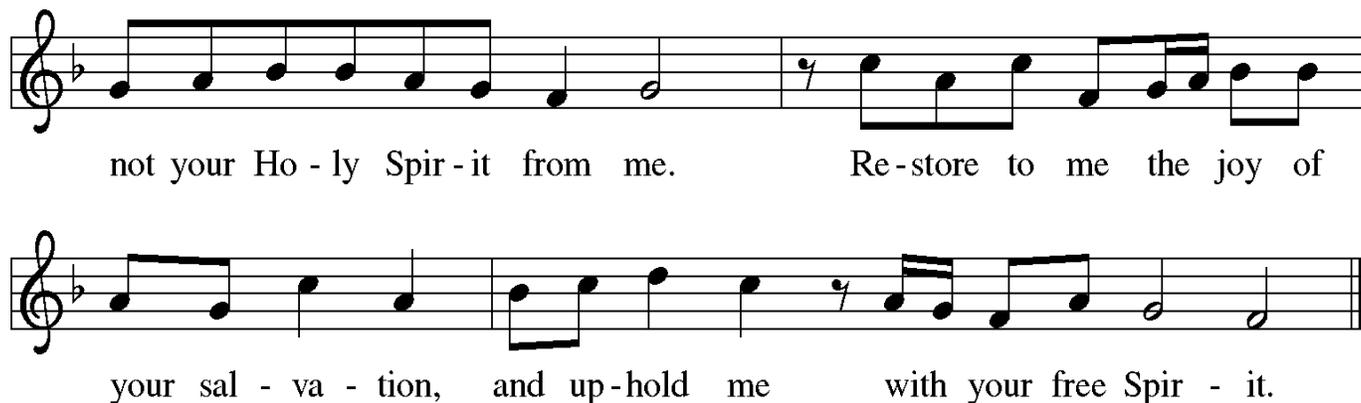
R: Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters in our community, sponsored by the West Berks Mission District. We remember in our prayers Trinity Lutheran Church in Gouglersville and Pastor Debora Gifford. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**





not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
 your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

R: Gracious God,

**C: in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

R: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as you have taught us to pray.

**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**

**\*SENDING (Stacey Burke)**

R: May Jesus, bringer of Good News for the whole world, bring guidance to this congregation as they work to "grow young".

**C: God give us guidance.**

**\*SENDING BLESSING**

R: May the God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

**C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN # 669 Rise Up, O Saints of God!**

**\*THE DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*POSTLUDE: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness", Tune: Faithfulness WOV # 771**

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We extend a hearty welcome to our visitors today. Please fill out a Pew card with your contact information. If there is any way we can be of service to you, please inform us. There are also Visitor Packets available. Please see one of the people at the Gathering Table if you are interested.



**Please note:** Monday the **Admin Office** will be closed in the morning, but open at 1 PM until 4PM as JoAnne has an appointment in the morning.

## News of the Church and Sunday School

**Adult Sunday Bible Study 10:00 AM** meets in the Conference Room

**Children Age 3 to Grade 6 - Sunday church school at 10:30 AM**

**WORSHIP SERVICE – 11:30 AM**

with Communion 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays in September.

We are using the 3<sup>rd</sup> Setting in the ELCA hymnal for our worship service.

### UPCOMING EVENTS – SEPTEMBER

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| September 25 | Pastor Blatt will lead worship /communion |
|--------------|---|



### UPCOMING EVENTS - OCTOBER

#### **October 2 – Guest, Deacon Travis Woodfield from the Synod**

There will be a luncheon following the service. Deacon Travis will be helping our congregation “imagine” our mission. This is an important step to calling a Pastor.

We will have a better idea of our goals and what type of leader we should find.

#### **October 9 – Blessing of the Animals**



Worship with your companion pet, furry friend (in paw-son or bring their picture), stuffed animals are okay also. Pastor Blatt will have a blessing for each and everyone. This is open to the Community. Invite your neighbors to come along and bring their pets.



**Do you shop at the Redner’s Quick Shop on Tuckerton Road? We can now accept Redner’s Quick Shop tapes as long as you use your Redner’s card for grocery purchases everywhere. (And your Redner’s card gives you discounts on gas purchases at Redner’s.) The “Save A Tape” goes to help sponsor W/ELCA projects. Please see Harry if you have questions.**

## Interested in sponsoring **flowers** or a **bulletin on Sundays**?

Sign-up in the book on the lectern in the Gathering area.

Flowers are \$10 per vase. Please check on the month and week you would like the flowers. They are yours to take home after service or donate to a shut-in.

Bulletins - Please enter your information in the appropriate month and week you want to dedicate the bulletin. Sponsor cost is \$15 per week.

You may use a pew envelope to submit your donations for these sponsorships.

## **W/ELCA Meetings –**

Meeting October 11<sup>th</sup> at Noon. This is an open invitation to all women of the church and anyone interested in a Bible based social group. Contact Sandra Oesterling if you have questions.

## ***Please remember the following in your prayers:***

(Names removed due to placement on public site.)

There will be a memorial picnic and hymn sing at 4 PM on September 25 for Tucker Irwin at Stoudt's Ferry Playground, 804 Tuckerton Road, Reading, PA. In the event of rain, the hymn sing will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

## **Council Members for 2022**

James Culley

Helenna Lutz

Gary O'Brien

Rodney Haupt

Cathy Meck

Lynn Shollenberger

Carolyn Heffner

Duane Maurer

Allyn Swavely

Duane Kring

Betty Nelson

Harry Walters

COUNCIL – **September Council Meeting** on Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

TABS - helping those with Cancer Don't forget to save your aluminum tabs. They are greatly appreciated. We have the container on the Gathering Table for your donations.

## BIBLE FOR DUMMIES – Looking for an interesting way to read and learn about the Bible?



The Bible For Dummies is a study guide which appeals to people of all faiths by providing interfaith coverage of the entire Bible and the often fascinating background information that makes the Bible come alive. The Authors, Jeffrey C. Geoghegan and Michael M. Homan published a resource that is both entertaining and informative.

**Wednesdays at 6:00 PM** a soup/salad supper in the Fellowship Hall. After supper there will be a Trivia / Study on the Bible from 6:30 to 7:00 PM. Bring your favorite translation of the Bible to refer to as you study the passage for the evening.

See Lynn Shollenberger if you have any questions. Come - bring your Bible and a friend.

*Reminder to the choir members - Choir Wednesdays at 7:15 PM - Come for Supper and Bible Study, stay to sing.*

### **Food Pantry Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup>**

The Muhlenberg Churches collaborative food distribution ministry is held here at Good Shepherd Lutheran on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

Dry goods and canned food donations from members of the local churches and civic organizations are needed to augment the food that is received from Helping Harvest. Please support this collaborative ministry by bringing in your donations and placing them on the white stand in the Gathering Area.

Thank you for responding to God's call to "feed my sheep."

Exercise Your  
*Spiritual Gifts*

ROBESON LUTHERAN CHURCH, 3520 Plow Road, Mohnton PA (Member WBMD)

Fall & Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, October 1, 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

There will be crafts, gifts, home business products, a church hall filled with white elephant items, baked goods, raffle baskets and more. Breakfast and Lunch will be available.

Crafters and vendors are welcome, call 610-856-7242 or email

[ddemarco@dejazzd.com](mailto:ddemarco@dejazzd.com) by September 24.

## BELL CHOIR

We have a unique opportunity for Handbell players. The Reading AGO is presenting a Bell Festival with multiple Bell Choirs, Organ and other instruments. This will be hosted by our church, Good Shepherd Lutheran. As the host church, we should have a Bell Choir participate. If you are interested in playing in this concert, please see Jo Anne to discuss rehearsal times.



GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4201 Stoudt's Ferry Bridge Road  
Reading, Pa. 19605  
Church Office 610-926-4201  
Email: [gselc4201@gmail.com](mailto:gselc4201@gmail.com) Website: [goodshepherdelc.org](http://goodshepherdelc.org)